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City Clerk



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**City of Mt. Vernon, Illinois  
City Council Workshop Meeting  
Monday, February 10, 2014**

**MINUTES**

The Mt. Vernon City Council held a City Council Workshop Meeting on Monday, February 10, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. at the City Hall, 1100 Main Street, old Council Chambers, Mt. Vernon, IL.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll call showed present: Council Members Ron Lash and Dennis McEnaney and Mayor Mary Jane Chesley. Council Members Wood and Piper were absent. Also present City Manager Ron Neibert and City Clerk Jerilee Hopkins.

**TRASH, RECYCLING & LANDSCAPE WASTE PROPOSALS**

City Manager Ron Neibert reported the current basic service for City residential residents is as follows: 1) weekly trash pick-up; 2) unlimited weekly bulk item pick-up; 3) seasonal landscape waste and leaf pick-up; and 4) monthly service charge of \$10.99.

## CITY OF MT VERNON LEAF/LANDSCAPE WASTE SCENARIOS/OPTIONS

### CURRENT YARD WASTE PROGRAM:

The City currently allows burning of leaves and landscape waste from October 1<sup>st</sup> through December 15<sup>th</sup> and from March 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup>. Midwest Waste also picks up bagged waste (in biodegradable paper bags) and cut up limbs from the 1<sup>st</sup> week of March through the 1<sup>st</sup> week of December. The City responds to 6-10 fires per year attributable to burning.

### PROPOSED PROGRAMS IF BURNING IS PROHIBITED:

#### OPTION 1: YEAR ROUND PICK UP BY TRASH COMPANY:

##### ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

- a. Year round pick-up will add to customer cost for trash contract.
- b. Residents would be required to buy more disposal bags. Average cost \$3.50 for package of 6.

#### OPTION 2: CITY PICKS UP LEAF/WASTE VIA A LEAF VACUUM PICK UP PROGRAM:

##### ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

- a. Capital equipment cost of \$40,000 (vacuums and related equipment).
- b. Annual labor/fuel and maintenance costs \$35,000/year.
- c. Would need dedicated site for disposal of waste. A City owned site would come under EPA jurisdiction. A privately owned site would be subject to the whims of the landowner.
- d. Curbside vacuuming allows for increased chance of storm sewer blockage during rain events



## CITY OF MT VERNON RECYCLING PROGRAM OPTIONS

### CURBSIDE BINS

Two Bins can be provided to customers to recycle the following items: glass, plastic bottles, aluminum cans, paper. Most community programs are mandatory and provide weekly pick-up. The City of Carbondale's program is voluntary however, all water customers including businesses pay a \$2.90 monthly charge for recycling. The businesses however, are not eligible to participate in the program. Average monthly charge of program is \$3.00-3.50/month.

#### Considerations:

1. Customers must sort items
2. Open bins allow for trash to blow out



### CURBSIDE TOTES

One tote of exact configuration as the trash tote can be provided to customers to recycle the following items: glass, plastic bottles, aluminum cans, paper. Customers are not required to sort materials. Average monthly charge of program is \$3.00-\$4.00/month. Data shows that voluntary programs result in charges at the higher end of the range.



Mayor Chesley requested that the new contract contain a provision whereby the Contractor has a local office with a local telephone number. There have been many complaints made at City Hall regarding the unavailability of the present contractor. It was also suggested that the contractor provide a refrigerator magnet, or something similar, that contains the trash pickup routes including revised pickup dates due to holidays. A calendar containing pickup dates would be provided to customers on an annual basis.

Mayor Chesley also suggested a survey be made available to customers in order to obtain their input in which option the Council decides to bid.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Council Member Lash made a motion to adjourn the City Council Workshop Meeting. Seconded by Council Member McEnaney. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney and Chesley. Absent: Piper and Wood**

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerilee Hopkins  
City Clerk