

**City of Reading City Council
Special Meeting
Monday, December 6, 2021
5 pm
Hybrid Meeting**

Council President Waltman called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm. He announced the purpose of this meeting and welcomed Council Solicitor Mike Gombar to his inaugural meeting.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City was forced to change their meeting format to a virtual format. The meeting can be observed using the virtual meeting link on the posted agenda, by watching BCTV MAC Channel 99, by dialing the phone number listed on the posted agenda or for those without internet and dial-in access, by viewing the meeting in the Penn Room, City Hall. Public comment can be provided in writing, by telephone, by connecting with the virtual meeting app or speak in person the Zoom connection in the Penn Room by registering with the City Clerk in advance of the meeting.

ATTENDANCE

Council President Waltman
Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz, District 2 – electronically
Councilor Ventura, District 3 - electronically
Councilor Marmarou, District 4 – in person
Councilor Reed, District 5 - electronically
Managing Director A. Amoros – electronically
Solicitor F. Lachat – electronically
City Clerk L. Kelleher – in person
City Auditor M. Rodriguez – electronically

Council President Waltman announced that Councilor Sihelnik will be arriving late.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The City Clerk stated that there are no members of the public registered to speak.

AGENDA

Council President Waltman called Council’s attention to the agenda for this meeting. He announced that the Resolution regarding the settlement of the recycling litigation is not completed and will be added to the December 13th regular meeting agenda. **The agenda, as amended, was approved by acclamation.**

Resolutions

B. Award of Contract – for municipal trash collection to BFI Waste Services dba Republic Services, Leesport PA for a 5 year contract with a 2 one year extension options to

ensure weekly trash pickups of 27,200 units and 28,000 units for recycling at the following cost: Trash \$5,193,024 and Recycling \$2,920,720

Councilor Marmarou moved, seconded by Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz to award the contract to Republic, as recommended by the administration.

In response to a question, the City Solicitor explained the process used last year and this year to bid out the municipal trash service. He stated that the bids came in exorbitantly high last year and the City exercised its option to use a one (1) year extension. The RFP used this year was refined to eliminate various contract requirements to reduce the cost of the contract. While the prices came back higher than the current rate, the prices were less than those obtained in 2020. He expressed the belief that the changes in the recycling market and inflation are responsible for the increased prices.

Council President Waltman inquired about the amount of the increase. The City Solicitor stated that the trash price will rise by approximately \$60 per year.

Councilor Sihelnik connected with the meeting at this time.

Councilor Goodman-Hinnershitz stated that she will support this award of contract, noting her belief in the process used by the administration and the service provided.

The award of contract to BFI Waste dba Republic Services was approved by the following vote:

Yeas: Goodman-Hinnershitz, Marmarou, Reed, Sihelnik, Waltman, President – 5

Nays: Ventura - 1

Council Comment

None.

The meeting adjourned, on a motion by Councilor Reed and a second by Marmarou, at approximately 5:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Linda A. Kelleher CMC, City Clerk