



Minutes
Green Committee
Thursday, 5/18/17, 7:00PM
City Hall Conference Rm.

Members: Dan Belliveau, Ken Camera, Anne Hoyt, Larry Campbell, Melissa Hegarty, Ryan Wallace, Larry Smart, Tarah Rouse

Public:

1. Compost facility for City Update - Jacob Fox, Organic Green Composting.

Jacob Fox represents OGI, a vermi-composting company in Seneca Castle who is partnering with the City to assist with the development of a sludge finishing operation for the City's WWTP. He reported on progress that OGI has been making regarding the development and operation of a vermi-composting facility at the City of Geneva's transfer station adjoining the WWTP.

Here is a basic update for the members of the GGC:

- The permit for setting up a facility at the station was submitted to the DEC around the 8th of May.
- They had to work through the process over the last couple of months.
- OGI has secured an LOI from both the City of Geneva and Canandaigua to open and operate vermi-composting facilities for these municipalities.
- Part of the agreement is a to provide to the City of Geneva a reduced rate for final composting/processing of ~40%. It is anticipated that the savings to the City will be about \$20K/year.
- Jacob says that the DEC wants this for both the environmental and economic benefits this provides
- It is anticipated that Geneva residents will be able to take the end product for a discount.

- OGI has started mini compost deals with some local restaurants - 60lbs/wk/restaurant.

The City is also going to build separate composting trenches for food waste as well to accommodate the anticipated development of a commercial and institutional composting system targeting the City's larger institutions and restaurants.

Jacob has already approached the GSD by Jacob to implement Zero Waste practices. Jacob cited a company called Impact Earth in Rochester that has a three year agreement with the Brighton School District.

Jacob says that the GSD Supt. is interested in this concept and may implement this year. Of course, there is an important educational component to these sustainability practices.

Dan asked about the about the leachate in the sludge: Does the composting help with the heavy metals? Jacob said that there are some studies that report that vermi-cultures are capable of some bio-remediation of the heavy metals. This needed a longer conversation and more information to adequately answer.

It is estimated that the GSD could generate approx.. 80-100 tons per year which is might produce a \$30K savings.

From a scale and cost perspective Jacob estimated that a full scale vermi-composting operation at the City transfer station would cost in the neighborhood of \$270K. for 6 trench model capable of doing about 500/tons acre.

2. Review of funding opportunities from Ontario County

GGC members discussed the materials forwarded by Tom Harvey at the last meeting.

3. Members in attendance briefly reviewed other NYS funding opportunities for clean energy and sustainable initiatives:

ZEVs

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/109181.html>

Climate Smart. CFA workshops. One at HWS.

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/109181.html>

4. Review of Climate Smart Communities Memo. Also discussion of hiring a Sustainability Coord. for the City which would provided needed staff time for City Manager and GGC.

Actions we want to pursue:

1. Request from the City Sustain Cmte. A presentation and scorecard of the points accumulated so far. For next meeting.

- Need to make up for the unfinished, remaining elements that are close to be completed.
- Want to achieve Bronze Cert. asap.
- http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/administration_pdf/cert_manch14.pdf

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- 2. **County Funding:** focus on requesting funding for items #9 opening and developing a transfer station. And #10 pay as you throw activity per Town (Weslor Co has the pay as you throw technology.).
 - Need to get the contract documents from County
 - Decals and other publicity materials for helping City to make its new license agreement for haulers successful
- 3. **ZEVs Application for City Hall renovation using funding from DEC** See <http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/109181.html>
 - Pedestal and port charger options to be explored.
 - City vehicle electric?
 - 1 City electric vehicle to be funded????
 - Low speed vehicle like options to be explored?
- 4. **Composting @ WWTP transfer station. CFA application for 2017 and it is due July 28th**
 - CFA workshop for appl. June 6, at HWS from 3-5:30PM
 - Items mentioned by Jacob
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