SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE
WORK SESSION CITY COUNCIL MEETING
PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS
MONDAY, APRIL 9, 2012; 5:00 p.m.

The Council convened in regular Session in City Hall Building, City Council Chambers, 305 S. East Street, at 5:00 p.m., Monday, April 9, 2012.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Stockton who directed the City Clerk to call the roll and the following members answered present:

2. **ROLL CALL**

Aldermen: **DS,** Mboka Mwilambwe, Judy Stearns, Steven Purcell, Robert Fazzini, Mayor Stockton

Staff: **DH**

3. **DISCUSSION TOPIC**

SS called to order 5:02 p.m.

a. Budget

Topic budget; focus on solid waste; noted guiding principals; adopt budget at April 23rd meeting; staff recommendation 4 per month increase; adopt less – reduce services/expenditures

JF arrived 5:05 p.m.

SS, cannot redesign solid waste this evening, 17 parts

Address – 6 objectives

DH, address document entitled Solid Waste Fund Budget Modification Report

Acknowledge TE/ J. Karch's efforts; address the Executive Summary; noted Option 1 $3.00; reduce fee; disadvantage – transfer $300,000; impact other projects

Need early ____ design studies; acquire right of way; construction money

Transfer $300,00 from GF to MFT; reduce funding for street projects

BA arrived 5:12 p.m.

DH, these dollars tied to arbitration; if lose will need to pay the contractors

Option 2 - $2.00

Eliminate TR signal installation; reduce overtime budget; list of potential TR signals prepare; additional intersection; needs excellent resources

FIND LIST

Option 3; use fees bulk waste service; hope reduced expenditures; increased revenue

Reduce to one year bucket load

Need for citizen ad hoc committee

Change bulk to fee based

Long term savings – service adjustment

Additional time is needed

Other Expenditure Reduction; not recommended by staff; focus on capital

Significant expenditures; __ automated trucks; 6,000 container

Need 5 additional trucks plus container

Automated collection; lower Workers' Compensation; variable pricing

Significant capital improvement needed; i.e. trucks

Noted impact of recession; economy improving

Will need to look at revenue; reducing expenditures will not do it all

Direction to staff 6-9 months; _____ bulk to fee based service

KS arrived 5:24 p.m.

SS, question for Council appropriate fee increase

JF, clarification

DS, refuse – recycling

DH, refuse – weekly

DS, automated recycling

DH, this full year 2012; 4 trucks purchased; debt service; need carts

JK, automated single stream recycling; April 23rd cart; second issue – phone in automated refuse – 2 trucks; 6,000 carts; pilot program

DS, bulk waste changes; biweekly bulk waste; address service level; reduce costs

DH, could be part of study

RF, accelerated purchase trucks/carts noted cost savings

JK, noted role of seasonal labor

Program integration – staff performs variety of roles; staffing levels impact services

JS, cost for bulk waste; difficult to make a decision; question costs

DH, noted cost study

JK, estimated cost at $2.2 million; total budget $6.8 million

JS, believe citizens willing to pay for profit center; works in other communities; kept City staff employer; make system better

BA, talk about bulk waste; capital costs; $18 per month cover all costs; excluding bulk

DH, could not answer definitely; noted leaf/landscape waste; need time to fully evaluate

BA, his belief; +18 assist City; support +4 with _____; bulk is not the answer; automation should help control costs

KS, echo JS regarding bulk waste; general sense – service willing to pay for

Okay with +4; __________ one year; support citizen group

Gratitude service provided

Investing in equipment; take services off the table

DH, recycle – best practice; automated truck with carts; same for refuse; cited private sector; bulk waste; inventory trucks/equipment

JK, 15/16 pieces of equipment

DH, pay as you ________; bulk, leaves

JK, noted presence PW staff

MM, thank you report; meaning long term; initial objection – discussion what this means – there are consequences; why retain services?

DH, educate citizens; regular cycle equipment replacement; current equipment twelve years old; reliability key; impact productivity

JK, regular replacement important

SS, number of questions raised; Council where going next two weeks?; critical budget questions; dead lines – have answers

SP, questions fee increase; placed on water bill; charge – true cost; or divide with another revenue stream; $5 to $7 to $14 to $18; heard complaints; cut back on services; raise fee; not support $4 increase; will support $2 increase; ______ date – addendum, i.e. costs, not focus on bulk

BA, support bulk pick up fee; __________ __________ staff – Council

Focus on automated pickup; 20 gallon container

JK, user based fee based on volume; stagger fees based on size

BA, support +4; ______ look at bulk; smaller container

JS, recycle yard waste

JK, compost; not effective with just yard waste; long term goal

JS, charge for yard waste; bags-stickers; generates income; creates jobs; pay as you throw; equipment investment; recycling pays for refuse; bulk self-supporting; +4 not needed

JK, p.5; charges for bulk waste; reduced tonnage by 1/3; reduce to 1 free bucket

SS, direction next 2 weeks; adopt budget in 2 weeks; question Council opposed to fee increase; 2 opposed to a fee increase

DS, dilemma – third year; changes to service levels; discussion reduce services – reduce cost

Not support +4 increase; unsure +2 increase

ITEP money reallocated to solid waste

Question: what does the end look like?

Same services – higher costs

SS, automation – trucks/_____; what to charge? Cannot work out all unknown

RF, _____ set; separate out; unrealistic expectation; no complex motion

Head towards pay as you through – stop at each house

Fee should not simply double – 2 not 1 container

Comfortable with $2; maybe $4

____ vote for motion include __________

MM, _______ provisions – not in favor of do what needs to be done

Support $2 increase; communicate expectations; understand cost of doing business

Moderate increase

Develop philosophy – communicate same

Better planning- going forward

JF, wish more information

Like direction bulk waste; greater strides

Appreciate staff's work; Option ½ acceptable; find common ground

Cannot have both ways; noted reduction in other areas

Hold the line – give up some services

Not a fan - _____ clauses; falsehood

Continue evaluation study; solid waste

Ex. **Sunset?** Clause; USCC sales tax

Find consensus prior to April 23rd

SS, purpose of Work Session

Direction pros/cons to Sunset clause

Offer fall service program with opt out

Unbundle services; pay for what you use

Not resolve in 2 weeks

What to include in budget

DH, FY 13; 2 automated refuse trucks

FY 12; 4 automated recycling trucks plus 19,000 carts

Change solid waste program

Noted costs of trucks and carts

Recycling – divert from landfill

Life cycle of trucks – based on usage

DH, support $2 increase; some $4 increase; other none

____ - $2 increase

Scope of work plan 6-9 months; pay as you throw concept; what and when to expect something from staff; no value to sunset clause

SS, sunset clause resolve issues; one size fits all – does not work; fees appropriate based upon use

DH, use of options 1 and 2 to achieve

SS, compromise take program forward

JF, framed well by DH; support same

RF, echo JF

SP, explain what cut

DH, options ½

KS, support

JS, stated position; pay as you throw – profitable; exchange revenue for expenditures

MM, okay

DS, addressed deliverable line of sight – with a timeline; why increase needed

BA, support #2; believe #4 justified; noted capital cost

SS, could take action if warranted (fees); direction to City Manager; guidelines; referred to 17?

DS, contact DH; parameters, vision – solid waste

SS, guiding principles; report back – 6 months

DH, keep simple, generic; provide a time line; role/ideas citizen's group; general thought

SS, citizen's group – how to structure

DH, welcome other questions

MM, deadline for feedback

DH, 1 week

JF, noted volume of material; staff take lead

SS, develop questions for staff/citizen's group report- summer/fall

JS, P/t tonight; receiving feedback from citizen; concern pension funding; read from – actuarial report Fire Pension; contribution – declining; meeting legal obligation

Grave concern – be in trouble

Continue to expand

DH, per capita – police/fire unfunded liability

Have provided data

Review actuarial methodologies; analysis on – look at cost; before November 2012; Property Tax levy is the funding source; long term financial plan

SS, question regarding future commitment; affordability; should not take away; future benefit – achievable

DS, Gateway grant; rating agencies; capital equipment concern

See linkage – correlation to economic development

DH, 4/23 status report; better information; good work done; council direction needed; first meeting May – final vote

SS, no guarantees; but $200,000 could turn into a $1 million

DH, aquatic vegetation; budget includes short term recommendation; try to address, minimize, control limited money budgeted

JF, noted money value – inadequate; reactive versus proactive approach

RF, echo JF; spend more now; avoid future cost

MM, trusting staff; watch and see approach; involve some trial and error; develop a plan to address; manage expectations; educate citizens

Adjourn 6:47 p.m.

4. ADJOURNMENT

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Tari Renner, Mayor

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Cherry L. Lawson, City Clerk