

CITY OF LINCOLN CITY

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF WORK SESSION MEETING

March 16, 2020, 10:30 AM

The final minutes for this meeting are supplemented by an electronic recording of the meeting, which may be viewed online at www.lincolncity.org under the tab "Agendas, Packets and Videos". The staff reports, resolutions, ordinances and other documents related to this meeting are also available at the same location. This meeting is rebroadcast on Cable Channel 4. (See Channel 4 guide on the hour at <http://www2.lincolncity.org/program-guide/>).

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL

DATE: July 13, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Dick Anderson	Mayor	Present	10:30 AM
Judy Casper	Councilor Ward 3	Present	10:30 AM
Diana Hinton	Councilor Ward 1	Present	10:30 AM
Riley Hoagland	Councilor Ward 2	Present	10:30 AM
Diane Kusz	Councilor Ward 2	Present	10:30 AM
Rick Mark	Councilor Ward 3	Present	10:30 AM
Mitch Parsons	Councilor Ward 1	Present	10:30 AM

Tina French, North Lincoln Sanitary Service, was also present.

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Curbside Compost Pick Up

Mr. Chandler explained that this item would be on the City Council agenda on March 23, 2020. Mr. Chandler said that the French's (North Lincoln Sanitary Service) would be out of town on March 23 and this work session serves as an opportunity for Council to ask questions of North Lincoln Sanitary Service before considering the item on the 23rd.

Mr. Chandler and Tina French from North Lincoln Sanitary Service (NLSS) said that compost and recycling would be picked up on the same day. It will take about a year to implement the composting pickup service.

Ms. French said, in regards to composting, "if it grows, it goes". Meat, fish, poultry and bones will be allowed for composting. Compostable silverware or containers are not allowed as Oregon doesn't have a facility that will accept them. Coffee filters and tea bags can be composted.

Mr. Chandler wanted to discuss the rate structure of this program. This program will be mandatory. If it is applied to residential customers only, service will cost an extra \$6.85 a month. If it's applied to residential and commercial customers, NLSS would increase rates by 10%.

Ms. French clarified this is a residential program only. However, NLSS would choose to fund this program through charging an extra 10% fee for residential and commercial customers to avoid residential service becoming more expensive than commercial service.

Councilor Hoagland asked Ms. French why the composting bin would be so large (90 gallons). He asked if yard debris would now go into the composting bin? Ms. French confirmed that it would. Councilor Hoagland said that he would be able to get a smaller trash container if he had a large compost container, keeping costs down. He asked what percentage of compost would be food waste and if people would be allowed to reduce the size of their normal trash container? Ms. French confirmed that customers could reduce their garbage vessel size and said that 40% of garbage weight in Oregon was food waste. Ms. French said that she thought customers would appreciate saving trips to the transfer station with this program since they now could put woody debris into their composting bins.

Councilor Hinton said it would cost her more for garbage service if the \$6.85 was levied on individual customers than if her bill went up by 10%, so she's in favor of the 10% increase across the board. Councilor Hinton asked if the carry-out rate would increase with this program? Ms. French said that the carry-out rate would go up slightly.

Mayor Anderson asked for clarification that this program won't be available to commercial customers? Ms. French confirmed that was the case, but there are some commercial customers that could benefit from this program and Ms. French would like to put some of these commercial customers into a pilot program for composting.

Mayor Anderson asked for statistics on the average garbage container size in Lincoln City. Ms. French said approximately 60% of NLSS customers have a 32 gallon garbage container picked up once a week. This service costs \$20.57 a month and includes a 96 gallon recycle cart that is picked up every other week.

Mayor Anderson asked if NLSS offered a smaller container than 32 gallons? Ms. French said no, but confirmed that NLSS could reduce frequency of pick up to every two weeks as per City ordinance. NLSS provides once a month service and on-call service outside of the City limits. They also have offered these services in the City limits since the garbage ordinance is not enforced currently.

Ms. French said NLSS could make exceptions to a 96 gallon compost container. They will accommodate smaller containers.

Mayor Anderson asked what happens to the composting. Does it come back to the citizens of Lincoln City, or is it being sold? Ms. French explained the collection process. NLSS collects the material, they haul it to Corvallis, the material gets composted, and then a company in Corvallis sells the compost

commercially. Citizens can't get a rebate on this program. In fact, the tip fee is double what NLSS pays for garbage. Ms. French clarified that NLSS doesn't see any rate savings from composting, hence the need for a rate increase.

Mayor Anderson said that, with this program, you'd pay more for the composting service and then pay to purchase compost generated through this program. Councilor Hoagland commented that you could compost your own material on your own property.

Councilor Hinton asked for clarification that VRD's would be included in the composting program. Ms. French confirmed they would be.

Councilor Hoagland asked for comparison of rates with counties to the north and south. Ms. French said that NLSS rates are less, even with the composting program on top.

Councilor Hoagland asked how NLSS would vet businesses who wish to take part in the composting program. Ms. French said she has to run a pilot program for businesses to keep tip rates at the residential level. Commercial compost costs more. Small businesses that don't have a lot of employees with a small volume of compost will be considered. Councilor Hoagland asked how violators would be found. Ms. French said violations would be found when NLSS staff examine the contents of the container.

Ms. French confirmed that if a customer was to get their compost bin taken away for violations, their rate would not change. Rates are based on landfill cans, not recycling or composting cans.

Councilor Mark asked about what a 1 yard container looks like. Ms. French said these are metal containers like you see at a restaurant. Councilor Mark said that a constituent had raised an objection about having to have a 96 gallon can and asked Ms. French to confirm they'd accept a smaller can. Ms. French said NLSS would work with customers and would accept 32 and 64 gallon composting cans. Councilor Mark also said that another objection he'd heard was from a person who already composts and is happy with what they are doing. Why should they pay for this service? Ms. French said that this program was for the greater good and there will be people who have no use for the composting cart. Ms. French said this program will benefit the majority of the community.

Councilor Mark said he will reduce his service amount for regular garbage once he receives his composting can. Councilor Mark asked how much he would save if he reduced to bi-weekly garbage service? Ms. French said if you have a 32 gallon container picked up every week it costs \$20.57 a month. If the container is picked up every two weeks, it costs \$15.40 a month. Councilor Mark commented that he would come out ahead with this program.

Councilor Hoagland agreed that you could reduce garbage and save money with this program. Councilor Hoagland asked if businesses were included with the recycling program? Ms. French confirmed that they were.

Mayor Anderson asked what we could see in spring 2022 regarding numbers on NLSS' tonnage reports? Ms. French estimates they'll pick up 2,500 tonnes of compost. Ms. French said she doesn't think that the drop in landfill here will go down by the same amount as compost collections. Ms. French said that approximately 10,000 tonnes of compost was picked up in Portland when they started their composting program, and landfill collections went down by around 8,000 tonnes.

Councilor Casper said that she hoped this program would help the environment by having citizens not discard woody debris on an empty lot. Instead, they could put the waste in the compost container.

Mayor Anderson asked for our garbage ordinance to become more flexible to better serve citizen needs.

Mr. Chandler pointed out that a resolution would be presented to Council next week. Ordinance changes would need to be made at a later date.

Councilor Hoagland asked what the percentage increase would be if only residential properties were included? Ms. French said that the program costs \$603,000 regardless. If residential customers maintained their current container size, then NLSS could work out a percentage increase for residential properties only. However, if people switch to smaller cans as a result of the program, then NLSS loses revenue and this service will cost too much for NLSS to administer.

Councilor Hoagland asked why NLSS couldn't use the same truck to pickup, like Waldport? Ms. French said that Waldport had weekly recycling before their program; Waldport switched to bi-weekly recycling and had compost pickup on the alternate weeks. Ms. French said that NLSS already does recycling every other week so their trucks are already constantly in use (recycling in the north end of the district one week and the south end the other).

4. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Anderson adjourned the meeting at 11:22 a.m.

/ s /

DICK ANDERSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

/ s / David Twigg for

CATHY STEERE, CITY RECORDER