

## CITY OF PORTLAND, MAINE

Standing Committee on Sustainability and Transportation  
Councilor Spencer Thibodeau (D2), Chair  
Councilor Belinda Ray (D1)  
Councilor Jill Duson (A/L)

Minutes  
August 16, 2017

Members Present: Councilor Thibodeau, Councilor Ray, Councilor Duson  
Other Councilors Present: Mayor Ethan Strimling  
Staff Present: Troy Moon, Melissa Graffam, Chris Branch, Mike Murray

### Committee Updates

**Recycling Carts** - Carts are currently being delivered. They have distributed carts to the Monday, Tuesday and Friday trash routes. Currently working on Thursday routes and then will finish with Wednesday trash routes. We will be sending carts to Peaks Island next week. Other islands will not be receiving the carts as they have their trash/recycling collected differently.

Mike Murray mentioned a minor amendment to the city ordinance; Section 12-16 Definitions. Changing the definition from rectangular plastic bins to lidded, rolling plastic carts. Will be in the City Council Agenda for either August 21 or September 6 (1st read).

Councilor Ray mentioned some concerns on the Munjoy Hill area with limited space for the residents to store their carts. She asked if they could leave them on the sidewalk/esplanade. Unfortunately, they cannot.

Chris Branch, Director of Public Works, said that they are currently having a problem with residents putting their purple bags in the recycling cart. We have also had issues with co-mingling in the carts that have been delivered to ecoMaine.

The Committee wanted to pass on their thanks to everyone associated with this program for their continued hard work.

**Street Lights** - Continuing to work with TEN Connected Solutions. Will be having demo LED lights on Cedar and Casco Streets. Councilor Duson mentioned that sending notices to the residents in the neighborhood about these lights would be a good idea.

**Ocean Avenue Solar** - Staff is working with Maine DEP on testing the landfill. There was landfill gas; will incorporate venting system with the landfill cap.. Public Works is working with Sargent Construction to use their material from the State Street project for fill. Our consultant

has filed a plan with the Department of Environmental Protection to make sure that the material is acceptable.

### **Workshop Draft Pesticide Ordinance**

The Committee worked on the wording of the draft pesticide ordinance. Some items that were discussed were:

Councilor Duson wants to make sure that the City is documenting all of its standard operating principles, so that it is a public document. This way the city (and its employees) are able to plan and track what they are or are not using. Such as, have a management plan documented for the Heritage Elm trees.

Councilor Thibodeau asked members how they felt about phasing in the ordinance, like South Portland does. He suggested the City would go first (just like South Portland) for March 1, 2018 (not including the municipal golf course or the five (5) high-use fields); January 1, 2019 for private homes (residential, not including the municipal golf course or the five (5) high-use fields); and January 1, 2020 for the municipal golf course and the five (5) high-use fields either by waiver or organic. It was also mentioned to allow private schools (i.e. Cheverus, Waynflete, college fields) time to make the change over to organic.

Councilor Duson asked about any use by the Audubon? Would also like to see that the golf course disclosure as to what and why the pesticides are being used.

Committee then discussed the PMAC. Councilor Duson feels that we have enough city staff who could handle this task. We have the capacity to oversee our ordinances. This would create another route for staff. Councilor Ray likes the PMAC format (that South Portland uses) where two (2) members of the oversight committee to review waivers and the City Manager approves or disapproves. Councilor Ray would like to see it be combined with city staff and outsiders.

At the next meeting items to be discussed/looked at will be the waiver process; notifications and signage; enforcement and penalties; and PMAC.

Motion was made by Councilor Thibodeau to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 pm. Motion was seconded by Councilor Duson. All in favor. 3-0.