

City of Selah
Council Minutes
August 26, 2008

Regular Meeting
Selah Council Chambers
115 West Naches Avenue
Selah, WA 98942

A. Call to Order Mayor Pro Tem Keith Larson called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

B. Roll Call

Members Present: Summer Derrey, Kevin Jorgensen, Keith Larson, Denise Nichols, Paul Overby, Herb Schmidt, John Tierney

Members Excused:

Staff Present: Frank Sweet, City Supervisor; Bob Noe, City Attorney; Stacy Dwarshuis, Police Lieutenant; Gary Hanna, Deputy Fire Chief; Joe Henne, Public Works Director; Dennis Davison, Community Planner, Jeff Hagler, Parks & Recreation Director

C. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Pro Tem Keith Larson led the Pledge of Allegiance. Pastor Doug Perkins led the group in prayer.

D. Agenda Changes

The Mayor Pro Tem noted the following Agenda Changes: the addition of Resolution M-4 Resolution Authorizing an Increase in Transit Rates beginning in 2009 and a 15-minute Executive Session on real estate.

E. Public Appearances

F. Getting To Know Our Businesses

G. Communications

1. Oral

Harold Emmons, 127 E. Fremont, rose to address the Council regarding paving and parking on East Fremont.

The Mayor Pro Tem said there will be time for Mr. Emmons to speak when that issue comes up for Public Hearing.

2. Written

- a. Letter of Appreciation for Selah Police Department from Bill Powell
- b. Letter from Doug Pineo, WA Department of Ecology Regarding Yakima County Shoreline Master Program

The Mayor Pro Tem praised the Police Department in reference to the Bill Powell letter regarding the Night Out block parties.

Community Planner Dennis Davison said he would comment on the Shoreline Master Program under his report.

H. Proclamations

1. Proclamation September 2008 Alcohol & Drug Addiction Recovery Month

The Mayor Pro Tem read the Proclamation of September 2008 as Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month.

I. Consent Agenda

All items listed with an asterisk (*) were considered as part of the Consent Agenda.

- * 1. Approval of Minutes: Study Session & Council Meeting August 12, 2008
- * 2. Approval of Claims & Payroll: Payroll Checks Nos. 64090 – 64194 for a total of \$136,454.92, Claims Check No. 52423 – 52423 for a total of \$1159.56, Claims Check No. 52424 – 52424 for a total of \$523.64 and Claims Checks Nos. 52425 – 52506 for a total of \$146,328.52.

Mayor Pro Tem Larson read the Consent Agenda.

Councilman Tierney moved approval of the Consent Agenda. Councilwoman Nichols seconded. By voice vote, Consent Agenda was adopted unanimously.

J. Public Hearings

1. Public Hearing on Ordinance Amending Title 8, Chapter 8.70.020 of Selah Municipal Code (SMC), Parking Prohibited on Certain Streets by Adding East Fremont Avenue

Public Works Director Joe Henne stated this is a Public Hearing on proposed ordinance N-1. He said the City had received a grant from the Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) for this project, and the City is in the process of constructing those improvements. He said the project will use existing right of way and include a dedicated turn lane where it turns onto North 1st. He said the Department of Transportation (DOT) will later put a traffic light at the intersection of East Fremont and North Wenas. In response to a question from Councilman Tierney, the Public Works Director said the street would be about 50 feet wide.

Councilwoman Nichols asked the time line.

Mr. Henne responded that subject to Council action today, the notice to proceed will go to the contractor, and the street will likely be closed except to local traffic.

Councilwoman Nichols asked if this is merely a house-keeping item.

Mr. Henne said this project has been on the 6-year street plan for several years.

Mayor Pro Tem Larson opened the Public Hearing.

City Supervisor Frank Sweet clarified that the public can address the parking issue at this time.

Harold Emmons, 127 E. Fremont, said he does not have alley access at his home. He explained that he and his wife have a handicapped son, so they park on street and let the ramp down to get him in and out. He said he hopes they can have a sidewalk on one side of the street, on his side. He said he doesn't see what the turning lane will accomplish. He said he realizes that the Council wants to make the City better, and he is all for that. He said he just wants it to be accessible for his son. He said the City has already staked off several feet of his front yard.

Mayor Pro Tem Keith Larson asked how far it is between the stakes and their porch.

Mr. Emmons said that while he hates to give up his front yard, it's important to have access. He suggested the City might create a kind of loop drive so he could get his son in and out.

Councilwoman Nichols asked if his fence is in the City right-of-way.

Harold Emmons said his tree is straight in the right-of-way; the line of the stakes goes right through the center of his tree.

Joe Henne stated there are several properties along there that have fences out into the right-of-way. He said that as he looks at the drawing, Mr. Emmon's fence appears to be behind the right-of-way.

Councilman Overby asked how many cars Mr. Emmons has.

Mr. Emmons said he has a van, his car and his seventeen-year-old son's car. He asked if there is any way the City could pave his whole driveway so as to get his handicapped son in the back door.

The Mayor Pro Tem said this is a Public Hearing and Mr. Emmons has voiced his concerns. He suggested the City will work to address those concerns and try to make allowances. He asked if others would like to speak.

Councilman Schmidt expressed his appreciation for Mr. Emmons' input and attitude.

Seeing no one rise to comment, the Mayor Pro Tem closed the Public Hearing and moved on to New Business.

K. New Business

L. Old Business

M. Resolutions

1. Resolution Awarding the Construction Contract for East Fremont Avenue Improvements to Columbia Asphalt and Authorizing the Mayor To Sign Contract Documents upon Preparation

Public Works Director Joe Henne addressed Resolution M-1, noting he has received approval from Transportation Improvement Board for the bid documents, and Columbia Asphalt was the apparent low bidder. He asked the Council to approve awarding the East Fremont Avenue contract to Columbia Asphalt in the amount of \$292,132.50. *(The total amount received from the Transportation Improvement Board is \$307,432, and the total amount of this project including engineering expenses is \$387,783. The difference of approximately 80,000 is made up of \$10,000 from WSDOT, \$69,000 from the City of Selah, \$500 from Selah School District and \$500 from Dick Graf.)

Councilwoman Derrey moved and Councilman Overby seconded to approve the Resolution Awarding the Construction Contract for East Fremont Avenue Improvements to Columbia Asphalt and Authorizing the Mayor To Sign Contract Documents upon Preparation.

Councilman Schmidt asked how awarding this contract will impact the concern raised by Harold Emmons.

The City Supervisor stated that concern may affect the ordinance regarding parking on East Fremont, but does not have direct bearing on the awarding of the contract.

Roll was called: Council Member Schmidt – yes; Council Member Nichols – yes; Council Member Overby – yes; Council Member Derrey – yes; Council Member Tierney – yes; Council Member Jorgensen – yes. Support was unanimous.

2. Resolution Authorizing the Mayor To Sign the Agreement between the City of Selah and Bob Tuck for Professional Consultant Services Relative to Stormwater Education

Ted Pooler addressed the Council, noting the agreement on Resolution M-2 is related to providing education services in conjunction with the Selah School District. He explained this is related to a Phase 2 Stormwater permit the City has been awarded that contains an element of public education and public involvement. He said they have discovered that if you begin that education in the classroom, you can greatly impact practices that are now polluting stormwater. He explained that Bob Tuck is an individual who has created education programs that are working well in the school district. He explained that Mr. Tuck is proposing 20 days of educational activity for a consulting fee of \$10,000. Mr. Pooler asked the Council to consider that these services are reimbursable under grant monies. He said this is a great opportunity for Selah to begin.

Councilman Schmidt asked Mr. Pooler if he has seen these lessons.

Ted Pooler responded that HLA will provide oversight throughout the project.

City Supervisor Frank Sweet stated Mr. Pooler will validate what is being done and make sure it covers appropriate material.

Councilman Overby suggested it would be reasonable to have the School District also sign the agreement.

Councilwoman Derrey asked who is going to be the overseer to make sure the consultant is doing a good job.

Ted Pooler responded that they have a requirement of specific expenditure reports each month, and if something is not an eligible expense, it won't be included.

Ms. Derrey asked if any other consultants were considered.

Mr. Pooler said they're asking for a list of specific tasks and lessons to be done

The City Supervisor said there's no one else in the Selah School District who is doing this. He also noted there's no state requirement for bidding this kind of position.

Mr. Pooler said the City of Selah is way ahead of the game.

Martha Goudey, Editor of the *Selah-Independent* said she has covered Mr. Tuck's work while he was teaching, and she described him as very engaging with students.

Councilman Tierney asked if 20 days is going to be enough for the school district.

The City Supervisor responded that the City originally asked them to participate, and they said they had no money to put into the program. He said their expectation is 20 days. They said they would work with whatever the City, the engineering firm and the consultant came up with.

Councilwoman Nichols said the contract doesn't give an hourly or per diem rate. She said the Council needs be extremely clear for the public to understand what we are hiring for.

Ted Pooler said we can modify this agreement at the Council's discretion.

Councilwoman Derrey said she would feel more comfortable if this were itemized.

Councilman Overby said he would be more comfortable if the school district signs on.

Mr. Pooler said he would prefer to make modifications to the agreement and bring it back to the Council for consideration.

The Mayor Pro Tem noted the City received this grant years ago and one component is education.

Mr. Pooler stated one element is public education and the other is public involvement. He said he sees the first phase as resting more heavily on the public education element, but we can add public involvement in the future.

Mayor Pro Tem Larson said this would help us meet those requirements.

Councilwoman Nichols said she believe it is important to provide the public with specificity, and it should not reflect any doubt on the part of the Council regarding Mr. Tuck's ability.

Councilman Schmidt moved to delay consideration of this item until the Council Meeting scheduled for September 9. Councilwoman Derrey seconded. Roll was called: Council Member

Schmidt – yes; Council Member Nichols – yes; Council Member Overby – yes; Council Member Derrey – yes; Council Member Tierney – yes; Council Member Jorgensen - yes. Support was unanimous.

Mr. Tuck said he can be available for the Council Meeting on September 9.

3. Resolution Authorizing the Mayor To Sign a Professional Services Contract between the Yakima Valley Office of Emergency Management (YVOEM) and the City of Selah for the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program (LETPP)

Police Lieutenant Stacy Dwarshuis addressed the professional services contract, noting it reflects funds from Homeland Security grants. He noted this year the \$16,000 grant will provide for computers.

Councilwoman Nichols moved and Councilman Overby seconded to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Mayor To Sign a Professional Services Contract between the Yakima Valley Office of Emergency Management (YVOEM) and the City of Selah for the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program (LETPP). Roll was called: Council Member Schmidt – yes; Council Member Nichols – yes; Council Member Overby – yes; Council Member Derrey – yes; Council Member Tierney – yes; Council Member Jorgensen - yes. Support was unanimous.

4. Resolution Authorizing an Increase in Transit Rates beginning in 2009

Councilman Paul Overby addressed resolution M-4, noting he represents the City of Selah on the Yakima Transit Committee. He stated Yakima Transit currently charges 50¢ per ride. He said they want to increase that fare to 75¢. The other recommendation that is under consideration is to raise both the fares and the passes. He said an increase for Dial-a-ride is not under consideration. He said what the Council decides today will not be binding, rather Yakima transit is asking for an opinion from a stakeholder.

Councilman Schmidt said he likes the fare increase and no pass increase.

The City Supervisor asked which Councilman Overby prefers.

Councilman Overby responded that he prefers Proposed Fare #2, increases in both fares and passes, believing that to be more in concert with other communities. He said the rates have not been adjusted since 1994 and that was quite a while ago, and gas prices have risen dramatically since then.

Councilman Tierney asked who the reduced fare is for.

Mr. Overby said that covers low income, disabled.

Frank Sweet said he thinks it's important that the Council send a clear message by voting for one or the other.

Councilman Overby recommended support for fare 2 with no adjustment made to Dial-a-Ride.

Councilwoman Derrey said she is not in favor of a rate increase for people who are covered by "reduced fare."

Councilman Overby said that is still on the table for discussion.

The City Supervisor said you still have to recognize that the cost of operation is increasing, and someone has to pay for that.

Councilwoman Nichols moved support for Propose Fare Increase #2.

The Mayor Pro Tem said we should encourage monthly passes.

Councilman Tierney said a \$3 increase for poor people is quite a bit; he would not like to see an increase for Reduced Fare.

Councilwoman Nichols noted these fares have not been raised since 1994.

Councilman Schmidt seconded. Roll was called: Council Member Schmidt – yes; Council Member Nichols – yes; Council Member Derrey – yes; Council Member Tierney – no; Council Member Jorgensen - yes. Motion carried, with Councilman Tierney dissenting.

N. Ordinances

1. Ordinance Amending Title 8, Chapter 8.70.020 of Selah Municipal Code (SMC), Parking Prohibited on Certain Streets by Adding East Fremont Avenue

Public Works Director Joe Henne reminded the Council that the funding is in place for the East Fremont project, and that includes paving for alleys. He noted if you chose to not have the center turn lane you'd have further decisions to make, which might confuse the issue. He noted the turn lane provides a place to stop to let traffic go by as they wait to turn.

Councilwoman Nichols asked about providing options for homeowners.

Joe Henne said he would need to talk with the Mayor and City Supervisor.

Councilwoman Nichols said she doesn't support the City paving private driveways. She suggested curb cuts.

Joe Henne said he could widen their access.

Frank Sweet suggested the Council may wish to direct staff to work with individual property owners to mitigate individual problems.

The Mayor Pro Tem said he likes that idea, because it allows protection for the integrity of the project. He said it's difficult for the Council to come up with solutions. He said he thinks the City has done a pretty good job in the past of allowing for individual adaptations.

Mr. Henne said we've added cuts and provision of 10-feet of driveway to help keep gravel away from the street.

Councilwoman Nichols said she does not support paving full driveways.

The Public Works Director said we're paving every alley in town as well as Terry Lane and Terry Place. He noted the alley behind Lince School will not be paved because it does not belong to the City.

The City Supervisor asked if there is a way that we could guarantee that the East Fremont alleys are going to be paved.

Councilwoman Nichols said the issue today is to prohibit parking on East Fremont.

Councilman Schmidt asked how much width there is on a cut-out.

The Public Works Director responded 20 feet.

The Mayor Pro Tem said if we pass this ordinance and direct staff to work to mitigate individual problems, there's no guarantee that we will make everybody happy, but we will be making an effort to do what will work well for everybody.

Harold Emmons offered a suggestion of widening his driveway to bring it closer to the house. He said he is willing to work with the City.

The Mayor Pro Tem said he would feel comfortable with staff working with Mr. Emmons and others in the neighborhood. He thanked Mr. Emmons for his input.

The City Supervisor suggested Mr. Pooler could help staff in working with these residents.

Councilman Overby moved and Councilwoman Derrey seconded to approve the Ordinance Amending Title 8, Chapter 8.70.020 of Selah Municipal Code (SMC), Parking Prohibited On Certain Streets by Adding East Fremont Avenue. Roll was called: Council Member Schmidt – yes; Council Member Nichols – yes; Council Member Derrey – yes; Council Member Tierney – yes; Council Member Jorgensen – yes. Support was unanimous.

O. Communications

1. Oral

P. Reports/Announcements

1. Mayor
2. Council Members
3. Boards
4. Departmental
 - a. Current Interlocal Agreement for Use of Public Transportation System – Yakima Transit
 - b. Basin Disposal, Inc. – Quarterly Recycle Data
 - c. Building Inspection/Code Enforcement Report - 1st Half of 2008
 - d. Planning Commission Minutes July 15, 2008 - Approved
 - e. Planning Commission Minutes August 5, 2008 - Approved

Deputy Fire Chief Gary Hanna reported that there is a national effort throughout the fire industry promoting the use of seatbelts by emergency responders. He said the national is only 60% while Selah is one of 5 departments in the state of Washington that has made the 100%. He reported that Chief Davis is on vacation.

Community Planner Dennis Davison noted he has handed out two books to Council Members. One covers Cherry Blossom Ridge, a proposed rezone and subdivision of the property into almost two hundred lots. That notebook contains all of the paperwork, the Hearing Examiner's recommendation and conditions and all information considered. He stated Council will consider this proposal in two weeks. He stated the second notebook contains Shorelines Master Program update. He said that the public hearing, resolution and the ordinance changing the zoning to planned development will come before the Council on September 9. He said we can adopt this or come up with our own and send it for state approval in 2012. He advised the Council not to concern themselves with forest practices, noting the Yakima and Naches Rivers are the only shorelines affecting cities in Yakima County and neither directly affects development in the City of Selah. He suggested having an open book test in two weeks when these issues come before Council.

Councilwoman Derrey asked if there was a public hearing.

Mr. Davison said a public hearing was held at the Planning Commission level.

Clerk/Treasurer Dale Novobielski reminded the group that there will be a Council Forum on the 2009 budget process at 7pm September 3 at the Civic Center.

Public Works Director Joe Henne reported that Les Schwab and Garner Construction have both started building on North Wenas. He said East Fremont is closed for water and sewer system updates prior to putting in that street. He said he suspects that water system dates back to the 40's or 50's.

Parks & Recreation Director Jeff Hagler handed out a flyer on the UW and Boise State Fastpitch double-header to be held Saturday, September 20 with a clinic to follow on Sunday, September 21. He reported that there is a difference between YVC and School District start dates that raises a question about the opening of the Selah Youth Center. He said he would like to open the Youth Center on September 2, and staff coverage will amount to about \$750 that will non-refundable by the college. The other option is not to open it until the 22nd of September.

Police Lieutenant Stacy Dwarshuis said he would like to see the Youth Center open on the 2nd, the same day school starts.

Councilwoman Nichols moved approval of the funding for Youth Center staff between September 2 and September 22. Councilman Tierney seconded. Roll was called: Council Member Schmidt – yes; Council Member Nichols – yes; Council Member Derrey – yes; Council Member Tierney – yes; Council Member Jorgensen – yes. Support was unanimous.

Police Lieutenant Stacy Dwarshuis reminded those present that school starts September 2. He cautioned all to drive safely. He reported that the City has offered a police officer position to a young man with fifteen years of experience. He said the applicant is going through the appropriate screening checks now, and he hopes to get him on board in October. He noted the officer previously worked for the Moxee PD.

Councilman Tierney expressed his appreciation for the timely response from Planning Commission meeting. He thanked all who attended the Battalion send off last week, complimenting Mayor Pro Tem Keith Larson on the remarks he gave and thanking Parks & Recreation Director Jeff Hagler on the preparation of facilities.

Councilman Schmidt asked who's involved in the weed business, noting there are still weeds up on Crestview.

The City Supervisor said he spent 15 minutes trying to talk to someone at Fannie Mae, who holds the paper on that property.

Councilman Schmidt stated there's a pile of weeds and lumber at 14th & Heritage and one on Naches that has been vacated. He said Councilwoman Nichols brought up a good point, we owe clarification to the public as to where their money is going and how it's spent, and he really appreciates that. Directing his comments to the City Supervisor, he said the Council really needs to have these invoices concerning the salmon recovery program because it appears that we are \$30,000 out in deficit, and since the Fish & Wildlife sent us that letter (he's gone over it a couple two-three times) and for the life of him, he thinks we need to get this off the City's plate. He said it's important that these invoices be dug up so the Council could clarify what the heck you're talking about. He said he thinks they would all appreciate it.

The City Supervisor responded, "OK."

Councilman Overby reported that the current Yakima Transit agreement that is in the packet is due to be revised, so in the near future we need to have a study session on the transit agreement. He said the Clerk/Treasurer can speak to it, but we currently have a surplus, collecting more than we pay.

Dale Novobielski reported that revenues are approximately \$20,000 a month, and the fixed route runs about \$10,000 while Dial-a-Ride has been running about \$4,000.

Councilman Overby noted that's about \$75,000 for the year. He said we have talked in the past about increasing service or keep reserves for Dial-a-Ride since that is the big wild card.

Councilman Tierney said we've also talked about shelters.

Councilman Overby said that is a possibility. He expressed his preference toward having a little bit of a cushion. He further noted that Councilwoman Derrey has been involved with the Forum and can report on that. He thanked the City Supervisor, noting that Code Enforcement issues with weeds in his neighborhood have been taken care of.

Councilwoman Derrey affirmed that she is preparing flyers for the Forum on September 3. She told the Clerk/Treasurer that she will be in on Friday. She reported that her graffiti removal is going well, and she might enlist the help of some kids at the Youth Center.

Councilwoman Nichols reported that Councilmen Tierney, Schmidt and she attended the Yakima Study Session on Aquatic Center this morning. She suggested having a Council study session on that topic.

Mayor Pro Tem Larson reminded Council Members that budget meetings coming up soon. November is heavy involvement by Council.

Gary Hanna added that the Fire Department and Public works will soon be starting hydrant testing around the City. He noted he will advertise in local newspapers. He noted the public may contact Council Members about muddy water, and to have them call him with questions.

Mayor Pro Tem Larson declared a 2-3 minute recess and then move into Executive Session.

Q. Executive Session

Council moved into Executive Session at 5:27pm.

- 1. Executive Session to discuss real estate – 15 minutes

Council moved out of Executive Session at 5:44pm.

City Supervisor Frank Sweet noted the Council has before it a request from Doug Way to extend the closing date and an addendum to the purchase and sale agreement for a conditional repurchase if Auto Zone backs out. He said it should be noted that he is responsible for all closing costs should that happen.

Councilwoman Nichols clarified that is only based on Auto Zone deal.

The Mayor Pro Tem said the repurchase would only happen if Auto Zone defaults.

Councilman Overby moved approval.

Mayor Pro Tem Larson read the Resolution Authorizing the Mayor Pro Tem To Sign an Addendum to the Purchase and Sale agreement and the Conditional Repurchase agreement with Douglas Way, Manager, Eagle Park LLC.

The City Supervisor noted that is with the understanding that all closing costs would be paid by Doug Way.

Councilwoman Derrey seconded. Roll was called: Council Member Schmidt – yes; Council Member Nichols – yes; Council Member Overby – yes; Council Member Derrey – yes; Council Member Tierney – yes; Council Member Jorgensen – yes. Support was unanimous.

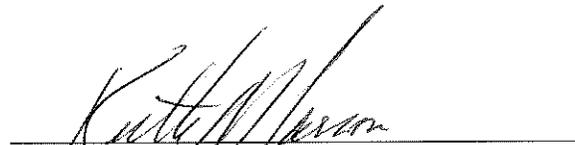
R. Adjournment

Council Member Overby moved, and Council Member Tierney seconded that the meeting be adjourned. By voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:48 pm.



Paul Overby, Council Member



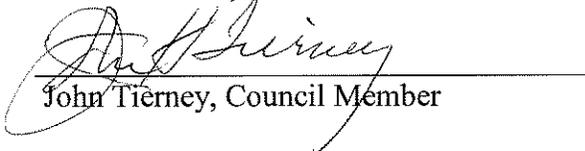
Keith Larson, Mayor Pro Tem



Denise Nichols, Council Member

Summer Derrey, Council Member

Herb Schmidt, Council Member



John Tierney, Council Member



Kevin Jorgensen, Council Member

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dale E. Novobielski", written over a horizontal line.

Dale E. Novobielski, Clerk/Treasurer

Selah City Council
Study Session
August 29, 2008

Mayor Pro Tem Keith Larson welcomed Basin Disposal representatives Darrick Dietrick and Steve Wheatley.

Steve Wheatley passed around updated recycling reports. He noted Councilman Overby sits on the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) and had asked him to give general information about the number of people and service levels. He reported that there are 1870 residential accounts and there are 427 recycling customers making a participation rate just under 23%. He said 70% of those are putting them out each collection time with one pick-up per month. He said 150 customers used recycling baskets in December before BDI put out the recycling carts, and there are three times that many participants now.

Councilwoman Denise Nichols asked how we can get the word out about recycling and whose responsibility it is to do that.

Mr. Wheatley said he and the City Supervisor have been working on that and BDI has produced a new service flyer for the front desk. He referred to the back of the new flyer where there is a list of what can and cannot be included.

Councilwoman Nichols asked if residents are aware that this is a free service and how can we do a better job of getting the word out.

City Supervisor Frank Sweet suggested the City could send a mailing.

Mayor Pro Tem Larson suggested the Selah Signals could be used. Several suggested an article in the *Selah-Independent*.

Councilman Herb Schmidt suggested it could be printed on the water bill.

The City Supervisor noted only twenty characters are available on the bills.

Councilman Paul Overby suggested some people can be trend-setters in recycling. He noted we might target high capacity users to advertise recycling, noting there are only 105 customers for two 64 gallon garbage service at present. Steve Wheatley said we would need to identify how many of those are already on recycling.

Councilwoman Nichols said Selah has two garbage companies because of annexation.

Councilman Overby said Yakima Waste charges about \$3 per month for recycling, but there would still be an advantage if the customer could go with one can rather than two garbage cans.

Steve Wheatley said his new report has all the information, noting Line 31 reflects aluminum cans which had not been included in the previous report. It's been pretty steady.

Councilman Tierney asked for a comparison percentage of participation with BDI vs. Yakima Waste in Selah.

Councilman Overby said he doesn't have those figures, but it may be less because of marketing and because BDI's service is free. Steve Wheatley said Yakima Waste used to run about 7-8%.

Councilman Overby said the goal of SWAC is to get everyone participating, and aggressive expectations have been placed on the county by the state 35-40% participation. Mr. Wheatley said the state has no authority over commercial businesses, and that's what is needed to get the percentage up to the state standards.

Councilman Schmidt asked about the possibility of including clear glass.

Steve Wheatley said anything is possible, but glass is on its way out. They have tried crushing it, but can't figure out what to make of it. He said wineries could get together to create a demand for recycled glass, but noted the funny thing is that the wine bottle glass is not recyclable.

Councilman Overby said that while some recyclers do take glass, they take it at a loss.

Councilman Jorgensen said the revenue covers the freight; all the labor and other costs are lost.

Steve Wheatley said other companies are doing it and it's actually stored out at the landfill.

Councilman Kevin Jorgensen said the machine that sorts out paper fiber from trash can't tell the difference between glass and paper fibers. He said his company processes a hundred tons of paper a day, but if there is any glass in the paper, it's considered "dirty."

Steve Wheatley said the mills are trying to get together to create a better standard for the paper they receive.

Councilman Paul Overby said it is his understanding that it is also a safety issue for workers who sort single-stream recycled materials.

Mayor Pro Tem Keith Larson asked Mr. Wheatley how Selah's 23% participation rate compares with other communities BDI serves.

Mr. Wheatley said it's really too early to tell, Selah may be up to 50% in another year.

The City Supervisor asked if that would be a good topic for a forum at the Civic Center.

Councilman Overby said he would be interested in doing that. He posed the question, "What if we went to high percentage such as 75%." He asked if that might change rates for solid waste.

Steve Wheatley responded that all of those issues need to be addressed. He said solid waste is a state of flux because of emission requirements and fuel costs. He noted Caterpillar is no longer making truck engines, and they are worried about where they are going to get trucks. He said in 2010 there will be another big impact from emission standards.

Councilman Kevin Jorgensen said based on the numbers here, the level of participation and the quality of what comes in as a product, BDI has an excellent system.

Steve Wheatley thanked the Council Member for his praise, saying they're always working on it. He said that next month Yakima County will come to the SWAC with dump fee increase to \$33 a ton.

Councilman Jorgensen asked if they are currently hauling down to Cheyne Landfill.

Councilman Overby responded that they will be in the next three years or so.

The City Supervisor noted they said that five years ago.

Mayor Pro Tem Larson asked about the tip fee increase. Mr. Wheatley responded that they'll raise it about 25%. He said it is currently \$23.40 while the cost is over \$25, and he predicted it will increase to \$33. He said a lot of it depends on whether the County can build another transfer station in West Valley.

Councilman Overby said they're also looking at the possibility of raising the minimum fee.

Mr. Wheatley said they are going to have to make some decisions here shortly.

The Mayor Pro Tem said that fits in with our budget process. He and Council Members thanked Mr. Wheatley for his presentation.

The Study Session concluded at 3:52pm.