

MEETING MINUTES CITY OF MILPITAS

Minutes of: Special Meeting of the Milpitas City Council
Date: Tuesday, January 12, 2016
Time: 7:30 PM
Location: Milpitas City Hall, 2nd Floor Council Chambers
455 East Calaveras Blvd., Milpitas

ROLL CALL

Mayor Esteves called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

PRESENT: Mayor Esteves, Vice Mayor Montano, Councilmembers Barbadillo, Giordano and Grilli

ABSENT: None

APPROVE AGENDA

On a motion by Vice Mayor Montano, seconded by Councilmember Giordano, the meeting agenda was approved by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC FORUM

None.

WORK SESSION

City Engineer Steven Machida explained the informational workshop format and the fact that no action was requested of the City Council at this meeting. Two companies that submitted proposals for solid waste disposal would make presentations to the City Council. Mayor Esteves said that the public would be invited to comment following Council questions.

The presentation of proposals on Solid Waste Disposal Services was described by the City's consultant HF&H, and it was noted this evening was not focused on collection of solid waste - only on disposal (landfill). Peter Diebler and Rob Hilton both addressed the Council, summarizing the Request For Proposals process to date.

First presenter was Mr. Mike Rivera, District Manager of Waste Management. He described WM's Guadalupe Landfill in South San Jose, where his company proposed to haul waste from Milpitas. Two current contracts were in place for West Valley and Mission Trails covering various segments of Santa Clara County. He described capacity at this site, which could accommodate Milpitas now and for next 40-50 years.

Councilmember Giordano asked if it was typical to bid for collection and disposal both. Mr. Rivera replied yes. She wanted to know if it was a typical distance between collection and the disposal site, at 20 miles from Milpitas to the Guadalupe landfill. Mr. Rivera replied yes.

Vice Mayor Montano asked further questions about the hauling distance and timeframe to arrive at the site from Milpitas residences.

Councilmember Grilli asked about Diversion Day and when that was scheduled at Guadalupe. Mr. Rivera replied once a year usually, occasionally twice, and it was very popular with other cities that Waste Management served.

Councilmember Barbadillo asked how many cities used this firm for both collection and disposal. One Waste Management representative identified many cities they served in other counties for both collection and disposal. City Attorney Diaz responded further, reminding Mr. Barbadillo that Council would hear from RFP responders for hauling at another meeting.

Mayor Esteves asked what issues the company had with neighbors close by. Mr. Rivera replied a few noise complaints when the trucks arrived too early. There had been one issue with the road going up to site being dirty, so they added more street sweeping to improve that.

Vice Mayor Montano asked about tonnage, due to anticipated increase with an increasing population in Milpitas. Mr. Rivera responded about available capacity at the landfill site.

Mayor Esteves asked why there was no odor issue at the site. Another Waste Management representative explained their process with best practices, including good gas management and alternate daily cover.

Second presenter was Emily Finn from GreenWaste Recovery, a local company that started in 1991 serving communities in Santa Clara County, along with some in Santa Cruz and Monterey. Waste would be hauled to GreenWaste Material Recovery Facility at Charles Street in San Jose, located seven miles from Milpitas City Hall. She described current and expanded capacity at this site, which could accommodate expected volumes from City of Milpitas. Waste was then transferred to the landfill in Marina in Monterey County. She reported zero complaints about odor at that landfill and showed a map with distance to closest residential communities.

Councilmember Giordano asked about the difference between those city customers that have direct disposal and those that had transfer services. Ms. Finn said it was an issue of proximity mainly.

Mayor Esteves asked if GreenWaste had a rating the firm got from its customers. Ms. Finn replied that would reflect more on the collection part, not disposal. Mr. Tim Flanagan of the Monterey Regional Waste Management District (third party) responded about the awards the landfill at GreenWaste Recovery Facility had won.

Councilmember Barbadillo referred to the chance to subcontract to Newby Island Landfill, if necessary. He asked when that might be necessary. Ms. Finn said that would be for a temporary contingency, if emergency closure ever occurred at Charles St. or Marina facility while GreenWaste had never had to use a contingency facility to date.

Councilmember Grilli asked about the Zanker facility where Dump Day would happen and if there were any odor complaints. Ms. Finn said no.

Mayor Esteves asked the representative from Waste Management where was its contingency location. Mr. Rivera replied, Kirby Canyon.

Councilmember Barbadillo asked about the volume of waste over the lifetime of the new contract. Rob Hilton from HF&H said it was a

complicated answer, while annual tonnage would likely decline as required by the state to recover/recycle much more waste over time even while population of the community may increase.

Peter Diebler of HF&H identified the next steps, which included evaluation and selection for disposal contractor, with interviews of both companies on site. The City Council would be expected to make a selection in March.

Councilmember Giordano asked Mr. Diebler some questions about the evaluating and scoring process, and how to determine the “best” choice for City of Milpitas since that was a subjective term.

Mayor Esteves asked about the timeline for Council decisions. He wanted to know: could the process “sour” and lengthen the timeline for final contracts to be signed? Both men from HF&H said no, that was not the plan and it could be done even sooner than the schedule called for, with completion in the fall this year. Contingency time was built into the adopted schedule.

The Mayor thanked both presenters for their information at this meeting and then invited audience members to speak.

Public comments were provided by residents Robert Marini, Joe Hu, Dieter Griesmeier, Tom Valore and Joseph Weinstein.

Evan Boyd, General Manager of Republic’s Newby Island, told the Council reasons why it did not submit a disposal site bid while his company did bid on the hauling contract.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Esteves adjourned the special meeting at 9:30 PM.

The foregoing minutes were approved by the Milpitas City Council on January 19, 2016.

Mary Lavelle
Milpitas City Clerk