

Assembly Approves New Recycling Contract

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Diana Gish/KMXT

The Kodiak Island Borough Assembly has renewed Threshold's contract to provide recycling services. The contract was approved with tremendous public support and a unanimous vote but not without controversy.

Assemblywoman Louise Stutes expressed concern that the borough's handling of the process may have excluded other potential contractors.

-- (KIB Threshold 1 :40 "...for this Borough.")

Stutes proposed that the contract vote be tabled until September 3rd in order to give companies another opportunity to place bids. That motion failed and the assembly proceeded with the discussion.

Assemblywoman Chris Lynch, who is also the president of Threshold's board, responded to criticism of the process.

-- (KIB Threshold 2 :38 "...in this process.")

The biggest share of comments last (Thursday) night came from the public during the citizen's comments portion of the meeting. Speaker after speaker, both on the phone and in person, spoke in favor of recycling and of renewing Threshold's contract.

Of over 20 speakers, the lone dissenting voice from the public came from Nick Troxell who took issue with the way the borough's "Request for Proposal" or RFP, was handled.

-- (KIB Threshold 3 :12 "...
for me I need more money.")

Apart from Troxell, a long line of callers and speakers urged the assembly to renew Threshold's contract. Lisa Polito was one of those callers:

-- (KIB Threshold 4 1:46 "...
accurately represent the scenario.")

The renewal of Threshold's contract was approved by a vote of 6 to 0. After initialing voting against the measure, Stutes changed her vote to "yes." She changed her vote in order to qualify to bring the contract back up for re-consideration at the assembly's next meeting. Stutes will need the support of at least one other assembly member in order to bring the Threshold contract back for another vote.