

Public Works Department

Monthly Report for May 2019

Director Pitts reported that compared to May 2018, garbage was up only slightly while yard debris was down significantly from the prior year; he reminded the Committee that the island was still cleaning up from a storm a year ago. Miscellaneous garbage was about equal to last year; he believes that homeowners were still cleaning out and getting ready for the season. Personnel conducted ten (10) beach sweeps in the month, and the Director mowed the rights-of-way from 21st to 41st Avenues once – if the drought continues, they will not need to be mowed again anytime soon. DOT was on the island fixing sidewalks on Palm and Waterway Boulevard, and Eadies began the vac truck portion of the general ditch maintenance contract. In May, vehicle maintenance reached fifty-six hundred dollars (\$5,600); with less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) remaining in the vehicle maintenance budget, the Public Works Department will go over budget a couple of thousand dollars. Director Pitts reported that four (4) candidates were interviewed for the Public Works Assistant Director of Facilities and Maintenance, and an offer has been made to one (1). Assuming he accepts the offer, he will begin on Tuesday, June 18th.

Responding to Councilmember Smith's question, the Director explained that a beach sweep happens when Public Works personnel remove the chairs, umbrellas, etc. that visitors have left on the beach and the Police Department has tagged as having been left on the beach overnight. They typically remove truckloads after a weekend. The Director also reported that, on May 25th, some one hundred fifty (150) bags of restaurant garbage was all over the compactor and running down the pad; the employees who left it simply did not know to turn it on. The Director reached out to Captain Swain, and he contacted the restaurants involved for them to clean up the area and to train their wait staff on the proper operation of the compact. He has not had a problem since. The Administrator reported that the message had been delivered that the situation was unacceptable and would not be tolerated.