

# Solid Waste Advisory Committee

## March 20, 2019

### Minutes

In Attendance: Susan Bauer, Aaron Park, Peter Owen, Lee Leiner, George Sprague, Paul Perkins, Brook Vail, Louis Ricciardone, Mari Eosco (visiting)

(Lee has the list of people from the public)

#### 1. Introductions

2. **Review Proposed City of Bath Committee Guidelines:** Susan explained the reasons for new city committee guidelines (below). The public will be invited to speak for this meeting with the limit of three minutes.

3. **Minutes from previous meeting.** Moved by Aaron, 2nd, Lou. All in Favor.

4. **Presentation of Findings by Lee Leiner/Questions from Committee.** Lee passed around a memo with numbers that he crunched, looking at dwellings up to 6 units to curbside collection (to be attached). Current amount of trash currently coming in through apartments through tipping fees is income to the city but if blue bags were used could be more. Bottom line, tenants using blue bags would net more revenue to the city. Peter clarified that waste to the landfill as revenue vs. revenue with bags as well as the cost of the truck to pick up. The new contract with Pine Tree combines trash and recycling pick up with one truck and they will be able to do pick up in 4 days rather than the current 5 days. Aaron asked if adjustments to the contract will need to be made. Yes. Brook asked about the cost of recycling. Lee explained that the cost of recycling has gone up because of changes in the market. Brook asked if the increase from apartments recycling presumably, how much increase will that be? Lee said it's hard to know because we don't know who is recycling now. Lou asked if there's been a change with bag sales with G2G in place. It has not made any impact as of now. Peter brought up zoning as something that needs to be considered where this made available if changes are made. Paul asked about the calculations on the life of the landfill. Lee said it will take 16 months under a predicted 15 year life currently. Brook asked about how early people can put bags out. 7:00pm the night before is the time and maybe that should be considered. Maybe landlords could offer G2G to their tenants to limit the trash they put out, smell and what goes into the landfill.

#### 5. Public Comment:

Scott Bodwell. 1168 Washington Street, 4 unit. Great info. Scott shared an idea if there is a container that Pine Tree could supply as a common receptacle so that all of the trash could be picked up at one time.

Stephanie Luce, York Street 3 unit. Wondering how many 3-6 units have already been using blue bags? She has in a previous building and in current building. She surveyed her tenants if they would continue to recycle if they didn't have to. They said no.

Peter Flaherty. 6 and 8 units. He looked at 11 unit properties. Would the same reasoning for the explained 6 units work for bigger units? He is amazed that the blue bags haven't increased. He sees it as a bargain and maybe blue bags should go up. 3-11 units would increase recycling 25%.

Clark Hill 424 Washington Street. 8 unit. Has three other properties 4-4-3 that have always used blue bags. He says that the 8 unit with dumpster is the biggest problem. Usually dumped 1-2

times a month. He said without a dumpster with only white bags people would continue to leave stuff there.

Mary Kane 999 High Street. Technically 3 unit. But only Mary and her sister live there putting out 1 blue bag a week maybe. She's like to continue to use blue bags.

Richard Kessler. No apartment. Asked how long contract with Pine Tree is. 5 years.

Nancy Moran 993 High Street. Want to urge education piece on recycling and composting.

Dan Beishline. 444 Washington Street. Handed out what other towns are doing. Most of the other towns truck their garbage. Would there be extra truck stops? Lee said it extends the number of stops. Dan has started composting and reduced garbage considerably.

John James. 1093 Washington. John made calls. Brackett's said their sales are 1/2 big bags, 1/2 large. He talked to the printing company. Retail stores don't make money when they sell these bags. (gave handout).

Terry Nordmann: City Councilor came to listen and is glad to hear what Lee has found for numbers.

Clark Hill finished off: He's more concerned about environment and compost, fewer trucks and hopes this weighs in on the decision.

- 6. Final Committee Discussion:** Peter made clear that we'd like to offer all services to everyone but as city manager needs to control costs. He's glad to see the calculations that show additional revenue. Landlords can offer composting to tenants to encourage environmental issues. We still need to address B&B's and zoning. More research needs to be done. George sees that we need to define what a businesses is. He pointed out the IRS has found it a challenge to define rentals. Brook asked about net calculation about the units that we don't about the blue bags. It was generated assuming no units over 3 are currently using blue bags. Aaron encouraged the committee to also look at blue bag costs. Susan reminded that there is a limit of 6 bags and that should be looked at. It hasn't really been a problem. Paul talked about one of the handouts is concerned that Bath looks less desirable as is suggested in the handout. Brook talked about landlords have a lot power to encourage recycling with their tenants and being creative to encourage less going to the landfill.

Next meeting: Thursday, April 11, 4:00.



## **Guidelines for City of Bath Committees**

- Each committee will elect a Chair each year. This does not necessarily have to be a council member.
- Roberts Rules of Order will be used to some extent to run the meetings.
- Each Committee will have at least one staff person on it as a non-voting member.
- The City Council member/s on the committee will be responsible for communicating committee information to the council as a whole, at council meetings with brief updates.
- Minutes will be taken at each meeting which, after they are approved by the committee, be available to the public upon request.
- Any committee budget requests should go through the staff member for consideration of the upcoming budget. Budget requests by committee members outside of this process should be discouraged.
- The public is welcome to attend committee meetings. It is up to the committee chair if they want to invite the public to speak. This can be decided at the beginning of each meeting and should be made clear to those in attendance. If it is decided the public will be invited to speak, they will be limited to 3 minutes per person.

These are guidelines that can be followed as closely as necessary determined by the chair of each committee.