

**MINUTES OF THE
GREENSBORO SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
JUNE 18, 2013**

Members Present

Kay Brandon
Tony Davies
Bob Mays
Vic Nussbaum
Tom Phillips
Mark Taylor
Ray Trapp

Staff Present

James Dickens
Gail Hay
Jason Jernigan
Nancy Lindemeyer
David Parrish
Sheldon Smith
Dale Wyrick

Also present were Council members Nancy Vaughan and Jim Kee.

The Solid Waste Management Commission met on Tuesday, June 18, 2013, beginning at 11:00 a.m. in the Field Operations Training Room.

Introductions

Dale Wyrick welcomed everyone to the meeting. Members and staff introduced themselves. Councilmembers Vaughan and Kee stated that they look forward to working with the Commission.

Review Resolution/Charge of Commission

Dale Wyrick advised that Commission members have been provided handouts with pertinent information relevant to the Commission. The Commission is charged with reviewing and developing recommendations for long-term, sustainable waste management, waste reduction and recycling options. An annual plan will be developed by December 1 to outline what the Commission intends to accomplish each year. Members are to serve at least five years on the Commission.

Legal Orientation

James Dickens stated that the members who had served on the Task Force were already familiar with the general rules and how things work. This Commission is an Advisory board and there are no quasi-judicial powers involved. The Commission will come up with advice and recommendations for City Council on Solid Waste management and long-term recycling options.

He noted that the meetings of the Commission should be held at least once per month, but more meetings are not prohibited, as necessary. All meetings will be held at the 401 Patton Avenue Training Room, unless otherwise specified by the Chairperson. Meetings are open to the public.

There is a nine (9) member board, appointed by City Council. A quorum consists of at least five (5) members in attendance at a particular meeting. There must be a majority vote to pass any recommendation from the body.

Counsel Dickens stated that almost everything done in the course and scope of the Commission is a public record, unless excluded as previously discussed.

Discussion

Dale Wyrick pointed out that Tony Davies, Vic Nussbaum and Bob Mays were assisting with the landfill gas energy RFP selection process. He asked if those discussions would be required to be discussed in Open Session. Counsel Dickens stated that RFP discussions are generally private until a company is selected.

Tom Phillips suggested that the members' terms not be limited to two terms. Ray Trapp agreed. No decision was made at the time.

Staff is determining whether Commission members will be given a City e-mail address. Counsel Dickens stated that he would investigate and see what the legal standpoint is concerning e-mails between Commission members. Counsel Dickens stated that members could contact him at his e-mail address: james.dickens@greensboro-nc-gov if there were specific questions.

Election of Chair and Vice Chair

By consensus of the Commission members present, it was determined to defer elections of Chair and Vice Chair to the July 2013 meeting.

Determine Future Meeting Schedule

After discussion and consensus of the Commission members, it was determined that meetings of the Commission will be held on the fourth Wednesday of each month, beginning at 3:00 p.m. in the Field Operations Training Room at 401 Patton Avenue.

Solid Waste Overview

Dale Wyrick stated that information will be provided to Commission members regarding solid waste generation, recycling etc. Handouts were provided to Commission members. Dale noted that Gail Hay will be the staff person for landfill gas and environmental compliance issues, Sheldon Smith will be the contact for solid waste collections and recycling issues, and Jason Jernigan will be the contact for the transfer station and landfill operations issues. Nancy Lindemeyer will be responsible for communications.

Dale Wyrick provided an update on landfill gas. There is 50% methane gas in the landfill and there is a certain volume from the waste that is in place there. Currently, there is an agreement with Cone Denim plant, ITG, where about 40% of that gas is sent to their facility and they use it to run their boilers. This is apparently a vital part of them staying viable.

Five developers plan to respond to the Landfill Gas RFP on July 2. These developers are charged with giving prices for dollars per BTU that would be provided back to the City under a base-case scenario. Several have submitted their qualifications and touched on different types of projects, one of which is co-generation where heat is captured coming off generators and steam is sent to ITG instead of the actual gas. Dale confirmed Mr. Mays comment that the quality of our landfill gas is very good.

Dale discussed the MSW summary provided to the Commission and the amount of waste coming into the transfer station. He noted that the three-year average volumes are also in the summary.

Lunch / Solid Waste Overview

Lunch was provided from 12:00 until 12:37.

Other

Dale Wyrick discussed the dates of the City's contracts with Hilco Transport Inc. for hauling City MSW and Republic Services of NC for disposal, and noted that the handout contains the contract's dates. He also discussed the yard waste facility at White Street where compost is made with grindings, prunings, and leaves. There are about 30,000 tons of yard waste, from the curbside yard waste program as well as private landscaping companies.

In response to a question by Jim Kee in regard to landfill closure and closure costs, Dale Wyrick provided an update on the 8-acre closure and the future 25-acre closure of the non-active Phase II portions of the landfill. There are still 32 acres on Phase II for C&D that is active. Based on the rate waste is coming in, it will be a long time before they completely close that out. The surrounding area is currently being closed out. Phase III still takes ash product from the wastewater plant, which is about 9,000 tons of material each year. They are so far from being close to the cap-off point, which it is not within the next five-year plan. The Phase II 25-acre closure is estimated to be \$2.2M. As he understands it, there is funding in place to pay for that.

Jim Kee asked about the status of the Nealtown Connector. Dale Wyrick responded that part of the Cone/Nealtown Connector goes through an old landfill site. An analysis of the materials at the site is being done by the State and when those results are submitted a decision on how to address it will be discussed. The City has conducted a cost analysis and there is about a \$1M dollar difference to transport the waste from the site versus putting it in Phase III.

Mark Taylor asked that the reports be dated for clarification, as when Commission members are referring to them, sometimes it is difficult to determine when a particular report was generated. He felt this would help members in looking at future reports.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

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The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for July 24, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. at the 401 Patton Avenue Training Room location.