

SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE MEETING

June 23, 1987
6:45 p.m. - Room 240

Committee Members Present: Councilors Jim Gardner, Gary Hansen, Sharron Kelley and Tom DeJardin

Staff Present: Tor Lyshaug, Don Carlson, Debbie Allmeyer, Becky Crockett, Rich McConaghy, Jon Allred, Randi Wexler, Judith Mandt

Others Present: Merle Irvine, Wayne Trehwitt, William J. Plew, Bob Hurley

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Committee Chairman Gardner.

1. CTRC Contract Extension

Councilor Kelley made a motion that the Committee recommend to the Council that the extension of the contract with Wastech to operate the Clackamas Transfer and Recycling Center be approved for an additional 18 month period. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hansen. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Resolution on Functional Planning

Ms. Becky Crockett reported all meetings with jurisdictions would be reported to the Council, so that any Council member could attend if they desire.

She handed out copies of an outline concerning issues up for consideration on the Council Agenda for June 25. Also copies of the organizational structure for the planning process and additional copies of the plan itself.

Three key issues will be presented to the Council in the Staff Report Draft Project Work Program. It is intended that the Council set a guideline for what this program is going to look like to the policy group and the technical group, who would then bring back a refined work plan along the lines suggested by the Council.

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The second policy issue that is involved in the Staff Report is the development of the two groups.

The third policy issue is a recognition of how our existing projects and processes would merge into the Solid Waste Management Plan.

Councilor Gardner said these issues sounded like the same items brought before the Committee at the last meeting, at which time the Committee members indicated they were not ready to handle them while they were still in the midst of the resource decision. They didn't feel the Council was ready either.

Tor Lyshaug stated that the staff was asking the Committee to confirm this work program. He reiterated there is very little time to postpone decisions and asked if there is anything the staff is asking that is a problem. The staff is really looking for nothing but marching orders. Functional Planning has already been accepted. He stated he was at a loss as to why this one decision is so overwhelming compared to some others the Committee has already been faced with.

Councilor Hansen replied that the problem was, and always has been, that when the Committee starts looking at the matter of the JPACT model, the amount of control the Council is passing on to that Committee, depending on how the parameters are drawn up, can be very great. In fact, what he thinks the Committee is saying, is that rather than lumping this problem in with the same meeting where the Council is considering alternative technology, hold it off until it can be considered as a separate issue, so that three years from now, or at the point when the Functional Planning is complete, the Council will all feel comfortable with exactly how much power we have given off to this JPACT model committee.

Tor answered that he felt the Committee was not giving out any power yet. It was simply a testing of this method. As the process goes on down the line, the Council may pick up on what they think should be amended and what they think should not be amended. The Council does have that prerogative. The reason the JPACT model was used is that they have a pretty good track record.

Councilor Hansen said that it did have a good track record in terms of getting things done, but not such a good track record in terms of Council interaction. Mostly the problem is that it is just a sense that this is such a vital area to Metro that the

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Council wants to be very careful in terms of spelling things out ahead of time as far as what we want these two committees to do.

Tor asked if the Committee could come back with suggested modifications to the issues raised.

Councilor Hansen said he thought what had been decided at the last meeting was for the staff to go ahead meeting with the local folks, but not pin it down in terms of specifically how the plan was going to be implemented. We thought you were going to bring in another resolution that expressed things in much more general terms in order to keep the process going.

Councilor Kelley said that there were some local decisions that should require coordination. Land use is one of those. Another thing is recycling. The solid waste decision and that responsibility falls on the Council. If the Council decides to delegate that decision making policy to the local jurisdictions, that's a major change in how we do business and it should be discussed in that light. Before it is taken to the Council The Solid Waste Committee should clarify this and outline it so we all know what we are doing.

The other thing she was concerned about is that the Staff is asking the Council to input into a decision that's partially made anyway. If the Council makes a decision to enter into an MOU, aren't some of those decisions already made, particularly with the recommendations of the Citizens Review Committee?

Judith Mandt stated that the resolution was on the Agenda because it was the Executive Officer's request that it be placed on the Agenda. She felt the hesitation concerning the JPACT model had some aspects to it that are justified, but the dynamics of solid waste planning are much different from the dynamics of transportation planning. There is also Tor's point that as the plan progresses, the Council has the prerogative to look at whatever revisions need to be made. She really doesn't think the history the transportation model has is necessarily what is going to occur in Solid Waste.

Councilor Kelley replied that she understood the JPACT concerns, but she sees some decisions that are regional ones and some decisions that are local ones. She feels these are issues that everyone needs to have some responsible discussion about. The way the resolution is outlined, she's not sure those issues are even brought forward so the Council can talk about them, digest them and come up with some reasonable recommendations.

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Don Carlson noted that he had a discussion with the Presiding Officer the previous week and they talked about what went on at the last meeting vis a vis this topic. The Presiding Officer indicated he had talked to the Executive Officer and had agreed there would be a resolution put on the Agenda, but he indicated to Don that it would be much more general in terms of a resolution the staff could use and would be an indication of support for doing functional planning. He indicated that it was not his intent to approve putting on the work program. Mr. Carlson said he was quite surprised to see both items on the Agenda and that communication needs improving. He felt it was very clear that this Committee did not support putting those items on the Agenda.

Councilor Gardner stated the thought the question is really which would be more harmful to the process going forward; delay a while or have a lot of opposition at the next Council meeting?

Councilor Hansen stated that Resolution 87-773 on coordinating systems planning and development is a separate issue. That could go forward.

Councilor Gardner said that it was indicated at the last meeting that the diversion portion could certainly go forward. So 87-773 and its staff report can be on the Agenda as is. However, the resolution says no specific dates, tonnages, or products are committed to, but also states that efforts described in the attachment are what are being provided, and the attachment does get very specific as to tonnages, etc.

Councilor Hansen made a motion that Resolution 87-773 be brought to the Council with the understanding that specifics that are tied directly under the work program of the other resolution aren't that binding until the Council has had time to consider the other resolution.

Councilor Gardner said that what is needed is a resolution that presents a goal, and clearly outlines that the goal is to not have 100,000 tons go to the St. John's landfill, leaving the exact process of achieving that goal open at this point so that various options can be considered and none would be prohibited in the Resolution.

A vote was taken supporting Resolution No. 87-773. It passed unanimously.

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Councilor Gardner suggested he and Ms. Crockett work on a rewrite of Resolution No. 87-772. Ms. Crockett offered to meet with Councilor Gardner the following day.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Howatt
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