

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
7:00pm
Held June 1, 2020

The meeting was held on the lawn of the city municipal building with social distancing requirements observed.

ROLL CALL: Staczek, Eckel, Marquette, Ruse, and Densic all present. Mr. Staczek moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to excuse Mr. Heban. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. Staczek moved and Mrs. Eckel seconded the motion to excuse Mr. Oberdorf. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Staczek moved and Mr. Marquette seconded the motion to appoint Mrs. Eckel as temporary chairman of the meeting due to the absence of Mr. Oberdorf. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mrs. Eckel stated the purpose of the meeting was to discuss solid waste and recycling prior to rebidding the contract.

Mr. Ruse said the previous bids showed recycling costing \$100,000 annually for recycling with Republic and \$200,000 through Waste Mgmt.

Republic	\$1.4M 5 year contract no recycling	\$2.0M with recycling
Waste Mgmt.	\$2.0M 5 year contract no recycling	\$3.0M with recycling

Mr. Ruse said the cost of recycling is going up as users of recyclables is going down.

Mr. Marquette asked what gets recycled and Vince Crawford of Waste Mgmt. said six items are recyclable those being paper, plastic, aluminum, steel, cardboard, and glass. He referenced the ban on recyclables from China and that in 2017 cardboard was selling at \$140 a ton, and paper at \$50 a ton but currently they have to pay to get rid of it and that glass has no value either. He also said that up to 30% of material in the recyclables is trash. Mr. Marquette asked why their bid was so much higher than Republic and Mr. Crawford said he does not know how they figure their prices. Ed Mikonowicz from Waste Mgmt. said Rossford is his biggest contract and he checks on us every day.

Mr. Staczek said he respects Waste Mgmt. and Mr. Mikonowicz but not for how they handled this bid. Mr. Ruse pointed out we are going to rebid and that we know that cost is going up and that we need to streamline the bid specifications.

Mrs. Eckel said the purpose of this meeting is to determine how to handle the new bid and whether to recycle or not.

Mr. Staczek said he thinks it would be easier to wean us off recycling rather than quit cold turkey but Mr. Densic pointed out that Republic would have to purchase recycle carts and would be averse to only doing for six months. Mr. Staczek said then he would be in favor of stopping recycling.

Mr. Densic pointed out our original bid specs called for one day pickup on Wednesday and we need to open that up and that the bids were to close to the end of our existing contract. He asked what is the best way to bid this i.e. \$ per stop plus tonnage.

Mr. Mikonowicz said they reached out to Wood County about adding Rossford as a drop off location for recycling but said Wood County is not adding anyone due to cost and current contract. Mr. Densic said maybe we could have our own drop off locations for just plastic, cans, and cardboard.

Mr. Ruse said that regardless what we do we need to simplify the bids so we can compare apples to apples and that possibly if we are leaning toward no recycling that we extend our current contract to the end of the year and then go to no recycling.

Mrs. Eckel said she thinks our citizens value recycling and if we get rid of it some will need two refuse containers. She feels this is a quality of living item and does not want drop off locations because of the

problems they create. She does want to keep pickup at one day a week saying if two days we basically have refuse carts out all week based on putting out the night before.

Mr. Staczek said he has no problem keeping recycling but it will be a continuous escalating cost and that he wants an unlimited pickup once a year.

Mrs. Eckel said we could consider limiting recycling to plastic and cans. Mr. Crawford does not recommend this as people won't abide by that.

Mrs. Eckel then asked the members for their preference for frequency of pickup and all agreed with one day a week but opening it up to any day between M-F. She then asked for their opinion on recycling and Mr. Staczek and Mr. Densic said they would get rid of, Mr. Marquette and Mrs. Eckel would keep, and Mr. Ruse said he is torn in that recycling is socially right but he cannot justify the cost.

Mrs. Eckel wondered if we could bid this for a shorter contract with recycling until the time that Wood County could add us as a drop off location. Mr. Densic said he does not like that idea. Mrs. Eckel said we should bid this with recycling and without recycling giving the resident a self-pay option.

Mr. Ruse said we can bid this without recycling and Mrs. Eckel said we need to give the citizens the option to pay for themselves based on a minimum number of customers. Waste Management has a minimum of 500 customers for recycling and 450 customers for yard waste.

AUDIENCE

Erin Crawford, 544 Bruns Dr. said recycling is important to her and she is willing to pay to still have it.

Mr. Staczek moved and Mr. Densic seconded the motion to adjourn. All ayes. Motion carried.

Caroline Zuchowski-Eckel
Temporary Chairman

Robert P. Watrol
Clerk of Council