

City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska

Monday, May 5, 2014

Regular Meeting

Item Reports1

Council to consider approval of the alley yard waste collection options.

Staff Contact: Nathan Johnson, Assistant City Manager

Summary

After analyzing current services and looking at future goals of offering all three (3) sanitation services (trash, yard waste & single stream recycling) to all accounts, City staff looked into expanding those services in the most cost effective and efficient way possible. As a City, we strive to provide a wide array of services in a sustainable manner that minimizes rate increases and decreases government spending. In taking all of this into consideration, City staff thought that it would be appropriate to mandate all rollouts be placed curbside for pick-up to have the capability to expand all services across the entire City.

Since the time that all rollouts were mandated to be placed curbside for pick-up, City staff along with City Council Members have received numerous comments from concerned citizens affected by this change. City staff looked into the feasibility of several solutions that were mentioned at the City Council meeting on April 21, 2014. One of the ideas mentioned, was to swap the rollouts for yard waste dumpsters. The idea of adding dumpsters can be accomplished from an operational standpoint, unfortunately it is not financially feasible at this time with a cost of \$225,000.

In moving forward with yard waste collection, City staff is recommending a reversal in the current method of collection that all yard waste rollouts be picked up curbside. We are recommending that those who currently have alley trash pick-up be reverted back to yard waste pick-up in the alley. We are also asking citizens to help City staff and clear the 20 foot easement, as well as placing the yard waste rollout on the opposite side of the alley as the tan metal trash dumpster for pick-up and to move the rollout onto the owner's property when not being picked up.

Options Considered for Yard Waste Pick-Up

Based on the comments received in reference to yard waste collection in the City of Scottsbluff, City staff has reviewed various options for yard waste collection. The options that have been considered are as follows:

- All brown yard waste rollouts get picked up curbside (Current Method)
- Block option out alternative – service charge for rollout pick-up in the alley
 - 51% Majority vote needed on a block by block basis
 - Garbage must currently be picked up in the alley (tan dumpster)
 - Parcels own brown yard waste containers, not the City
 - The block must clear the 20 foot utility easement/alley way at the owners expense
 - All brown yard waste containers have to be flagged to show they are full
 - Applicable service charge

- Block option out alternative – green yard waste dumpster
 - 51% Majority vote needed on a block by block basis
 - Garbage must currently be picked up in the alley (tan dumpster)
 - The block must clear the 20 foot utility easement/alley way at the owners expense
 - All brown yard waste rollouts will be swapped for green metal dumpster
 - 4 brown rollouts = 1 green metal dumpster
 - The block will need to ensure that only yard waste is being put into the green dumpster
 - If material other than yard waste is in the dumpster it will not be picked up
 - Wednesday Pick-up

Options Recommended for Yard Waste Pick-Up

In reviewing all of the options for yard waste pick-up, City staff is recommending the following.

- **Brown yard waste rollouts with current curbside trash pick-up get picked up curbside**
- **Brown yard waste rollouts with current alley trash pick-up get picked up in the alley**
 - **The 20 foot utility easement/alley way must be cleared at the owners expense**
 - **Brown yard waste rollout containers must be placed on the opposite side of the alley as the tan metal trash dumpsters when full to be picked up**
 - **When the brown yard waste rollouts are not being picked up they need to be placed on the owner's property**