

**State of Texas  
County of Bexar  
City of San Antonio**



**Meeting Minutes  
City Council B Session**

City Hall Complex  
105 Main Plaza  
San Antonio, Texas 78205

**Wednesday, December 4, 2019**

**2:00 PM**

**Municipal Plaza Building**

The City Council of San Antonio convened in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Plaza Building.

**ROLL CALL**

City Clerk Leticia Vacek took the Roll Call noting a quorum with the following Councilmembers present:

**PRESENT:** Mayor Nirenberg, Treviño, Andrews-Sullivan, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Gonzales, Cabello Havrda, Sandoval, Pelaez, Courage, and Perry.

1. Briefing regarding the 2021 Organics Materials Processing Contract Request For Proposal. [Roderick J. Sanchez, Assistant City Manager; David W. McCary, Director, Solid Waste Management]

David McCary stated that organic materials were collected in the green cart and processed by New Earth. He noted that processing organics allows us to give back to nature in the form of compost. He stated that New Earth indicated that the City should expect a price increase for the fifth and final agreement year. He noted that a Request for Proposal (RFP) was released in summer 2019 and one proposal was received in which the cost was higher than expected. He stated that the RFP was cancelled and the renewal of the contract with New Earth for one year would be presented to the City Council for consideration on December 5, 2019. He added that this would put the City in a better position to negotiate a new contract when the one-year agreement with New Earth ends. He stated that a Request

for Information (RFI) was released on November 8, 2019 with a deadline of December 3, 2019. He noted that a second RFP would be released and would incorporate feedback from the RFI, and provides more time to attract potential respondents. He stated that the estimated value of the project was \$16.3 million over a ten-year term. He noted that the current renewal with New Earth would expire on December 31, 2020. He stated that the Solid Waste Management Department (SWMD) collected 68,000 tons per year of compostable material through curbside green cart collections. He noted that processing of the material requires a manual sorting process to remove non-compostable material. He stated that the social-environmental-financial benefits of compost included:

- Give back to the community
- Use in parks and TCI projects
- Natural fertilizer
- Improve water retention
- Good for grass
- Conserve natural resources
- Cheaper than initial RFP
- Cheaper than landfill
- Long-term

Mr. McCary referenced the members of the Evaluation Committee and noted that the RFP would be released in December 2019. A post-solicitation briefing would be presented to the City Council on March 4, 2020. He stated that the selected proposal would be presented to City Council on April 2, 2020 with a contract start date of January 1, 2021.

Councilmember Perry asked what the rate per ton was under the initial contract with New Earth. Mr. McCary replied that the rate per ton under the initial contract with New Earth was \$16.50 per ton. Councilmember Perry asked how much was saved by composting versus sending the materials to the landfill. Mr. McCary replied that the average cost to send materials to the landfill was approximately \$25.50 per ton and the average cost to compost was approximately \$24.00 per ton for a savings of \$1.50 per ton.

Councilmember Viagran requested the salaries of employees of New Earth. Mr. McCary stated that he would provide that information.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia asked how long the typical day was for employees of New Earth. Mr. McCary replied that employees most likely worked 10-hour to 12-hour shifts.

Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan asked what the contaminants which had to be removed were. Mr. McCary replied that the contaminants were items placed in the wrong cart and were no danger to the employees. Councilmember Andrews-Sullivan asked of the amount of compost on hand. Mr. McCary stated that the amount of compost currently on hand was 4,000 cubic yards.

Councilmember Gonzales asked if SWMD contributed to the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP). Rod Sanchez stated that SWMD was one of the three pillars of the CAAP and there were specific goals in the CAAP which call for reduction in the amount of material which goes to the landfill.

Councilmember Sandoval asked if the RFP could include a question of how the respondents plan to

market their product. Mr. McCary replied that it was possible to include such a question in the RFP.

Councilmember Peláez expressed support for the renewal of the contract with New Earth.

Councilmember Rocha Garcia asked staff to consider diversity on all Evaluation Committees.

Mayor Nirenberg asked if there was only one location for hazardous waste disposal. Mr. McCary replied that there were two locations; one on Bitters Road; and one on Culebra. He added that in 2021, a third location would be added between Council Districts 2 and 3. Mayor Nirenberg asked of the level of contamination for items which should have been disposed as hazardous waste. Mr. McCary stated that staff would provide that information. Mayor Nirenberg spoke of having Mobile Drop-Off Centers or the like available for disposal of hazardous waste.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Nirenberg recessed the meeting at 3:17 pm to discuss the following items:

- A. Economic development negotiations pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087 (economic development).
- B. The purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072 (real property).
- C. Legal issues related to collective bargaining pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- D. Legal issues related to litigation involving the City pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- E. Deliberate the evaluation process for the City Manager, City Auditor, City Clerk, and Presiding Municipal Judge and any related legal issues pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074 (personnel matters) and Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- F. Legal issues related to a zoning matter pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

Mayor Nirenberg reconvened the meeting at 5:03 pm and announced that no action was taken.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Nazarite Ruben Flores Perez encouraged everyone to read Jeremiah, Chapter 10, of the Bible.

Baylie Flinn noted that she was in the fifth grade and added that there should be more trash and recycling bins in public places.

Mykayla Prieto submitted a written statement regarding her desire to become President of the United States and noted that she was in the fifth grade.

**ADJOURNED**

There being no further discussion, Mayor Nirenberg adjourned the meeting at 5:04 pm.

**APPROVED**

**RON NIRENBERG**  
MAYOR

Attest:

**LETICIA M. VACEK TRMC/CMC/MMC**  
City Clerk