

ROLL CALL:

Present: Kim Anderson, Mayor

R. Joseph Herms
Paul W. Muenzer
Fred L. Sullivan
Council Members

Absent: John M. Passidomo, Vice Mayor

William E. Barnett
Alan R. Korest
Council Members

Also Present:

Dr. Richard L. Woodruff, City Manager
Larry Barnet, Utilities Director
Jill Parker, Recycling Coordinator
Al Lane, Instrumentation Technician
George Henderson, Sergeant-At-Arms
Marilyn McCord, Recording Secretary

Other interested citizens and visitors.

ITEM 1

**UPDATE ON THE CITY'S RECYCLING PROGRAM
BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.**

Mayor Anderson emphasized that recycling was a most important issue. Utilities Director Larry Barnet proceeded to furnish an overview of the City's recycling history which began in 1988. Mr. Barnet listed the active recycling programs which include newspapers, aluminum cans, office paper, plastics and cardboard.

Recycling Coordinator Jill Parker displayed pictures of the various steps involved in the

newspaper collection process, pointing out that the newspaper buyers had been given strict instructions as to how materials must be readied.

City Manager Woodruff asked Council to keep in mind that the newspaper program was a totally manual process and that the employees involved in loading the newspaper into the buyers' trucks were utilizing overtime to do so.

Mr. Barnet next reviewed the aluminum can and plastic collections, also involving much manual labor. The office paper collection program requires that City employees manually remove paper from trucks and dump it into boxes which are then loaded onto a semi-trailer.

The corrugated cardboard program involves picking up the cardboard at designated locations throughout the City. At the present time, Coastland Mall represents the biggest user of this service. It was noted that the cardboard program was running very close to covering its cost.

Instrumentation Technician Al Lane reviewed cost and expense details, including a geographical breakdown of the City, describing the overall percentage of who was contributing to the recycling program. Mr. Lane noted that it required 3.34 employees to accomplish the recycling work, five days per week.

Mr. Lane next reviewed the deficits and revenues of the various programs and outlined what would be required in manpower and equipment in order to accomplish the desired recycling programs. He told Council that staff would attempt to minimize its overhead by recommending a one-day per week pickup service for recyclables and establishing more drop centers while eliminating all but the largest customers from cardboard pickup routes.

Using a matrix, Ms. Parker explained the manpower duties currently utilized in the recycling program, noting that several employees had been

cross-trained and are handling many responsibilities. She told Council that there was not enough manpower to pickup office paper at the many offices requesting that service. Council Member Muenzer asked whether the City would be better off economically adding employees rather than utilizing so much overtime. Utilities Director Barnet answered in the affirmative. Mr. Lane said that in order to continue the cardboard recycling program at its present level, one additional full-time employee, one compactor and one front loader would be required. He told Council that staff was recommending discontinuance of the cardboard program at this time. At a later date, a program could be formulated to make the program self-sufficient and an ordinance developed. Mr. Lane explained that the County was also in the process of planning its recycling goals and it would be helpful for the City to wait and see what the County decided to do with its cardboard program.

City Manager Woodruff noted that the cost would be exceptionally high to collect cardboard and office paper from everyone, however, staff could inquire as to how much a private contractor would charge to pick up from the City's three biggest customers.

Council Member Herms complimented staff on the report and for doing so well in the recycling program. Mr. Herms noted that to increase revenue, it was necessary to conduct a thorough analysis of potential buyers and to find better methods in which to handle the newspaper recycling.

The City Manager told Council that staff needs to know if it should pursue a study on glass recycling and voiced caution in getting involved in another project that was a potential "loser."

Dr. Woodruff said that staff had talked with other communities about their glass recycling programs and staff was convinced it should be limited to glass recycling within the hospitality

business in order for it to be profitable.

Council Member Muenzer requested that staff conduct a mini-survey to determine where the City stands in meeting the State guidelines and further review all collection and processing techniques in order to find a better system.

Discussion ensued with regard to advertising the City's recycling programs and Dr. Woodruff suggested that the local parent/teacher organizations be invited to get involved.

It was the consensus of Council to reduce the recycling program to a once-weekly pickup, to reduce the number of commercial customers, to provide recycling drop-off centers, and to re-evaluate the commercial cardboard program. The City Manager assured Council that staff would completely "brainstorm" the different approaches to the various recyclable areas, including privatization. Staff will also identify specific nonproductive areas such as newspaper recycling.

Dr. Woodruff publicly thanked Utilities Director Barnet, Assistant Utilities Director Robert Walker, Recycling Coordinator Parker, and Instrumentation Technician Lane for their efforts and pledged to bring back staff's goals to Council.

ADJOURN: 5:02 p.m.

KIM ANDERSON, MAYOR

JANET CASON
City Clerk

Marilyn McCord
Recording Secretary

These minutes of the Naples City Council were
approved on _____.