

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, HELD ON JUNE 18, 2012 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE CIVIC CENTER MEETING ROOM, 16327 LAKEVIEW DRIVE, JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS.

A. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Russell Hamley at 6:00 p.m. with the following present:

Mayor, Russell Hamley	City Manager, Mike Castro
Council Member, Justin Ray	City Secretary, Lorri Coody
Council Member, Rod Erskine	
Council Member, Harry Beckwith III, PE	
Council Member, Sheri Sheppard	
Council Member, Jill Klein	

Staff in attendance: Mark Bitz, Fire Chief; Eric Foerster, Chief of Police; Danny Segundo, Director of Public Works; Isabel Kato, Director of Finance; and Michael Brown, Director of Parks.

B. Discuss the contract terms for residential solid waste collection and disposal services.

Danny Segundo, Director of Public Works introduced the item. He told Council that the City's current solid waste contract with WCA Waste Corporation will expire October 1, 2012, and City staff has been meeting with prospective solid waste collection providers in order to prepare a Request for Proposals (RFP). The City's current contract with WCA began in 2006 with a three year contract that included an option to renew for another three year period, which Council approved in June 2009.

Mr. Segundo explained that the work session item is for Council to review the RFP that was included in the meeting packet and for staff to receive input regarding Councils' desires to include any of the following items in the RFP:

- Curb Service
- Recycling
- Automated Service
- Once a week pick up
- Twice a week pick up
- Change in days (current days are Tuesday & Friday)

Additionally, Mr. Segundo told Council that Staff, with Council's approval, plans to release the RFP to the public through publication in the newspaper on July 5 and July 12. To keep this schedule requires a decision regarding the desired services at tonight's meeting.

In completing his presentation, Council engaged in discussion about the RFP and solid waste collection services for the City. Discussion was had about the number of complaints received regarding the current vendor. Mr. Segundo reported that he has received few complaints and Council Members agreed that they have not received any complaints from residents on this issue.

Council discussed the following topics:

1. The earliest time for pick-up of trash is 7:00 a.m.

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2. The cost per resident for solid waste collection does not including recycling. Recycling is currently on a no fee contract. In the past, when this service was bid, the cost was some \$2.50 per resident household.
3. When WCA, Inc. first began solid waste collection services, the cost per resident household was \$11.75. This cost has increase 16% over the past 6 years.
4. WCA, Inc. does not access a fuel charge even though the contract permits that such a charge may be accessed.

Mr. Segundo told Council that having the same vendor for six (6) years is a long time and changes have taken place in the market. However, there is a stipulation in the current contract that permits WCA, Inc. to submit a proposal for Council's review and approval prior to going out for RFP for these services. Mr. Segundo told Council that WCA, Inc. has submitted a proposal in accordance with the terms of the agreement. He circulated copies of the proposal for Council's review.

In reviewing the proposal, it was noted that the cost for services has decreased over what is currently being paid. This decrease brought about concerns for the stability of the company. The reasoning was that if the company is providing this low bid to keep the City from going out for bid, is their stability such that they cannot afford to lose the City as a customer.

Council discussed the quality of service that we have received from WCA, Inc. It was noted that in other neighborhoods the rules are very strict and specific on what the vendor will and will not pick up. The Council felt that WCA's rules are good as far a frequency and what they will and will not pick up.

Discussion was had on automated service. The concern with this service is that the vendor would only accept what was placed in a trash can and not any additional bags placed at the curb. There was also concern that in making the use of trash cans a necessity that there may be some elderly residents that would have trouble getting the large cans to the curb. This prompted discussion on just what exactly is meant by curbside. Staff pointed out that when WCA says "curbside" it is what we have now.

Backyard service was also discussed. City Manager Castro explained that this is a costly service. In the past, cost proposals ranged anywhere from \$2.75 to \$4.50 per customer, per month. Even at these rates, Mr. Castro explained that this would not have been true backdoor service; it would have been garage door service. Few vendors, if any, offer true backdoor service anymore. The last time we had backdoor service was in 2006.

In receiving this information from the City Manager, the consensus of Council was that the current curbside service is fine. There was discussion about the few elderly residents that we have who do require backdoor service. The City Manager stated that there are about twelve (12) residents. He explained that currently WCA, Inc. has worked with the City and has provided backdoor service for these twelve (12) homes at no extra cost.

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Council engaged in discussion about the option of seeking proposals for the solid waste collection service or considering WCA's proposal. The pros and cons were discussed, including the arrangement we have with the current recycling vendor. There was further discussion about the stability of WCA and the ownership of the company.

Council also asked about the other companies that might submit a proposal should Council decide to go out for RFP. Mr. Segundo explained that there would be other vendors. To name a few he stated that he would expect proposals from Republic, WCA, Inc., and Texas Trash. It was explained that performance for these companies would be checked during the bid process through reference checks.

Council continued to discuss the following issues:

1. Garbage collection services are paid for by city ad valorem taxes.
2. Single stream recycling might be a service the City would be interested in, but the large cans required for this service would pose difficult for elderly residents.
3. Once a week collection versus twice a week collection. The consensus of Council was that twice a week was desirable.
4. Council preferred Tuesday and Friday pickup.
5. People do not like change.
6. If the City stays with WCA, all will stay the same.

C. Adjournment.

There being no further business on the Agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Lorri Coody, City Secretary