



SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Subcommittee: Public Works
Meeting Date: Wednesday, June 5, 2019
Meeting Time: 4:00 p.m.
Meeting Location: City Hall Conference Room

Subcommittee Members and City Staff:

Councilmember Turner, Chair	City Manager David Kelley
Vice Mayor Wolter	City Engineer/Public Works Director Mark Rincon
	Senior Engineering Technician Eric Janzen

- 1. Call to Order:** Chair Turner called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. Present: Vice Mayor Wolter, Assistant City Manager/CDC Thompson, Councilmember Turner, Shirley Davis.
- 2. Communications:** None
- 3. Public Comments:** None
- 4. Approval of Minutes:** N/A
- 5. New Items for Discussion:** None
- 6. Standing and Continued Items:**
 - a) Update regarding the City's use of rubber mulch in city parks- Chair Turner indicated that Vice Mayor Wolter had replaced Councilmember Brigham on the Ad Hoc committee. Chair Turner had a conversation with Mr. Reuser, who told him that they have an ADA compliant, non-splintering wood chip product that they will sell the City for \$23.00 a yard.

Vice Mayor Wolter stated that he was on the City Council in 2014 when the rubber mulch project was implemented. While he still finds that the studies are inconclusive, he supports removal of the rubber mulch because of the public perception that it is unsafe. This will require full Council approval. Discussion ensued on the manner in which to develop a strategic method of removal and replacement of the rubber mulch and what to replace it with. Wood chips come with their own set of problems; they attract cats and there are reoccurring costs when it needs to be replenished. The four parks were prioritized as follows for order of removal/replacement: Vintage Meadows (238 cubic yards), City Park (319 cubic yards), Clark Park (207 cubic yards) and Furber Park (130 cubic yards). The total amount of material needed is 959 cubic yards, which would cost about \$22,000.00 for wood chip material. Mr. Turner stated that the Reuser's may be able to take the rubber mulch for use at projects in Ukiah. Discussion ensued that this needs further analysis for possible liability because of environmental concerns, and would need to involve indemnification of the City. The City needs to ensure proper disposal. There is room at the Corporation Yard to store it.

Amanda Heard referred to a recent news article that states that there are high levels of lead in rubber mulch. Concern was expressed that contamination of groundwater could if rubber mulch is used in landscaping projects where there is contact with water. She asked if the City was going to post the California Public Utility Commission safety warnings at the parks where rubber mulch is located that recommend avoiding mouth contact, avoiding eating and drinking at the parks, limiting exposure on hot days, cleaning hands and toys that come in contact with the rubber mulch.

Recommendation: Staff was asked to contact Anderson for an estimate on what they would charge to remove the rubber mulch and consider checking other sources such as the County Probation work crew or CDC for labor. Vice Mayor Wolter and Assistant City Manager/CDC Thompson will meet with Reuser this week to discuss the matter further. The subcommittee will identify real numbers and take the recommendation to the June 26 City Council meeting for a final vote and budget amendment.

7. Future Agenda Items: N/A

8. Pending Agenda Items: N/A

9. Good of the Order: N/A

10. Adjournment: Chair Turner adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m. to the next scheduled meeting on July 23, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

Minutes approved July 23, 2019