

MINUTES ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

MARCH 10, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Bev Aas at 6:05 p.m. Members present were Willie Butkofski, Dick Michaelis, Gene Beavers, Harry Thielen, Brian Jones, and Duane Olmscheid. Advisory members present were Ron Mergen and Don Williamson. Absent were Urban Fuchs, Renee Eckerly, Chuck Koshiol and Don Wiese. Also present was Jennefer Klennert, Waste Management.

Motion was made by Michaelis to approve the minutes of the April 8, 2010 Environmental Committee meeting. Seconded by Jones and unanimously carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Motion was made by Butkofski to elect Aas as Chairperson. Seconded by Thielen and unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Michaelis to elect Butkofski as Vice Chair. Seconded by Thielen and unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Michaelis to elect Mergen as Secretary. Seconded by Olmscheid and unanimously carried.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Motion was made by Beavers to set the meeting dates for the second Thursday in March and the first Thursday in April. Seconded by Olmscheid and unanimously carried.

MEMBERSHIP

It was noted by Harry Thielen, Township Representative that Mike Jensen will replace Don Weise on the Committee.

SPRING CLEAN UP & HHW COLLECTION

The following items were reviewed:

- Location at the Middle School parking lot
- Time 8 a.m. to 11a.m.
- Flyers were reviewed and under newspapers and magazines; need to remove in the last sentence, plastics and cellophane
- Advertizing - the flyer will go out the week prior and it will be on the web site and noted in the Press
- Volunteers - it was noted the City will need 3 – 4 more volunteers.

Also discussed was paper shredding. Members were informed that Bank of the West will pick up the \$600.00 fee to have a shredder at the Spring Clean Up. There will not be a charge for the service, but residents will be limited to two boxes of documents.

SCAVENGER DAYS

This will be held the week before the Spring Clean Up. Members noted that this has been very successful in the past

REFUSE COLLECTION CONTRACT

The committee needs to due diligence and justify its recommendation to either negotiate with the current hauler or seek RFP's.

Members reviewed the contract noting the current pricing for the various options. It was also noted that the City has a \$.50 monthly surcharge. One point to clarify is when a resident is unoccupied and will remain unoccupied for an indefinite time; there shall be no charge. It was noted this currently is implemented when the water is shut off. It was discussed that this should be when there is not garbage container. There were no other issues with the contract. Surveys of 24 other communities were reviewed:

- West Central Sanitation is the only one that offers the two lowest rates for 35 gallon weekly and bi weekly pick up. It was noted this is a large percentage of elderly residents. If these two were eliminated it would bring the remainder of the options down in cost.
- The tipping fees are different in each county; \$65.00 in Stearns and \$45.00 in Meeker.
- A number of the communities utilize the bag system; therefore the Committee is not comparing apples to apples.
- It was noted where comparisons were equal; West Central Sanitation is at a lower cost.
- West Central Sanitation recycling fees outside of the City limits and a commercial account fuel surcharge was questioned.
- It was stated that West Central Sanitation provides excellent service to community residents. West Central Sanitation is also involved in the community and makes many donations to community activities/entities.
- The recycling process was reviewed; the items are collected by West Central Sanitation and transported to D & D Recycling.
- The representative from Waste Management was questioned as to their recycling program. She noted that they have their own recycling program and they only collect twice monthly.
- Michaelis was questioned as to what percent of their business is from curb side recycling. Michaelis responded that between 70 – 80% is from curb side recycling.
- Also reviewed was information on fuel surcharges and environmental fees as diesel fuel prices are at \$4.00 per gallon:

	West Central	Veolia	Allied Republic	Waste Management	Randy's
Fuel Surcharge	0	21.5%	16.25 %	16.78%	16.25%
Environmental Fee	0	4%	7%	7.5%	6%

In conclusion, members felt they need more time to review the information. It was suggested that staff prepare a RFP and bring it back to the next meeting.

COMPOST SITE

Jones reported on the compost activities and noted the Hockey Association is preparing for another year. The agreement where the Hockey Association provides the labor and the City and Township donate \$6,000.00 to the association was reviewed noting last year the compost fees collected totaled \$4,470.00. The City and Township make up the difference at a 62 -38% split respectively.

After a short discussion,

Motion was made by Michaelis to renew the contract and recommend such to the City Council. Seconded by Olmscheid and unanimously carried.

OIL DEPOT

Thielen reported the following:

Oil 2010	2,403 gallons	Total 33,363 gallons
Anti Freeze 2010	147 gallons	Total 697 gallons
Filters 2010	805 barrels	Total 75 barrels

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.