The Columbia City Council conducted an Environment and Infrastructure Committee Meeting on Tuesday, May 22, 2012 at City Hall, 1737 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina. The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine (Chair) called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. The following Committee members were present: The Honorable Leona K. Plaugh and The Honorable Council-Elect Moe Baddourah (Non-committee member). The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann was absent.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

1. Gills Creek Watershed Association – Ms. Emily Jones, President / Gills Creek Watershed Association

Ms. Emily Jones, President of Gills Creek presented the Gills Creek Middle Watershed Plan to the committee. A working group in Gills Creek Watershed Association has developed an aspirational plan for the stretch of Gills Creek below Lake Katharine to Shop Road. The plan suggests a number of opportunities to improve water quality and to provide recreational and educational resources. The plan will move forward and be complete in spring 2013.

2. Stormwater Priority Update

Ms. Dana Higgins, City Engineering gave an update on the Stormwater Capital Improvement Project by Watershed.

Councilor Devine suggested that staff bring a report back to the committee and to consider funding a project that will address major concerns verses funding smaller projects with minimum impact.

3. Test of Credit Card Capable Parking Devices – Mr. John David Spade, Parking Services Director

Mr. John Spade, Director of Parking Services presented an on-street 90-day trial of two types of parking control devices which would take credit cards, coins, tokens and Smart Cards. Both types of devices are solar powered utilizing battery back-up. Parking Services will be having five Digital pay stations installed in the next 60 to 80 days, two in the new City Center Garage and three in the Taylor Street Garage.

Council Devine referred parking fines to be discussed by the Public Safety Committee.
4. IBM Smarter Water Opportunities – *This item was deferred.*

5. Water / Sewer Line Warranty Program Request For Qualifications Update

Council Devine inquired about the Request for Qualifications for Mrs. Applestein.

Mr. Joey Jaco, Director of Utilities and Engineering said a notification was sent, but didn’t receive a copy of the RFQ. Staff will move forward to reject bids, re-advertise, change the scope of the project and add an assistance program.

Councilor Devine suggested that staff look at ways to fund the program without assistance from the city.

**The meeting was adjourned at 11:03 a.m.**

Submitted by:

Niki Daniels
Office of the City Clerk