

City council minutes

Wednesday, November 20, 2024

**Councilman Ray** asked speaker Patricia Dunbar (com-24-247) questions related to SOBE's lack of trial burns if the trial burns are a part of the permitting process.

**Ms. Dunbar** responded that the trial burn was initially completed as part of the permitting process so that they knew what the temperatures were and the weight of incineration; all of those were permitting conditions. That is another reason why she was surprised the Ohio EPA issued a permit without a trial burn of any kind to see what the permitting conditions would be.

**Councilman Ray** asked if they do a similar burn trial annually.

**Ms. Dunbar** answered yes. after the initial conditions are set they have to annually do another test burn. for these test burns they already know what the composition is; they run them at high, minimum, and maximum conditions to see if there are errors that occur. she stated none of this has been proposed for SOBE and is interested to know why.

**Councilman Ray** inquired if the incinerators have sims equipment on them as he does not believe it was required for this SOBE. scenario.

**Ms. Dunbar** responded that is correct and she would like to know why. part of it is that the tires are not considered hazardous waste, although they have hazardous constituents and the byproducts that will be released as a result of the process are definitely the furans, acid gases, nitrogen oxide, and all of the materials that will be produced as a result of combustion in the pyrolysis process. they do not have any record of that and they have not tested it. she would like to know why, and this would be a good question to ask the State of Ohio.

**Councilwoman Davis** asked Ms. Dunbar if she is aware of this process being used in other countries particularly in africa where they are burning tires out in the open and this type of process is being utilized.

**Ms. Dunbar** answered she is not aware. However, she is also curious that there's these kinds of facilities in the United States that have been proposed. Initially there were 11 and now they are down to 9 but are not fully operating for some reason. These tests have to be completed for the protection of human health and the environment which is the OH EPA's mission statement.

**Councilwoman Turner** asked Ms. Buerk (com-24-248) if she was recommending a two-year moratorium as that is something that is happening across the state.

**Ms. Buerk** answered that a 12-month moratorium would be sufficient. the moratorium sited was renewed twice each time for 12-months. that extension is reasonable to accomplish council's goal to further research pyrolysis. if in the future a renewal is needed that case indicates that is an option.

President of council indicated that Councilman Oliver, Councilman Ray, Councilman Kelly, and Councilwoman Turner requested to be added as co-sponsors to item #2 (ord-24-437) under ordinances