



CITY OF CHARLESTON WEST VIRGINIA



Council Member – AT-LARGE

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Environment and Recycling Committee, Chair
Parks and Recreation Committee

TO: Environment and Recycling Committee
FROM: John Kennedy Bailey, Chair
RE: Committee Meeting

A meeting of the Council Committee on Environment and Recycling will be held on Monday, June 3, 2019. The meeting will begin promptly at 5:30 PM in Council Chambers, 3rd Floor of City Hall.

Agenda

PREVIOUS MINUTES

1. May 20, 2019

REPORT ON RECYCLING FACILITIES IN OTHER COUNTIES

REPORT ON KANAWHA COUNTY SOLID WASTE RECYCLING CENTER

DISCUSSION OF CLEAR RECYCLING BAGS AND ALTERNATIVES

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JKB/jb

MINUTES

ENVIRONMENT & RECYCLING COMMITTEE MEETING MAY 20, 2019 - 5:30 PM CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Committee Members Present: John Kennedy Bailey, Chair – Robert Sheets – Sam Minardi
Bobby Haas

Others Present: Kevin Baker-Alexandra Gallo-Naomi Bays-William Laird-Sam Strickland
Brent Webster-John Shannon- William Pepper- Rebecca Carballo
Paula Kaufman, Kanawha Co. Commission/Planning & Development
Linda Frame, WV Environment Council

Chairman called the meeting to order by saying that due to there Not being a committee quorum at present, that the meeting will be for information and discussion purposes only. He provided a handout for discussion that reflected possible alternative options for recycling program bags and also the destination for the city's recyclables, which I have attached to these minutes. The chairman expressed that he welcomes any and all comments and suggestions.

He stated he has been in contact with Mr. Burgy, public works director of So. Charleston, & is also on the board of the KVSWA., David Armstrong, Exec. Director of the KVSWA, and present today is Paula Kaufmann of the Kanawha Co. Commission. He has also spoken to Dennis Wise with Waste Zero, current provider of our garbage and recycling bags and asked for some options regarding possibly continuing at least, the Recycling bag portion of that program. He quoted him a bag price of 27cent per bag or approximately \$6 -\$7 per roll using the same retailers.

Naomi Bays commented that business owners might be more interested if there was a small profit, as with the grocery stores. There was some discussion regarding a pay-as-you-throw Used in some cities, which everyone agreed would not currently feasible for the city. Robert Sheets bought up possibility of businesses/companies paying or donating to cost for advertising on the bags. The discussion of the city providing rolling carts or recycling cans, which according to John Shannon has been previously looked into and proved cost prohibitive. There was also suggested making cans available for purchase for those interested. Discussions also as to if and how the city truck and crew could best handle the pick-up and dumping as it related to the weight of the containers /carts. The Chairman expressed that he would like to explore the possibly of using the current totes and perhaps adding a different type of can/cart.

Chairman asked for any suggestions regarding the City having its own Drop offs for recyclables. John Shannon remarked that the previous administration had tried to the drop off concept by placing the bins at the Fire stations who would in turn empty them. He told the chairman he does not know if there is any documentation on how that worked at the time, but if possible, will try to find some information about it. The chairman asked Alexandra Gallo about the trip she Brent Webster and other city representatives took the Parkersburg Facility. Alex said that that had just returned and that they will prepare a report for the committee at a later.

Sam Minardi stated that as we are nearing the end of the fiscal year his concern is that there is not enough time to have an alternative solution in place for bag recycling. He believes that the immediate need is for this Committee to formally recommend extending the current bag program to at least buy some time. He also stated that the Recycling program has changed at least twice and that before we change again, we need something the residents can count on if we ever want to grow in recycling. The Chairman agreed.

The Chairman asked for any suggestions or ideas as it relates to the Destination of our recyclables. He stated that ultimately continuing to go to Beckley is not ideal. There is the possibility of the City building its own transfer station, which will include purchasing special trucks, containers and other costs. He informed that Mr. Burgy expressed that the City of South Charleston could possibly go in with us as it relates to the capital cost of the equipment and labor costs. Another possible option is the City contribute some resources or money to Kanawha Co. to revert themselves back to a Beckley type facility, and lastly the City would build its own city-controlled facility. All of which has some immediate costs to the City as well as some permits and approvals of the PSC and DEP.

Paula Kaufman expressed the County's desire to help the City find a long-term solution to the Recycling issue. She mentioned that she and Alex Gallo and perhaps other city representatives plan on attending the Solid Waste Authority meeting with the possibility of seeking an Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) grant and pitch the idea of the County and City possibly partnering to procure the vast parcel of land located off Campbells Creek. She added that they will be also looking for any other funding sources that may be available.

Linda Frame, VP of the WV Environmental Council mentioned she met with Alex Gallo last week regarding a request by Roman Zoeller, to increase recycling during Live On The Levee. The plan is to have double the number of recycling bins, have public announcements, and hopefully have volunteers to help guide the public to the recycling bins.

Alex Gallo stated that with the help of John Shannon, Brent Webster and Mackensie Spencer the City's website now accurately reflects the City is currently recycling.

There was conversation regarding the large solar powered compactor bins purchased in part by Main Street Initiative. It was unclear who or how they were emptied and whether they were recycled. The Chairman said that there will some investigation into that situation.

In conclusion, the Chairman scheduled the next meeting for prior to the next Council Meeting June 3, 2019 at 5:30 PM in Council Chambers. He expressed that he hoped to have a committee quorum in hopes of making some recommendations about continued use of the bags in some form and hopefully a report of some kind on the trip to the Parkersburg facility.

There being no additional comments, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.

