

COOL CITIES COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

May 20th, 2024

Brennan called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm. The following members were present and answered roll call: Brennan, Martin, and Marconi were present. Glotfelty and Gillman were absent.

Also Present: Senior Planner Caitlin Rice

SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

No speakers from the floor were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Marconi made a motion to approve the April 15th, 2024, meeting minutes. Seconded by Martin.

Voice vote: All Ayes. Motion approved (3-0)

DISCUSSION:

1. Guest Speaker – Republic Services (arrived 6:33 p.m.)

Rhonda Breslin and Don Collins with Republic Services presented to the Cool Cities Committee about Republic's new electric vehicles. Republic Services has a goal of 70% of all trucks will be electric by 2030. Currently the service trucks are diesel and get less than 3 mpg. The new trucks were designed by Republic to also accommodate more safety features for the employees and the community. Some of these upgrades include a quieter and cooler (temperature) vehicle, cameras along multiple sides of the truck for more visibility, as well as a camera and program that tracks what is being dumped into the truck. Republic Services, like most waste providers, experiences issues with contaminated recycling materials. These cameras and program will be able to track what is being picked up, and Republic can then send notice of what the issue was. Repeat offenders may even lose the option of recycling services. Contamination is a big issue in this industry as it requires humans to sort all material, and incorrect items can cause damage to the sorting and processing facility, not to mention labor and transportation costs.

Although Republic's goal is to have 70% of the fleet electric by 2030, they do offer a program where municipalities can receive an electric truck sooner with a few conditions:

1. There must be at least 4,000 homes guaranteed service.
2. The monthly cost for trash/recycling services will increase by \$5.

Mr. Collins explained that these conditions are necessary due to the initial upfront cost to install the electrical services as well as the cost of the truck. As the City is in contract with Republic Services for Collinsville residents, the rate increase would need to be passed by the City Council. If a community doesn't have 4,000 homes to service, they can band together if desired. Mr. Collins mentioned that some states have grants for this program to help offset the cost to residents.

STAFF REPORT

Staff discussed with the Committee regarding updates on social media posts and tabling events. The Committee determined to game plan tabling events next year and explore collaborations with other groups such as Wild Ones, Willoughby, and Heartlands Conservancy.

Upcoming Events:

Trash Pick Up Rescheduled: Saturday, June 8th, 2024 – 8 a.m.

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

n/a

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

n/a

Motion to adjourn made by Marconi and seconded by Martin.

Voice Vote: All Ayes. Motion Approved (3-0) ADJOURNMENT at 8:13 pm.