

February 3, 2014
Noon
Newport, Oregon

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Councilors present: Roumagoux, Beemer, Busby, Allen, Sawyer, and Swanson. Saelens was absent.

Staff present: Nebel, Hawker, Gazewood, and Tokos.

Also in attendance was Ken Riley and Rob and Aimee Thompson from Thompson's Sanitary Service, Estle Harlan, a solid waste consultant.

Media present: Dave Morgan from News Lincoln County, Wyatt Haupt from the Newport News-Times; and Larry Coonrod from the Lincoln County Dispatch.

Roumagoux called the meeting to order.

Roll was taken.

1. Nebel reported that there will be a report at this meeting on the results of the survey on compostables that was conducted by Thompson's Sanitary Service.

Allen reported that he had forwarded an e-mail to Council last Thursday relative to this issue. He reiterated that he and Saelens had been asked by Council to work on recycling issues. He noted that a timeline was developed, and that this report on the survey results is the next step in the process. He added that there will be a public forum with Thompson's making a PowerPoint presentation at the February 18, 2014 City Council meeting.

Thompson reviewed the work that has been done on this issue to date. He noted that Thompson's Sanitary Service produced a special newsletter and this survey. He reported that on December 1, 2013, the survey was e-mailed to 906 customers. He noted that 439 people completed the entire survey. Thompson reviewed the survey and survey results.

Allen asked Thompson whether he has data regarding the number of customers that might be able to downsize their regular trash container. Harlan noted that there were 25% to 30% in Salem that were able to downsize when this service was introduced. Allen mentioned that even if customers downsize or have less frequent regular trash pick-up, the compostables will be picked up weekly.

Busby asked whether any thought was given to providing the compostables service on a bi-weekly basis. Thompson noted that the savings would not be significant, but that he would look at it.

Thompson reported that associated items that he is looking at include: free compost to the community; an SOS payment program; and more reporting.

Allen asked what the percentage of 35-gallon carts is, and Thompson noted that it is approximately 80%.

Thompson offered that his company could look at how many customers downsize in a six-month period and update Council. He noted that an additional educational effort would be made.

Thompson reported that the PowerPoint that will be presented on February 18 will focus on where the compostables go. He noted that he has added slides regarding disaster preparedness.

Beemer asked about providing compost to the community, and Riley noted that this might occur once annually.

Busby noted that a big issue is the size of the 96-gallon cart, and asked whether there could be a smaller option.

2. MOTION was made by Beemer, seconded by Swanson to enter executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(e) to discuss real property transactions. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote, and Council entered executive session at 1:09 P.M.

MOTION was made by Beemer, seconded by Sawyer, to leave executive session and return to the work session. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote, and Council returned to its work session at 1:25 P.M.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:25 P.M.