

Meeting Agenda - Final

City Council

Monday, September 16, 2024

5:00 PM

Council Chambers

Review Solid Waste and Recycling and General Business

Roll Call

Acting Chair, Hendricks: The purpose of this special meeting is to review the trash collection contract – to review the process used to develop the RFP, the scope of work, get answers to any questions we might have; and consider general business.

The trash collection contract is scheduled for final approval at Council's regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, September 18th at 6:30 PM in Council Chambers. We thank the administration for providing us an opportunity to review it prior to that meeting.

Be cognizant of the time, as we have scheduled this for 90 minutes, the Zoning Hearing Board has a meeting at 7 PM. Unless there is an objection, I would like to consider the appointment of council's solicitor and then move to a discussion of the trash collection proposal.

Ask the Clerk to read the resolution, council comments, ask Maria if she would like to say anything, public comments, take the vote.

R153

Authorizes and Approves the Engagement of Maria Montero, Esquire, to Provide Legal Services to Allentown City Council Pursuant to the Allentown Home Rule Charter and Administrative Code.

Sponsors: Mota, Napoli, Affa, Gerlach, Hendricks, Santos and Mr. Zucal

Trash Collection Discussion:

1. Mark Shadha, Director of Public Works
2. Consultant Allison Trulock, New Gen Strategies and Solutions
3. Ann Saurman, Bureau of Recycling and Solid Waste
4. Bina Patel, Director of Finance - billing
5. Council Questions
6. Public Comment

If need be, close meeting at 6:30 PM and continue the discussion on September 18 when there is a vote for final passage.

Answers to questions posed to the administration:

From the Administration: the proposed trash fee for 2025 and 2026 has been set at the minimum amount necessary to avoid risking a deficit. Any lower amount would jeopardize the fund balance.

Q1: These are our projections from the 5-Year Plan. As you can see, the biggest percentage increases are in 2025 and 2026. In 2025, we have 5 months of the current contract and 7 months at the new pricing. In 2026, it is the first full year of the new contract. After that, the percentage increases level out.

Year	Trash Fee	Percentage Increase
Current – 2024	\$415	
2025	\$605	46%
2026	\$740	22%
2027	\$780	5%
2028	\$800	3%
2029	\$835	4%
2030	\$870	4%

Q2: Finance already has payment installment options. Bina will be there Monday night to explain them to Council.

Q3: We do not have other municipalities RFP/Contract information. Below is a more detailed chart than what was sent on the overview document.

Trash/Recycling Cost Comparison					
	2023	2024	2025	% Increase	Collection
Bethlehem (Recycling Only)	\$ 360.00	\$ 360.00		0.0%	every oth
Emmaus	\$ 400.00	\$ 440.00		10.0%	1x/w
Macungie	\$ 480.00	\$ 525.00		9.4%	1x/w
Forks Township	\$ 264.00	\$ 350.00		32.6%	1x/w
Salisbury	\$ 372.00	\$ 432.00		16.1%	1x/w
Upper Mount Bethel	\$ 485.00	\$ 512.40		5.6%	1x/w
Whitehall	\$ 335.00	\$ 335.00		0.0%	1x/w
South Whitehall	\$ 380.00	\$ 660.00		73.7%	1x/w
	2023	2024	2025	% Increase	Collection
Allentown	\$ 375.00	\$ 415.00	\$ 605.00	45.8%	2x/w