

WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL
Work Session Minutes
December 16, 2019

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Clark called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Councilmembers Yazmin Bahena, Riley Clubb, Jerry Cummins, Myron Huie, Steve Moss, Tom Scribner, and Mayor Barbara Clark. (Councilmember Clubb arrived at 4:08 p.m.)

Absent: None

City staff in attendance: City Manager Nabel Shawa, Public Works Director Ki Bealey, Finance Director Jean Teasdale, Human Resources Director Pam Taylor, Public Works Operations Manager Mori Struve, Customer Service Supervisor Rachel Warren, and Deputy City Clerk Jodi Stephens.

2. ACTIVE AGENDA

- A. Follow-up discussion regarding reconsideration of recycling surcharge and tipping point plan.

Also, in attendance: Derek Dietrich, Basin Disposal, Inc.

Staff presented a PowerPoint and short video clip on the current recycling process. Staff reviewed the existing situation with the lack of markets and costs of disposing recyclable commodities which resulted in the Council action to establish a tipping point for disposal of recycling materials.

There was extensive discussion on:

- Issues surrounding the lack of markets for recyclable materials.
- Contamination of the material.
- Need for education on material that can be recycled.
- Charging residents a higher recycling surcharge without any guarantee the material will not be deposited in a landfill.
- Various methods of recycling.
- How fast the domestic markets might respond.
- The need to maintain recycling infrastructure.
- Costs to dispose of the material at the landfill versus surcharge to continue recycling.

WORK SESSION MINUTES

DECEMBER 16, 2019

PAGE 2

- Development of a task force or recycling committee to report back to Council.

Council relayed that reconsideration of this issue will be discussed at the December 18 regular council meeting.

3. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.