

City of North St. Paul
April 5, 2022
Approved City Council Workshop Meeting Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Furlong called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The meeting was conducted at City Hall in the Council Chambers, and also via Zoom.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Member Thorsen
Council Member Petersen
Council Member Wong
Mayor Furlong

Absent: Council Member Cole (excused)

Staff: City Manager John Stark, Deputy Clerk Jennie Kloos, Public Works Director Ron Ritchie, Communications Consultant Kari Erpenbach

III. ADOPT AGENDA

On motion by Council Member Petersen, seconded by Council Member Wong, with all present voting aye (4-0), motion carried to approve the agenda as presented.

IV. TOPIC(S)

A. Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Food Scraps Pickup Program

Filsan Ibrahim representing the Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy (R&E) program presented information on the Food Scraps Pickup Program. The service will be available to all residents in Ramsey and Washington counties with a rollout to begin in late 2022 into 2023. The purpose is to reduce and manage waste under the direction of the joint powers board which includes commissioners from both counties. Ms. Ibrahim stated that food scraps comprise over 20% of household trash by weight. By separating the material, residents can prevent it from becoming waste, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and conserving resources.

The program will utilize “food scrap bags” that will be co-collected with trash – no additional carts or trucks will be needed. The bags and program participation are free to residents. The goal is a 40% participation with an estimated 30,000+ tons of food scraps collected annually.

This program is supported through three funding sources: MPCA funded grant, service charge on the price of trash collection and tipping fees that haulers pay to deliver trash to the R&E Center, which is currently under construction for sorting, space and equipment.

B. Tennis Clean Up Information

Tennis Sanitation is a second-generation family owned and operated trash and recycling company servicing customers since 1966. Willie Tennis provided council with an update and statistics on services they provide for North St. Paul. Mentioned that the residents in North St.

Paul are very nice and appreciative. Starting time would be the only recommendation Willie would have. Tennis Sanitation likes to start early to allow for them to have their large trucks off the roads when school ends.

Councilmember Wong inquired on educational information that Tennis provides customers on recycling. Mr. Tennis stated they place a tag on the bin if they put something in that doesn't belong and would place a label on the inside of the bin as a reminder.

Mr. Tennis stated in 2023 to expect an increase of approximately \$10/ ton in tipping fees. The reason being Ramsey County's increase for additional machinery for organics. Tennis Sanitation promotes recycling and allows customers to put their cardboard boxes right next to the bin and they will take them, which is not the case with most recycling services.

C. Spring Clean Up Information

Kari Erpenbach, Communications Consultant provided an update on the city-wide spring cleanup. The date has been set for Saturday, April 30 from 8 a.m.-11 a.m. We will provide all the same recycling options with the exception of paper shredding, which may be better as a standalone event at another time of the year.

City wide garage sale will be held May 5-7.

Mayor Furlong suggested doing a clean up event as both a spring and fall event. City Manager Stark stated that staff is open to a fall clean up and looking at evaluating the clean up as we continue to possibly making changes if needed as we move forward.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion by Council Member Thorsen, seconded by Council Member Wong, with all present voting aye (4-0), Mayor Furlong adjourned the workshop meeting at 5:59 p.m.

/s/ Terrence J. Furlong, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ John Stark, City Manager/ Clerk