

Minutes from the Landfill Committee Meeting held in the Mayor's Conference Room on 2-4-19:

Members Present: Sonja Culler, Mark Blevins, Ginger Holdren, Charlie VonCannon, Gary Bailey, Robin McKamey, Nancy Brown, and Austin Jaynes

Quorum present.

Meeting called to order by Chairwoman Sonja Culler.

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Mark Blevins, seconded by Gary Bailey. All were in favor.

Minutes read. Motion to accept minutes was made by Ginger Holdren and seconded by Robin McKamey. One correction was noted by Charlie VonCannon that the minutes should have stated City "Manager" Estes instead of "Mayor." Motion to accept the minutes with that one correction carried unanimously.

Public Comments: None

Report from Benny Lyons : Johnson City, Johnson County, the Elizabethton Star, and Georgia Pacific have all reached out to our Landfill/Recycling department for help with newspapers, shredded paper, cardboard, and more partly because a Kingsport facility is closing down. Mr. Lyons stated that the only way we can help these governments/businesses is if we run a second shift. Different payment options for Carter County are being considered--hourly for our time vs profit split from the recyclable goods. Our Finance Director, Brad Burke, is running some numbers to advise Mr. Lyons and the County Attorney, Josh Hardin, including the benefit package for running a second shift. When the best option for Carter County is determined, an agreement will be drafted for our commission to approve. Then, of course, the other governments will need to get it approved by their commissions.

New Business: Mayor Barnett commended Director Lyons for the success of our Landfill Department. He said that Carter County is shining compared to other governments in the area. We are leading the Solid Waste Region as put together by the state in 2015. We have the highest recycling rate at 20-something percent whereas Johnson County is at 4%, Unicoi County is at 3%, and Washington County is at 19%.

Gary Bailey questioned the possible 80/20 payment option, wanting to know how that became the suggested ratio. Director Lyons said that he just came up with that, but thinks that charging by the hour may be the better option.

Commissioner Bailey then questioned if we have enough trucks and balers to take on this potential expansion and asked if we have considered the additional wear/tear on our equipment. Director Lyons replied that it is being considered and Chairwoman Culler added that any agreement drafted by our attorney will include phrasing that protects us and our equipment.

Commissioner Austin Jaynes then asked if a combination hourly rate and percentage profit is being considered so that we maximize when recycling prices are up. He also expressed concerns about the

second shift working in a dark facility at night. Mr. Lyons stated that the recycling center has sufficient light. Mr. Jaynes then said that these other groups are in a bind and need our help, but that this potential venture must be profitable for Carter County.

Mr. Lyons then shared 3 bullet points from the state on our qualitative assessment, with the third one being to establish plans for the relocation of the Carter County recycling plant in anticipation of the nearby fishery's completion. Other counties had pages of bullet points!

Motion was made by Gary Bailey and seconded by Nancy Brown to allow Benny to move forward in drafting an agreement to serve these other governments (Johnson County and Johnson City). After a little more discussion a roll call vote was taken. The motion carried with all committee members voting yes to proceed. The agreement will come back to the Landfill committee for approval before sending it to the full commission.

Motion was made by Mark Blevins, seconded by Austin Jaynes to purchase a box truck with funds already in the Landfill budget so that CC can make money selling paper from the Elizabethton Star in Jonesborough. Motion passed unanimously.

Director Lyons solicited a sale in CC of 15 acres of the Matheson property to a company looking for a regional recycling facility. This company is looking in VA and other places, so Benny encouraged them to look here at a facility with 5 acres already under roof!

Old Business:

Dump truck cannot be fixed after all, so Director Lyons is beginning to look for one. Commissioner Brown mentioned a car lot that Eagle's Nest has bought. The car lot owner has 4 dump trucks that he needs to sell quickly. Commissioner VonCannon mentioned that the Highway Dept may have one.

Motion was made by Mark Blevins to adjourn. Austin Jaynes seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes prepared by:

Ginger Holdren

Approved for entry:

Sonja Culler, Chairwoman