



CITY of THE DALLES

313 COURT STREET
THE DALLES, OREGON 97058

(541) 296.5481

AGENDA

OPEN BURN POLICY COMMITTEE

May 31, 2011

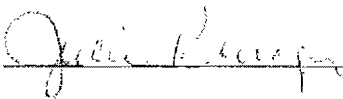
4:00 p.m.

SECOND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
313 COURT STREET
THE DALLES, OREGON

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - May 24, 2011
3. REVIEW DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING BURN BARRELS
4. DISCUSS RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING OPEN BURNING
5. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting conducted in a handicap accessible room.

Prepared by/
Julie Krueger, MMC
City Clerk



MINUTES

OPEN BURN POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
OF
MAY 24, 2011
4:00 P.M.
FIRE BAY CONFERENCE ROOM
313 COURT STREET
THE DALLES, OREGON

PRESIDING: Chair Chris Zukin

MEMBERS PRESENT: Russ Brown, Bruce Lumper, Teresa Myers, Kathy Heitkemper, Barbara Pashek, Pierce Louis, Doug Tumilson, Dan Hammel

MEMBERS ABSENT: Karen Murray

STAFF PRESENT: City Clerk Julie Krueger

GUESTS PRESENT: David Skakel, Tri-County Hazardous Waste Program

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Zukin called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Brown and seconded by Heitkemper to approve the meeting minutes of May 17, 2011. The motion carried unanimously, Murray absent.

REVIEW DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING BURN BARRELS

The Committee reviewed the draft provided by staff, made corrections and additions, and directed staff to re-draft for another review at the next meeting. It was suggested to add into the recommendation to coordinate implementation of the ban with Mid Columbia Fire and Rescue to coincide with the current permitting season.

There was discussion regarding how to provide the air quality information to the public. Following discussion, Bruce Lumper suggested it may be possible for DEQ to take the role of providing the daily information. It was suggested the information be placed on the DEQ website and the media could access it to use in the newspaper and for radio broadcasts. Other agencies and entities could have a link on their websites, making it easier for citizens to find the information.

Heitkemper said it was important to include in the report to the City Council the reasons for a ban and asked that the information include information about the health concerns.

DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING OPEN BURNING

Tumilson suggested open burning recommendations be delayed until the Fall. He said the Committee was recommending many changes and it would be helpful to have some of them implemented before proceeding with the open burn recommendations. There was general agreement that the burn barrels were the cause of most of the offensive smoke.

It was moved by Tumilson and seconded by Pashek to recommend to City Council that the Committee reconvene in the Fall to work on open burn recommendations.

Heitkemper said her preference would be to continue working and have all recommendations made to the Council at one time. Myers agreed it would be preferable to have all the recommendations completed, but said sometimes it was easier for people to move forward with small steps. Heitkemper handed out a list of public comments, noting that only four people who supported burning provided reasons or explanations as to how a ban would impact them. She said everyone who spoke in opposition were concerned about the health hazards of burning.

Tumilson said it was important to allow people time to adjust to the burn barrel ban before implementing a complete ban on all burning.

There was discussion regarding a recommendation that would allow for an open burn season that could also be tied to air quality. Staff was directed to draft language for review at the next meeting.

The motion to recommend to City Council that the Committee reconvene in the Fall to work on open burn recommendations was voted on and defeated: voting yes, Tumilson and Pashek; voting no, Myers, Brown, Zukin, and Heitkemper.

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ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Submitted by/
Julie Krueger, MMC
City Clerk

SIGNED:

Chris Zukin, Chair



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AGENDA STAFF REPORT CITY OF THE DALLES

MEETING DATE	AGENDA LOCATION	AGENDA REPORT #
July 11, 2011	Presentations	

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Julie Krueger, MMC, City Clerk

THROUGH: Nolan K. Young, City Manager

DATE: June.....

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ISSUE: Recommendations from the Burn Policy Committee.

BACKGROUND: The Committee was established by Mayor Wilcox, through Resolution No. 11-009, on March 28, 2011. The members of the Committee are, citizen members: Chair Chris Zukin, Doug Tumilson, Teresa Myers, Kathy Heitkemper, Russ Brown, Barbara Pashek; Resource members: Bruce Lumper, DEQ, Dan Hammel, Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue District, Karen Murray, Tri-County Hazardous Waste and Recycling Program, and Pierce Louis, Dirt Huggers.

The Committee was charged with identifying proposals and recommendations regarding outdoor burning, including educational programs, mulching, methods to enforce the ban of burning garbage in barrels, seasonal burning programs, weather related burning programs, and promoting alternatives to burning.

In 2010, a request was brought to the City Council by Kathy Heitkemper, to ban outdoor burning in the City of The Dalles. The primary reason for the request was to eliminate serious health

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conditions caused by the pollution from outdoor burning. [expand]

The Committee has had the support and cooperation of many agencies in developing their recommendations. Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue District, Tri-County Hazardous Waste and Recycling Program, and DEQ have all offered their support and assistance in implementation of the recommendations. While it is believed there are many other agencies who would be partners, the Committee did not have direct contact with representatives of other agencies while forming the recommendations.

An example of the support is through Committee discussion, it was noted there was not a way for citizens to dispose of their confidential papers if they didn't have a shredder or could not burn them. As a result of that discussion, Tri-County Hazardous Waste and Recycling has added a residential shredding program to their monthly collection events. It is a pilot program which will be evaluated at the end of the calendar year. This is just one example of the partnerships that can be formed to assist citizen's transition from using burn barrels.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS: None at this time. Many recommendations can be accomplished through partnerships. Some recommendations may need a funding source and it is hoped grant funding can be secured for some programs.

COUNCIL ALTERNATIVES:

1. **Staff Recommendation:** Move to accept the recommendations of the Burn Policy Committee [add language if the Committee decides it wants to continue working on issues....]
2. Move to accept selected recommendations of the Committee
3. Decline to accept the recommendations of the Committee

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OPEN BURN POLICY COMMITTEE

- I. Ban burn barrels.
 - A. Education. Develop educational tools, pieces and messages including an informational document and methods for broad distribution that will inform citizens about existing recycling, composting and hazardous waste disposal programs; information regarding reduced garbage fees for senior/low income residents; and consider expanding the Community Clean Up Day event to provide information regarding alternatives to burning and to involve service organizations to help residents who are unable to bring yard debris to a drop off site.
 - B. Alternatives to Burn Barrels. Develop a phase out period of up to one year for burn barrels and develop a program to allow residents to trade their burn barrel for a compost device and/or shredder (for those who normally burn confidential papers) or a certificate for a month of garbage service in trade for the barrel. The Committee recommends seeking a grant to fund this program. Provide drop off

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sites for shredding in public locations such as City Hall, Senior Center, and Tri-County Hazardous Waste and Recycling. Do not institute burn barrel ban until alternatives have been identified and supplied/funded.

- C. Upgrades to Garbage Service. Direct The Dalles Disposal to prepare information regarding alternative programs including, but not limited to, universal (mandatory) garbage service; service that would include garbage, recycle and yard debris pick up for one set fee; options for various can sizes; options for bi-weekly pick up; offer a free yard debris drop off day once per week; provide paper shredder at the transfer station for free use by public.
 - D. Burn Ban Boundary. Dialogue with Wasco County regarding extending the City burn ban to the Urban Growth Boundary.
 - E. Removal of Burn Barrels. Solve issue of collecting old burn barrels [is this already addressed in "B"?]
 - F. Partnerships. Work with Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue District to implement any changes in burn barrel policy. Work and partner with other agencies and entities to help provide education, implement alternatives to burning, and possibly fund programs.
2. Restrict Open Burning
- A. The Committee recommends that while pursuing the burn barrel ban, the City restrict open burning to two specific seasons, and implementation of an air quality advisory to be followed in conjunction with the seasonal burning.
 - B. Continue Committee Work. While the City works on implementation of the burn barrel ban recommendations, the Committee proposes to continue working on additional recommendations regarding open burning.