

The Sanitation, Recycling, and Water Committee of the City Council for the City of Junction City met on Monday, February 2nd, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 680 Greenwood Street, Junction City, Oregon.

PRESENT WERE: Councilors Jim Leach, Steven Hitchcock, and Randy Nelson; and Public Works Director Jason Knope, and Public Works Superintendent Gary Kaping.

ABSENT WERE: None.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Councilor Steven Hitchcock called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 5th, 2015

The consensus of the Committee was to approve the minutes.

IV. RECYCLING QUARTERLY REVIEW

Director Knope stated that before the Committee tonight is the recycling quarterly review and that it has been a while since the Committee has seen recycling revenue and tonnage numbers. Director Knope informed the Committee that currently we are paying \$3.50 per ton for co-mingled recycling, and that we use to get paid \$30 per ton. Also, the City has just been informed that the cost is going to go up \$10 per ton. Due to this, City staff is looking into other possible options that could be more cost effective.

Director Knope noted that this past December was one of our record setting recycling months as far as recovery rates. We had a 25% recovery rate. He then compared this December to last December, stated that last December were around the 23-24% range. Director Knope credits the increase in recycling to customers changing their service to the 35 gallon service to save money and needing to recycle more so all of their garbage will fit in the new, smaller tote.

Director Knope pointed out to the Committee that although we are currently paying to recycle, if we took what is being recycled as garbage to Lane County we would be paying \$78 per ton and Coffin Butte would charge \$34 per ton. This means that the City is still saving money by recycling; we are just aren't getting paid for it like we have been in the past.

Director Knope stated that we are not the only customer that is starting to get fed up with Weyerhaeuser and some of their policies. Director Knope noted that he is

not suggesting it, but some Communities are looked at placing a fee on recycling. Director Knope would rather look into where we take our recyclables and try to save money that way. Discussion followed.

V. WATER USAGE QUARTERLY REVIEW

Director Knope stated that we are 10% above where we projected that we would be at this point in the year which makes us ahead about \$49,000 of where we should be at this time. Director Knope stated that we are starting to see the trend come back to where they should be with water usage. Director Knope believes that the City has benefited from having Utility Billing married together with Public Works. There is no longer a lag between problems and solutions.

Director Knope then informed the Committee that over all, we are about 20,000 consumption units more than projected.

VI. AGENDA FORECASTER REVIEW

Director Knope stated that he did not have anything to present on the forecaster review.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Director Knope informed the Committee that after tonight, Public Works Superintendent Gary Kaping will be stepping in as the staff lead for this Committee until the City Administrator position is filled.

Director Knope explained to the Committee that the reports for the tank cleanings have been received, and reviewed, by Superintendent Kaping.

Superintendent Kaping stated that he has starting watching the videos that they shot while cleaning the tanks. In watching the videos he informed the Committee that all of the tanks look good. There was a little more sedimentation in the tanks than we thought that we would have. In the old tank there was up to 6" of iron and manganese that had settled on the bottom. In the new tanks there was an average of 3" of the same sediment. Superintendent Kaping noted that it will be really interesting to see, now that we have the water treatment plant online, how much sediment there will be the next time that the tanks are cleaned. Discussion followed.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Shafer
Public Works Technician