

Cuyahoga Falls City Council
Minutes of the Public Affairs Meeting
October 15 2007

Members: Debbie Ritzinger, Chair
Diana Colavecchio
Doug Flinn

Mrs. Colavecchio called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. Mrs. Ritzinger was absent.

Legislation Held:

None

Legislation Considered

Temp. Res. B-135

A resolution adopting the Solid Waste Management Plan for the Summit Akron Solid Waste Management Authority, and declaring an emergency.

Bob Leonard introduced Yolanda Walker, Executive Director of the Summit-Akron Solid Waste Management Authority, who spoke and gave a presentation regarding the importance of having a waste management plan. She stated the Authority is required by the Ohio EPA to manage waste in Summit County for commercial, resident and industrial customers. They need to project an amount of waste generated and indicate where that waste will go. They need to make sure there are enough facilities to handle the load. They also need to direct a certain amount away from landfills and they accomplish this through recycling. Her presentation covered the different programs utilized by various companies. She stated the new plan is a continuation of some of those programs, as well as some improvements to others. For example, they plan to add drop-off centers in certain communities. In addition, the new plan does not include a fee increase so the rate remains the same for the next five years. As part of her job, Ms. Walker stated she does waste assessments at a company's request and will recommend alternatives for that company that will cut back on waste taken to landfills. She also assists those companies in acquiring grants to help aid them in their process. Grants can be for developing equipment for recycling purposes or, if they have a need for recycled products.

Mrs. Colavecchio asked what the City's recycle participation percentage was. Mr. Leonard stated that 90% to 95% of residents participate in the City's recycle program but only about 50% - 60% participate each week on a regular basis. He added that the City's trash goes to the Akron transfer station and to E. Sparta, which has plenty of room--approximately 38 years.

Mr. Nelsch, North Haven Blvd., felt the hours for residents to drop off paints and computers was not very user-friendly. Ms. Walker stated the Board is looking at extending hours, as well as adding Saturday hours, when the current contract is up which is at the end of 2008. She stated the reason they stop the paint recycling in September is because that particular facility has no heat. She added that possible facility changes will also be made in addition to the hours but reiterated it would not be until a new contract begins which is in 2009.

The Committee recommended bringing out Temp. Ord. B-135 for approval.

Temp. Ord. B-136

An ordinance amending the traffic control file by providing for installation of various traffic control devices, and declaring an emergency.

Bob Leonard stated that all items with the exception of numbers 1 and 2 are clean-up items. The first item is regarding no parking on Archdale. The residents voted for no parking on one side of the street. The second item was looked at by Mr. Novak and himself and both felt it was unsafe so they want to make sure there is clearance for motorists to make a safe turn. Number 3 was a clerical error and number 4 was for no parking on that side.

Mrs. Colavecchio stated that Mrs. Ritzinger had indicated to her that she had originally voted against item 4 but once she had a chance to actually look at the situation herself, she agrees with it.

The Committee recommended bringing out Temp. Ord. B-136 for approval.

Mrs. Colavecchio introduced Thomas Mino and Nick Volthere of the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Board who gave a presentation regarding ADM and its 30 affiliated agencies throughout the County and how passage of Issue 20 was important to residents. They asked for Council's support by voting for Issue 20 on November 6.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.