

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING
August 2, 2012 6 PM
7700 Southern Avenue (Public Services Building)

MINUTES

Present

Chairman Joe Skelley
Clyde Davidson
Jimmy Davis
Urania Erskine

Steve Fleischmann
Andy Foster
Paul Mosteller
David Thorpe

Staff

Bo Mills
Joe Nunes
Leslie Throneberry

Absent: Linda Kaplan
Susan Threlkeld

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Skelley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF:

Leslie Throneberry was introduced as the new Administrative Assistant for Public Services.

MINUTES APPROVAL:

The minutes of the June meeting were approved. There was no July meeting.

STAFF REPORTS:

Joe Nunes: The City had a significant decline in the recycling volume in June. He has spoken with our collector and they are monitoring it. There has also been a decline in household waste but not great as in recycling. A comparison graph of the recycling volume from FY 10 – FY 12 was shown (see Attachment A).

MLGW holds a neighborhood leaders conference each year. This year's topic is "It's Easy Being Green". Mr. Nunes will be attending the meeting on recycling.

Bo Mills: Mr. Mills brought in the article that was in the Commercial Appeal about the Greenway. The City has opened another section of the Greenway that connects the Binghampton area of Memphis to Germantown. This was a \$108,000 project. There is also a 569' section of wooden boardwalk in this area. The "official" opening of the Greenway will be later this month. The Greenway will be extended again when the Wolf River Boulevard Extension project is completed.

In June, the City had contracted with US Geological Survey to put water monitoring apparatus in our monitoring wells. We now have live, real-time data available via the web. Each Commission member was sent an e-mail with the links to the two sites (Johnson Road and Southern Avenue). The data will include the water levels in the aquifers. The data will be given to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen in our Environmental Cabinet reports each quarter. USGS will also provide quarterly data on water quality and water quantity.

A discussion was held regarding the City's water capacity and current daily usage. Our highest day of consumption this year has been about 16 million gallons. We have a 24 million gallon capacity. Mr. Mills reported that the City will be getting water conservation information out to the residents via the *Talk of the Town* flyers in the utility bills.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Andy Foster: An article on global warming was discussed. Scientists agree that we are warming; however, the math and science used to calculate the percentage of change does not agree. Data is not being recorded accurately. The procedures used to record the data need to be resolved before political decisions are made with regard to global warming.

Urania Erskine: Questions were brought up as to whether sewer and storm water fees go into the respective revenue accounts. Mr. Mills confirmed that the fees fund the operational costs through enterprise funds but not capital improvements.

There was discussion over whether Germantown has a cap on monthly sewer fees. 21,000 gallons is our maximum on sewer consumption per billing period, which is a maximum of \$31.20.

The rain barrel project at the Farm Park was discussed as was a possible city-wide rain barrel project.

A new composting program has gone into effect in Portland, OR where people can no longer put things in the garbage or down the disposal. Europe has a similar program. The concern was brought up that a rodent problem

might develop. Mr. Mills informed the Commission that Shelby County Health Department has a Vector Control program that residents pay \$0.75 per month for on their MLGW bills. All vector issues should be directed to the Shelby County Health Department Division of Vector Control at 901-324-5922.

Clyde Davidson: Mr. Davidson recommended using Juicy Fruit gum to kill moles.

David Thorpe: We have been having ozone exceedances often lately. Memphis recently recorded the highest in its history. It was also the highest in the nation that particular day. A high pressure system that held over the area was the cause of the ozone problems. Minimizing emissions has also helped better our air quality.

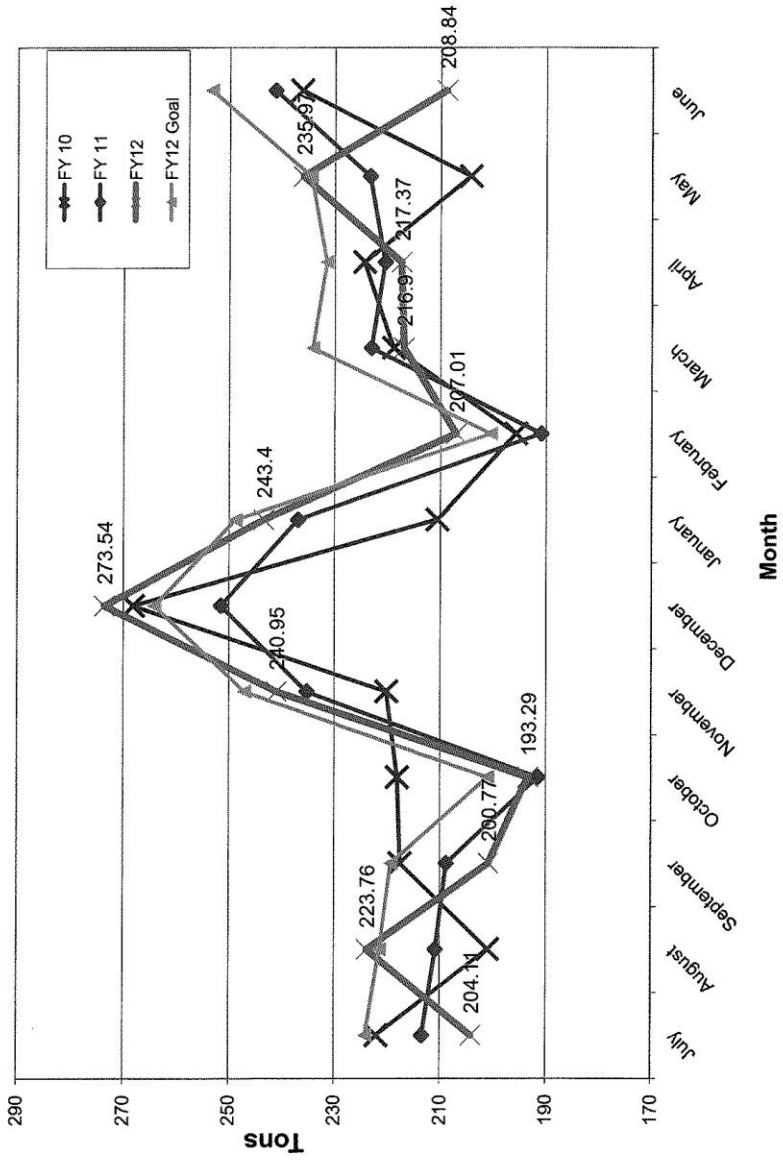
NEW BUSINESS: Amnesty Dumpster Day is September 15, 2012 and Senior Expo is November 1, 2012. Sign-up sheets were passed around for Commission members to volunteer to serve. (See Attachments B and C)

ADJOURNMENT:

The Commission adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

City of Germantown
 Neighborhood Services Division

FY 10 - FY 12 Recycle Volume Comparison



AMNESTY DUMPSTER DAY

September 15, 2012
7:30 AM - 1 PM

LOCATIONS: 1) PUBLIC WORKS 2) JOHNSON ROAD PARK

Environmental Commission Sign-up Roster

PUBLIC WORKS ON SOUTHERN	
Clyde Davidson w/ wife Margaret Jimmy Davis	

JOHNSON ROAD PARK	
URANIA ERSKINE	
ANDY FOSTER	
Joe Skellern	
STEVE FLEISCHMANN	
David Thorpe	

RESERVES	

Attachment C

SENIOR EXPO
Booth #53

Athletic
Club

NOVEMBER 1, 2012

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION SIGN-UP SHEET

9:00

URANIA ERSKINE	

10:00

Clyde Davidson	

11:00

12:00

1:00

2:00
