



**City of Cleveland Heights  
Refuse & Recycling Task Force**

**9/26/19 Meeting Minutes  
Cleveland Heights City Hall – Executive Conference Room – 6:00 p.m.**

Ms. Constance Johnson called the meeting to order, and asked if everyone had a chance to review the minutes.

Ms. Susan Clement asked if the minutes were verbatim or summarized.

Ms. Carin Miller said that the minutes were summarized.

Ms. Johnson asked if something was missing.

Ms. Clement said that she listened to the recording and compared the minutes.

Ms. Johnson asked if she was satisfied.

Ms. Clement said its fine.

Mr. John Blackwell commented about a previous statement that he made about California recycling standards for the year 2030 and that the minutes said 20 years in the future.

Ms. Hope wright made a motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting.

Ms. Kelly Menaker seconded the motion.

Ms. Johnson asked if anyone was opposed.

Ms. Johnson moved the meeting to old business.

Ms. Collette Clinkscale brought up the discussion about automation and that one of the benefits is containing loose trash.

Mr. Jordan Davis said that he had pictures to substantiate all of the loose garbage.

Mr. Joe Kickel brought up the city of Westlake's contract with Rumpke and offered some pricing clarification.

Mr. Davis asked if the surcharge is the same for everyone.

Mr. Kickel said the price is a set price per ton for refuse disposal.

Mr. Kickel also spoke about the \$80 per ton recycling processing fee.

Ms. Susan Efroymson said that Kimble previously mentioned that they can do an individual audit.

Ms. Johnson asked when Westlake had switched to privatization.

Mr. Kickel said that he did not know.

Mr. Blackwell commented that education is very important to keep the stream of recyclable materials clean.

Mr. Kickel brought up billboards on the side of trucks.

Ms. Johnson talked about education, and asked members to keep in mind what education recommendations they would have for their specific areas.

Ms. Johnson asked if there was any additional old business.

Ms. Johnson moved to discuss rules for the meeting.

Ms. Johnson talked about Ms. Davida Russell and how she is committed to the task force process, and asked if anyone had an issue with her not attending meetings due to her work schedule.

Ms. Johnson talked about framing the recommendation document.

Ms. Miller said that she feels there needs to be a status of where everything is at currently, and what the situation is.

Ms. Johnson agreed.

Ms. Johnson said that she would like to have a solid draft for next week.

Ms. Miller talked about the advantages of automated collection that she had put together.

Ms. Efroymsen commented that there are usually greater numbers for recycling participation.

Mr. Blackwell commented that the routes might decrease even more once the system is up and running.

Ms. Efroymsen commented on the reduction of injuries.

Ms. Miller commented about the disadvantages of automated collection.

Mr. Blackwell commented about wet paper and how the MRF's don't want it.

Ms. Efroymsen commented that a challenge is change is hard.

Ms. Clement commented about wind blowing the bins over.

Mr. Kickel talked about carts.

Ms. Clinkscale commented that some people feel the carts are unattractive.

Mr. Davis brought up moving carts in inclement weather.

Ms. Efroymsen asked about assisting the elderly.

Mr. Tony Torres talked about the service the city provides.

Ms. Clement said that the city of Euclid has a list and they provide the same service to their residents through the private hauler.

Ms. Johnson brought up a previous discussion about an elderly person pushing a fully loaded cart.

Mr. Davis brought up that carts might not have to be put out every week as an advantage.

Ms. Clinkscale commented that maybe the homestead residents can get the smaller carts.

Mr. Blackwell commented about cart identification.

Ms. Menaker commented about the carts come equipped with tags.

Mr. Kickel talked about some of the technology available for identifying carts.

Ms. Efroymsen asked about residents using their own carts.

Ms. Johnson said that no matter what the task force recommends it will probably not please everyone.

Ms. Johnson moved the meeting to the pros and cons of in house collection.

Ms. Menaker went over the advantages of in house collection.

Ms. Efroymsen commented about stickers and magnets.

Ms. Clement said that she is having problems with her email.

Mr. Kickel commented that he and Ms. Clinkscale contacted Lakewood about apartment collections.

Mr. Davis brought up apartments wheeling carts to the tree lawn, and they need someone to do that.

Ms. Lehn commented about how some buildings might have ten carts.

Ms. Miller said that her friend lives in an apartment and people share carts like one cart for two units.

Ms. Johnson asked if there were any more advantages.

Ms. Menaker went over the disadvantages/challenges of in house collection.

Mr. Blackwell commented that the city needs to buy new trucks either way if they keep operations in house.

Mr. Blackwell asked Mr. Kickel about indirect costs.

Mr. Kickel explained how he would calculate indirect personnel costs.

Mr. Davis commented about staff reductions in the event of the elimination of the Refuse & Recycling division.

Mr. Kickel said that the operation is pretty lean and you would not reduce any of the personnel

Ms. Menaker talked about the advantages of Privatization.

Ms. Clement commented that private haulers do provide the carts.

Ms. Efroymsen said that the transfer station could be used for other uses.

Ms. Clement said that she contacted the Ohio EPA about closing the transfer station.

Mr. Torres said that once you stop the operation you could not start it up again.

Ms. Clement said that the EPA told her otherwise.

Ms. Johnson gave some clarification about the start-up costs if the city were to start the Transfer Station again.

Mr. Kickel said he did not know if the statement about the transfer station closing was accurate or not.

Ms. Clement said she contacted the City of Euclid about their transfer station.

Mr. Torres said that they had an incinerator.

Ms. Miller said if Ms. Clement could get a letter from the EPA about the policies it would help to insert it into the recommendation.

Mr. Kickel asked Ms. Menaker about one of the costs that she had on her list of advantages.

Mr. Blackwell asked for some clarification about vehicle maintenance.

Ms. Johnson asked what would happen to the transfer station building if it were to be shut down so it could be included in the recommendation.

Ms. Efroymsen commented about the possibility of using the building or space for other uses.

Ms. Menaker discussed the disadvantages of Privatization.

Mr. Blackwell commented about private hauler contracts and specifying the frequency of bulk collection.

Mr. Kickel commented about the city of Westlake's bulk collection with Rumpke and how they collect weekly.

Ms. Johnson commented about whether the price for Westlake reflects that.

Mr. Kickel said yes, it would be reflected in their price per ton that they pay for disposal.

Ms. Efroymson commented about special pick-ups, and how you can't quantify the level of service received between municipal versus private.

Ms. Wright commented about the operator that collects her yardwaste, and the service that is provided to her.

Mr. Blackwell commented about the refuse driver that always waves to him while he's jogging.

Ms. Menaker commented about if service was kept in house the city could do touch a trucks.

Mr. Blackwell commented that the fire department polishes their trucks all the time.

Mr. Kickel commented that the city used to do that.

Ms. Johnson commented that it would be a good opportunity to educate the public about recycling.

Ms. Johnson called a brief break.

Mr. Blackwell discussed the budget, and how he'd like to represent the bottom line for the different options.

Ms. Johnson commented about the budget section and including a detailed appendix.

Ms. Clement commented about mapping out the frequency, and different services for the budget recommendation.

Mr. Blackwell commented that it's on the spreadsheet that Mr. Kickel provided and he believes that the city of Westlake is the most comparable.

Ms. Clement commented that she would like a list of specifications, and that she spoke with Rumpke and Kimble and they would be willing to give her a non-binding bid.

Ms. Johnson commented that preparing the budget recommendation has a lot of challenges.

Mr. Blackwell commented that the numbers are an apples to apples comparison as best as can be done.

Mr. Kickel commented about soliciting prices from contractors that are non-binding, and that he did not think the contractor would provide a serious price.

Ms. Clement commented that when she's shopping for a car or a contractor she shops around for the best price.

Ms. Clement commented that Diane Bickett had instructed her to contact Kimble and Rumpke to solicit bids.

Mr. Kickel asked haven't the other cities already done this.

Ms. Johnson commented that she would not be comfortable approaching a company to solicit bids.

Mr. Blackwell commented about including the service components that Cleveland Heights provides and the service components included in the private hauler contracts.

Ms. Clement commented that if the entire task force does not want to solicit prices she would be fine with the group decision.

Ms. Efroymsen commented that she was on the fence about soliciting prices.

Ms. Miller commented that it needs to be clarified about what the task force's responsibilities are.

Mr. Blackwell commented that he did not believe the task force has the authority to solicit bids.

Mr. Kickel asked Ms. Clement for clarification about what she is not comfortable with about the recently signed contracts by other cities.

Ms. Clement said each community has their own requirements, and Cleveland Heights is different than the other communities.

Ms. Johnson commented about is there a way to see what specific services are included in the contracts.

Ms. Johnson commented that she wants to properly address Ms. Clement's concerns.

Mr. Davis commented that the solid waste district does have a bid template and that Diane Bickett said that she can put one together in a month.

Ms. Johnson asked Ms. Clement about soliciting bids and why she felt this was important.

Ms. Clement commented that she would like to get prices directly from the horse's mouth.

Ms. Clement commented that she is not comfortable with an increased cost.

Ms. Johnson asked if Ms. Clement if she thought the city of Cleveland Heights would get a better price than another community.

Mr. Kickel commented that for clarification purposes the city would be the one to draw up the contract.

Ms. Johnson commented that the city has the ability to solicit prices, and the task force has limitations with its ability to solicit pricing, but has the ability to compare pricing based on recent contracts.

Ms. Efroymsen commented is there a valid argument in getting bids because the public might ask the same questions.

Ms. Miller commented about the agenda and the next meeting.

Mr. Davis commented about his draft recommendation for recycling.

Mr. Blackwell said that it would be unthinkable to think of not recycling in Cleveland Heights.

Mr. Davis commented about some forward thinking recommendations for the city, and possibly including it in the recommendation.

Ms. Johnson commented about the framing of the recommendation.

Ms. Efroymsen asked if someone could collate all of the documents for the next meeting.

Mr. Davis asked if he could help with drafting the recommendation.

Ms. Efroymsen made a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Blackwell seconded the motion.

Ms. Johnson thanked the task force and adjourned the meeting.