

MINUTES

ENVIRONMENT & RECYCLING COMMITTEE MEETING JULY 12, 2022– 5:30 PM AV ROOM – CITY HALL

Committee Members Present: Caitlin Cook, Chair – Bobby Brown
Emmett Pepper – Shannon Snodgrass (via zoom)

Others Present: Mayor Amy Goodwin- Jonathan Storage, City Manager - Brent Webster –
Sam Strickland – Rod Watkins w/Green Team –
Steve Pilato & Scott Newkirk w/Gorilla Recycling

Caitlin Cook began by stating that as Chair of the E&R Committee she has decided that post this meeting, E&R meetings will be held solely “in-person”. She said that she believes meeting in person will foster better decorum and communication and hopefully solutions for the City amongst our colleagues.

The Chairman next entertained a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes. Ultimately the motion to approve was made by Bobby Brown. Emmett Pepper seconded. Previous minutes approved as written.

While waiting for a representative Steve Pilato to join the Zoom meeting, Chairman Cook asked City Manager Storage for any updates he could provide. Mr. Storage stated that he did not want to get too far ahead with details as he did not want to usurp the presentation of the representatives here from Gorilla Recycling. He did say that as most are aware, the City currently trucks all its recyclables to Raleigh County at our expense, in manpower, fuel costs and tear on vehicles, etc. He added that hopefully Gorilla Recycling can eliminate these by finding a way to recycle locally. He stated that the hope is to find a suitable parcel or parcels inside the City limits that could accommodate a recycling facility but could not go further with details as they are still in the negotiation and evaluating stage.

Steve Pilato joined the meeting and he and Scott Newkirk provided a detailed presentation as to what Gorilla Recycling could provide for the City of Charleston Recycling program. After the presentation, the Chairman opened the floor for questions. The Chairman asked what the relationship between the City and Gorilla workers look like. Jonathan storage stated the only involvement our employees will have would be coordinating the drop off of the Gorilla created material to households on their daily runs. Bobby Brown asked about the maintenance of the grounds and building. Jonathan Storage stated that Gorilla, as a long-term lessee would be responsible for all property maintenance. Shannon Snodgrass asked outside of the land donation,

if there were any other costs to the city. The short answer was no. Shannon Snodgrass stated that she assumed and hoped that they would be engaging with Kanawha Co. Commission and surrounding cities to participate. Scott Newkirk responded that they absolutely will. Brent Webster asked if all the materials currently being collected by the city will be recycled. Steve Pilato stated that it will. Emmett Pepper added that the only 2 mandated municipalities are Charleston and So. Charleston but including others would be of great benefit for all involved. The Mayor thanked Gorilla Recycling for their presentation. She stated that he has an opportunity to speak further with them tomorrow and has several questions she has received from the community to share.

There being no further comments, the Chairman entertained a motion to adjourn. Emmett Pepper made the motion. Bobby Brown seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

