

07-21-21 ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

PREPARED 07-14-21

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Date: Wednesday, July 21, 2021

Time: 6:00 pm

Place: Conference Room on 10th floor of City Hall, 161 W Michigan Avenue, Jackson, Michigan

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. Adoption of the Agenda

IV. Approval of the minutes for the June 16, 2021 meeting

V. Citizen Comments (3-minute limit)

VI. 2021 Action Items

a) Refuse and Recycling Committee Report & Discussion

i) Cleanup location data (to be obtained by Mr White and transmitted to Commissioner Lund)

ii) Memo to City Council

b) LEED Committee Report & Discussion

c) Non-Motorized Committee Report & Discussion

VII. Commissioner Comments

VIII. Next Meeting – Wednesday, August 18, 2021 at 6:00pm

IX. Adjournment

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES (PREPARED 06-17-21)

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Date: Wednesday, June 16, 2021

Time: 6:00 pm

Place: Virtual meeting via Zoom due to COVID19 restrictions
Meeting ID 851 4376 9444, Passcode 161161

I. Call to Order *Chairperson Kelli Kazmier called the Environmental Commission meeting to order at 6:51 pm.*

II. Roll Call

Present: *Commissioner Kelsey Heck Wood, Commissioner Kelli Kazmier and Commissioner Kevin Lund*

Absent: *Commissioner Bethany Hersha*

Staff: *Troy R White, City of Jackson Engineering*

Note: *Commissioner Monica Day's appointment expired on 05-29-21*

III. Adoption of the Agenda

Motion made by Commissioner Heck Wood and seconded by Commissioner Lund to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

IV. Approval of 05-24-21 meeting minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Lund and seconded by Commissioner Heck Wood to approve the minutes as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

V. Citizen Comments (3-minute limit)

None

VI. 2021 Action Items.

a) Refuse and Recycling Committee Report

Mr. White provide a verbal summary of the attachments on pages 7 through 43 of the agenda packet as follows:

- *Chapter 12 (Refuse) of the City's Code of Ordinances does not appear to require refuse service.*

- *There are currently 8 refuse haulers that are having a total of 50 hauling vehicles inspected and licensed by the City.*
- *The Department of Neighborhood and Economic Operations (NEO) wrote 800 garbage and debris citations in calendar 2019. The fine is \$50 for a first citation and \$120 thereafter. Each citation requires two inspections. The costs to NEO for each citation is between \$200 and \$250.*
- *The City performed 218 cleanups on private property in calendar year 2019. The total cost for these cleanups was \$58,566. A contractor performed \$44,980 of the work. The remainder, \$13,586, was performed by the Department of Public Works (DPW). The DPW performs those cleanups where the environment is non-cooperative and a police presence is often necessary.*
- *The DPW did on-street garbage cleanups that cost \$109,352 in calendar year 2019.*

Commissioner Lund suggested that the locations of the citations be plotted on a map to provide a graphic that will show the areas impacted by un-collected garbage and debris. Mr. White informed Commissioner Lund that resources to make that happen are limited. Commissioner Lund requested that Mr. White provide the attachment data in a spreadsheet format and he will work on such a map.

The commissioners directed Mr. White to inquire about the following:

- *Does City staff have information about who is doing the dumping that requires street cleanups? Is it individual households, industrial dumpers, unregistered collectors or rental operators?*
- *Do communities with required pickup by a single hauler issue fewer citations, do fewer private property cleanups and have less dumping? Do they provide trash cans and recycling bins?*

The draft memo to the City Manager and City Attorney that was prepared by Commissioner Heck Wood as reviewed and accepted with modifications to:

- *make reference to the costs associated with inspections, enforcements and cleanups*
- *request input regarding the legality of requiring pickup service*
- *request input regarding the feasibility of providing service to every residence*
- *provide a cost-benefit analysis of transitioning to a single hauler system.*

b) LEED Committee Report

c) Non-Motorized Committee Report

Motion made by Commissioner Lund and seconded by Commissioner Kazmier to table items VI.b and VI.c until next meeting. Motion approved unanimously.

VII. Commissioner Comments

None.

VIII. Next Meeting – Wednesday, July 21, 2021 at 6:00pm via Zoom

IX. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Lund and seconded by Commissioner Heck Wood to adjourn. Motion approved unanimously. Meeting ended at 7:33 pm.

Environmental Commission memo to City Manager and City Attorney

The following document contains research around, and a recommendation to, open a bidding process for single hauler garbage service in the City of Jackson. We believe this is an important step to modernize garbage service for residents of the city while also providing several opportunities to reduce environmental impact and/or to increase environmentally friendly options available to residents.

The table below shows an apples-to-apples comparison of quarterly pricing for garbage and recycling service in neighboring communities.. Based on our research, Jackson is one of the only communities in Michigan, and certainly the only community of its size, to not offer a single waste provider to residents. As mentioned, the prices are quarterly (every 3 months) and include weekly pickup of a medium garbage canister (64 gallons or 5-7 13 gallon kitchen trash bags) as well as weekly or bi-weekly curbside recycling.

Service	Lansing	Ann Arbor	Battle Creek	Adrian	JXN - Emmons	JXN - Granger
64 gal/weekly pickup	x	x	x	x	x	x
curbside recycling (weekly)	x	x			x	x
curbside recycling (bi-weekly)			x	x		
Cost/3 months	\$81.75	\$59.00	\$59.01	\$37.95	\$71.10	\$91.50

In addition to cost savings, there are several environmental concerns addressed by adopting a single hauler garbage system. Environmental benefits include:

- Reducing emissions from large vehicles
- Reducing wear and tear on city streets
- Increasing access to recycling options
- Increasing access to affordable trash service to residents
- Decreasing illegal dumping of trash in natural areas
- Mitigating trash build-up in garages, porches, yards and reducing associated cost of inspection, enforcement and clean-up

We request city manager and staff investigate the following as it relates to creation of a plan:

- Legality of an ordinance requiring garbage pickup
- Feasibility of facilitating service at every residence
- Provide cost-benefit analysis of transitioning to a single hauler system

The members of the environmental commission realize there are people in our community who cannot afford garbage service or who earn their living through providing small-scale trash pickup. We strongly encourage that any official or final decision on this matter involves input from *all* community members and particular consideration of the impact on the nearly 30% of our neighbors living under the poverty line.