

**By Carolyn Lee**

***The Imperial Republican***

Imperial has a reputation in Nebraska for being a leader in recycling. That reputation has resulted in a contact by WasteCap Nebraska for more action.

City Clerk/Administrator Jo Leyland was contacted by the non-profit organization to consider the possibility of forming a group to study zero waste in the community.

“Because we’re proactive in reducing waste, WasteCap is seeing if we can put together a group to study it,” she explained.

WasteCap has a long-term goal to see communities reuse, repair or recycle all waste, therefore becoming “zero waste.”

Leyland said a group of interested persons has been contacted and will meet Sept. 30 at 12 noon at the city council chambers with representatives of WasteCap to “come up with ideas on how they view our recycling efforts and how to promote it.”

Imperial needs to encourage people to recycle more, Leyland stated. In addition, she’d like to see ideas on how people can create a materials exchange, whereby someone who needs a certain item can find someone who has that item, therefore reusing that item.

WasteCap Nebraska is a statewide organization that provides education, training and services to help businesses and communities reach their full potential through practices that support economic, environmental and societal priorities.

It serves as a resource for materials reduction, reuse and recycling in Nebraska.

WasteCap Nebraska’s mission is to partner with business leaders to implement resource conservation strategies that improve profitability, community goodwill and employee pride.

Leyland said interested persons may attend Monday’s meeting with WasteCap.