



OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE TUALATIN CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING FOR SEPTEMBER 26, 2022

Present: Council President Nancy Grimes, Councilor Bridget Brooks, Councilor Maria Reyes, Councilor Valerie Pratt, Councilor Cyndy Hillier, Councilor Christen Sacco

Absent: Mayor Frank Bubenik

Council President Grimes called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. Republic Services Update

Management Analyst Lindsay Marshall and Republic Services Municipal Relationship Manager KJ Lewis presented an update on the Recycle + program and the Residential Organics program. Manager Lewis spoke to the residential organics program, stating it is not currently in Tualatin but can be if requested by the Council. She stated it is a low cost program, \$0.60-0.75 per month, that composts the material. Manager Lewis provided an update on the commercial organics program stating that 29 businesses are currently participating. She stated Recycle+ is a new program in Washington County that offers recycling of new items that could not be recycled before including stretchy plastic film, clear plastic clamshell containers, textiles, and fluorescent light bulbs. Manager Lewis stated there is a base charge for the program that offers two pick-up opportunities monthly. She stated the monthly base rate is \$2.50 and has a pickup rate of \$9.25. Manager Lewis reminded citizens about the recycling depot that is located in Wilsonville that accepts cardboard, electronic waste, glass bottles, metal, standard recyclables, and polystyrene. She stated Republic will be back in November with a rate adjustment from Metro that is estimated at 7%.

Council President Grimes asked if the rate increase for this type of recycling would be passed to every customer or just those using it. Manager Lewis stated the base rate for composting would be passed along to everyone but the service fees for Recycle+ would only apply to those using it.

Council President Grimes asked about the education campaign that will go along with the program. Analyst Marshall stated there would be a large education campaign that would also include materials from the county.

Councilor Hillier asked what the change in process would be for those who put their organics in their yard debris bins already. Republic Services Operations Manager Matt Ketchem stated there would be no change, but noted the composting process is more efficient when organics are placed in your yard debris bin.

Councilor Pratt asked if you can schedule pickups for the Recycle+ online. Manager Lewis stated there is not an online portal at this time to schedule a pickup.

Councilor Pratt asked if there is a way to quantify how much organics are being picked up so they can be reported on. Manager Lewis stated they track the amounts and can report back on them.

Councilor Reyes asked if the opt out is for the city as a whole. Manager Lewis stated the organics program is a citywide program and would be charged the base rate. She stated the Recycle+ program is an opt-in or out program on an individual basis.

Councilor Reyes asked how apartment complexes would handle all these recycling programs. Manager Lewis stated Recycle+ is not offered at multi-family complexes but there are plans to in the future.

Councilor Brooks stated she did a site visit of the transfer station and she encouraged others to as well as it is a very educational and informative experience. She asked what materials can be recycled there. Manager Lewis stated all items are listed on their website.

Councilor Brooks asked how many trucks of compacted garbage goes to the landfill. Manager Lewis stated 480 tons of garbage goes to the dump from different jurisdictions in the area.

Councilor Brooks asked how charges are applied for businesses. Manager Lewis stated the costs are amortized amongst the businesses.

Councilor Sacco asked about the methane difference between the food waste going in the garbage vs. the yard debris. Manager Lewis explained that when food is currently thrown away it gets put into different cells and they extract the R&G from the landfill and the methane is then used to fuel homes. She stated one option isn't better than the other.

Councilor Sacco asked since there is no process change what are the extra funds going towards. Manager Lewis stated it goes to drivers, admin costs, and heavier load costs.

Council President Grimes asked about counter top food composting containers. Manager Lewis stated they are an option but there would be additional costs to provide them.

Councilor Brooks asked about the Master Recycling Program. Manager Lewis stated it is ran by Washington County.

Councilor Hillier asked what the impact is for families that receive heat for their homes from the methane from the landfill. Manager Ketchem stated the landfill will continue to produce an abundance of methane over the next 30 years.

Council consensus was reached to move forward with exploring the programs at a future Council meeting.

2. Council Meeting Agenda Review.

Councilor Hillier stated she attended the DEI Committee Working Group meeting for the City. She stated the group will be at Council on November 14th to bring forward their findings.

Councilor Pratt stated she attended the C4 Metro meeting, the Mid-West CIO meeting, the Chamber meeting, and the I-205 Diversion Committee meeting.

Councilor Reyes stated the Borland Free Clinic will be having their 5th Annual Gala on October 22nd she encouraged people to attend as it is a fundraiser for them.

Councilor Brooks stated she worked with Parks staff on a backyard habit using grant funds that Tualatin Sustainability Network received. She stated she attended the Regional Water

Consortium meeting, the Historical Society meeting, the League of Oregon Cities Woman Caucus meeting, and the Stafford Family Festival.

Councilor Sacco stated she attended the Equity Group Planning meeting and the I-205 Diversion Sub-Committee meeting. She stated stickers and yard signs are now available for the Tualatin Parks Bond to help show your support.

Adjournment

Council President Grimes adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Sherilyn Lombos, City Manager

_____ / Nicole Morris, Recording Secretary

_____ / Frank Bubenik, Mayor