

## **WORKING SESSION - JANUARY 27, 1992**

The joint working session of the Ann Arbor City Council and the Solid Waste Commission was called to order at 7:34 p.m. by Mayor Elizabeth S. Brater.

### **ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL**

Present: Councilmembers Ingrid Sheldon, Kirk Dodge, Robert Grady, Nelson Meade, Mark Ouimet, Thais Anne Peterson, Robert Eckstein, Mayor Elizabeth S. Brater, 8

Absent: Councilmembers Larry Hunter, Ann Marie Coleman, Kurt Zimmer, 3

### **SOLID WASTE COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Donald Gray, Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Michigan; Russell Calvert, owner of the Calvert's Roll-Off Containers; Doug Turner, representing the Ann Arbor Apartment Association; Buck Marks, representing the University of Michigan; Mike Garfield, at-large member and staff person at the Ecology Center, David Stead, at-large member representing environmental groups; John Hochrein, business representative of Michcon; Councilmembers Ouimet and Peterson also serve on the Commission.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:**

City Administrator Alfred Gatta, Assistant Administrator Environmental Services Rob Bauman, Director of Solid Waste John Newman, Manager Resource Recovery and Waste Reduction Bryan Weinert

## **INTRODUCTION**

Mayor Brater welcomed students from the School of Natural Resources of the University of Michigan attending the meeting this date.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Councilmember Ouimet moved that the agenda be approved as presented.

On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

### SOLID WASTE LEGISLATION

Mayor Brater said that earlier this year a Solid Waste Emergency was declared in the City of Ann Arbor. The City, having filled its current landfill space, has been denied permission to develop Phase III by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Mayor Brater informed Council of pending legislation before the Congress known as the Resource Conservation Recovery Act, which is a Federal vehicle to regulate solid waste and recycling. The legislation attempts to give support to state and local governments by mandating resource recovery levels nation-wide. Other matters under consideration are the regulation of inter-state transportation of solid waste as a means to protect states that have more landfill capacity, and the waste reduction issue involving the recycling of commercial packaging.

Mayor Brater announced her intention to introduce a resolution in support of the legislation.

### DISCUSSION OF ANN ARBOR LANDFILL PHASE III OPTIONS

Rob Bauman said that Phase I of the original landfill was purchased by the City in 1958. Because liners were not used at the time, groundwater contamination has occurred. Phase II is almost filled to capacity and will close in May, 1992. Phase III is the subject of discussion this date and is considered to be an important resource for the area. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has denied the City's application for a permit for the construction of Phase III of the landfill. It objected to the City's design and has suggested a smaller capacity design. As a result, three options are available to the City and a policy decision is needed soon. The options are: (1) Appeal the DNR Phase III permit denial; (2) Redesign Phase III and apply for a new DNR permit; and (3) Do not construct Phase III and contract for long term disposal capacity at the BFI or other landfill. The pros and cons of each option was discussed.

### MRF/TRANSFER STATION PROCUREMENT

Bryan Weinert presented an updated timetable for the procurement, design, and construction of the City's MRF/Transfer Station. Also presented was a list of the five pre-qualifying vendors and facility highlights. The five pre-qualifying vendors will be interviewed individually and feedback from the interviews will be used to final draft the RFP for the procurement of the MRF. It is anticipated that the RFP's will be received at the end of April, the award of contract in July and that the MRF/Transfer station be in full operation by October of 1993. As a result of the recent developments with Phase III of the landfill, a transfer component may be a viable option in the short term and possibly long term as well.

### CONSENT ORDER UPDATE

Rob Bauman said that the Engineering Department is on schedule in keeping with the deadlines in the DNR Consent Order. The major issue that the City will be dealing with this May is to define the extent of the groundwater contamination in the southeast section of the City and to determine the type of clean-up needed if necessary. The interim remediation plan is designed to stop the flow of pollution. A sewer line has been installed to the end of Platt Road to catch water from the landfill and pump it back into the sewer. The capping of Phase II of the landfill is expected to be completed in the spring of 1992.

### CONSENSUS

Recommendations will be submitted to Council by the Administration and the Solid Waste Commission in February.

### List of items filed with the City Clerk:

(1) Analysis of the 3 options, (2) Memo from City Attorney - Appeal of Phase III Denial, (3) Facilities Subcommittee Discussion of Ann Arbor Waste Disposal Options, (4) Phase III Evaluations by Donald Gray, (5) Considerations in Support of taking legal action by Ulrich Stoll, (6) Mike Garfield Consideration of Long-term contract with private landfill, (7) Real cost of Phase III Solid Waste Disposal, (8) MRF/Transfer Station Prequalifying Vendors and Facility Highlights and Procurement Schedule.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Councilmember Eckstein moved that the meeting be adjourned

On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

W. Northcross  
Clerk of the Council

Linda J. Wise  
Recording Secretary