

**CITY OF SILVERTON
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES**

3:00 P.M.

June 18, 2019

The Environmental Management Committee of the City of Silverton met at the Silverton Community Center, Council Chambers on June 18, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. with Chairperson Smith presiding.

I. OPENING CEREMONIES – Call To Order & Roll Call

Chairperson Smith called the Meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

| Present | Absent | |
|---------|--------|---|
| X | | Chairperson Dana Smith |
| | X | Vice-Chair Chris Mayou |
| X | | Joe Craig |
| X | | Jaime Fuhrman |
| X | | Dawn Hemstreet |
| | X | Emma Schaffers |
| X | | Petra Schuetz, Public Works Director |
| | X | Republic Services; <i>Ex-Officio Member</i> |

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Craig moved to adopt the minutes from the May 21, 2019 meeting as presented. Member Fuhrman seconded the motion. Chairperson Smith requested minor grammatical changes be made. Member Fuhrman made a motion to approve minutes as amended. Member Hemstreet seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairperson Smith welcomed future Member Richard Freeman.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT – No public comment

IV. SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS – None scheduled

V. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

5.1 Environmental Management Committee Bylaws

Angela Speier, City Clerk, City of Silverton presented information about recent changes to EMC membership. Ms. Speier stated that Member Leboeuf resigned from the Committee. She said the City advertised to fill the position for three weeks and received a number of qualified applicants. Ms. Speier discussed the upcoming change to move the Public Works Director to ex-officio role which freed up a position for Mr. Freeman to come in. She stated the Public Works Director's role would be guidance and direction to the Committee in the future. She said the ordinance made a change to allow one member to reside outside city limits which will allow students to be on the Committee.

Chairperson Smith said that she thought the bylaws topic would include procedural items. She stated that in the past the Committee had established procedures to allow members to participate in discussions. She encouraged the Committee to speak up and let her know if they would like to participate. Ms. Speier specified that the changes in question are specific to the Silverton Municipal Code and not relating to the bylaws.

Member Schuetz said the Committee is able to change procedures at any time. She said that staff is able to help with recommendations on procedures. Chairperson Smith said she would like to take a look at what the Committee previously came up with and to make sure members have this information. She then stated she does not believe it needs to be revisited unless an issue comes up. She reminded members

that commenting on social media or email can lead to a quorum and both are subject to open meeting laws. She said she wants to make sure new members get copies of EMC goals and procedures. Member Hemstreet said she received a binder. Chairperson Smith noted she may not have received everything in the binder.

VI. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

Member Craig asked Member Schuetz about alternative use of chemicals in terms of herbicides. Member Schuetz said staff has developed some draft changes to policies and they have been submitted to the County for feedback. Chairperson Smith asked if the City uses Roundup. Member Schuetz said the City is not currently using Roundup. Chairperson Smith said the topic came up on social media. Member Schuetz noted the City does have a certified applicator.

Member Hemstreet asked if the Committee will be talking to Republic Services about the contract. Chairperson Smith noted they have two new employees and are in a conference and training so couldn't make it to the meeting. She said they will be at the meeting next month and will hopefully have rate study information. Member Hemstreet asked if it would be beneficial to have information regarding the previous contract conversation. Member Schuetz said the City could provide this information. Member Hemstreet said she thought the discussions had been fairly recent. Chairperson Smith said it was in 2016.

Member Fuhrman asked Member Schuetz to touch on the process for the contract. Member Schuetz emphasized that negotiations with Republic Services is not part of Committee responsibilities. She encouraged the Committee to look at the current franchise agreement and make recommendations regarding changes the Committee would like to see in the contract. She said the City Manager wants to make it clear to the Committee that consulting with Republic Services is for information only and that the Committee will not participate in the negotiations. Member Fuhrman asked if Republic Services will maintain the contract. Member Schuetz said the City Council chose not to go out with a request for proposals (RFP). She said the Franchise Agreement expires in November and that the current agreement states the City must give Republic Services a year advance notice and that time frame has passed.

Member Fuhrman asked for clarification about the previous process involving incentives for recycling and asked if that was considered negotiating. Member Schuetz further clarified that negotiations have not started and that the Committee can suggest components to incorporate into the new contract. She asked if everyone has access to the current agreement. Member Fuhrman asked for clarification that the Committee is evaluating and recommending but not negotiating. Member Schuetz confirmed this and stated that contract negotiation is the responsibility of the City Council and the City Manager. Chairperson Smith clarified that the previous work the Committee did was a rate change and not contract negotiation. Member Fuhrman asked for further clarification on what is appropriate for the Committee in regards to the franchise agreement. Member Schuetz said staff could provide examples of franchise agreements from other cities.

Mr. Freeman asked why the City is limited to one vendor. Member Schuetz explained this decision was part of a public process. Chairperson Smith noted part of the Council decision was the limited timeline. She noted that Republic Services is the only hauler of its size in the area and Council did not want multiple haulers. She said that the Committee can recommend to the Council to require an RFP every certain amount of years.

Chairperson Smith discussed the past rate study process and the rates suggested to Council during the previous rate increase by Republic. She said the Committee hoped to encourage recycling by having a higher rate increase for larger cans. Member Craig noted that it was an involved process with a lot of discussion. He said that at last month's meeting he asked Republic Services if they had seen a change in container size since the rate adjustment. He said he would like staff to request this information from Republic Services to provide at the next meeting.

Member Fuhrman asked if another vendor would have access to the Covanta facility. Chairperson Smith said yes, all Marion County haulers go to Covanta. Mr. Freeman asked if Republic has their own waste facility. Chairperson Smith said no but that they do have a compost facility. Member Schuetz said they

also use Coffin Butte for waste. Chairperson Smith said that Republic only takes waste to Coffin Butte if they cannot take it to Covanta.

Mr. Freeman asked if the City or Republic has a plan for what to do if an incinerator goes offline. Member Schuetz said this would be a good question for Republic Services. Mr. Freeman asked if there is a landfill in Marion County. Member Fuhrman replied that Woodburn has a facility. Chairperson Smith confirmed and said it is mostly for ash but has a lot of capacity.

Member Fuhrman said Republic collects money from ratepayers and part of it goes to the City. She asked if the City is going to ask for a higher percentage. Member Schuetz said the City is currently at 5%. She said she believed the highest from other communities in conjunction with Republic is 7%. Member Fuhrman asked what percentage of the City's budget comes from franchise agreements. Member Schuetz said she could get that information. Chairperson Smith said the City Manager may be recommending increasing City percentage from franchise agreements. She noted that this would be passed to the ratepayer.

Mr. Freeman commented regarding the waste collection process in Silverton. He asked if the City could do a recycling requirement mailer when customers sign up for water services. He said the City website is vague and directs people to Republic website which is also vague. He said Republic is doing a business change from Arizona to Oregon which may be part of it. He noted the drivers seem to be knowledgeable and courteous. He said someone moving in could be clueless on what to recycle. Member Schuetz said this would be a good topic for the franchise agreement and Republic could be responsible for this. Mr. Freeman said that someone needs to communicate new people in town to Republic.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Chelsea Starner, Public Works Administrative Assistant