

Chairman Jim Burns called the Special Meeting of the Hinckley Township Board of Trustees to order at 6:30 p.m. on October 30, 2018. Present were Trustees Jim Burns, Becky Lutzko and Ray Schulte, Fiscal Officer Martha Catherwood, 27 residents and 1 reporter.

Mr. Burns stated the purpose of the Special Meeting was to present information regarding the Township's interest in contracting for solid waste and recycling services. Mr. Burns turned the floor over to Mr. Schulte. Mr. Schulte stated that he has talked to Montville Township about their solid waste program and that they are saving their residents money and reducing the number of waste haulers on their roads. He has asked Beth Biggins-Ramer, Coordinator of the Medina County Solid Waste District to attend to discuss the topic of establishing a Solid Waste District within Hinckley Township. He turned the floor over to Ms. Biggins-Ramer.

Ms. Biggins-Ramer provided a brief background on her work experiences and detailed the legal authority from which a township can create a Solid Waste District. She shared with the audience Medina County's efforts to comply with EPA requirements for recycling which include the Single Stream Recycling Drop-Off Program and the District's Complimentary Commercial MWP Program. She indicated that industry trends are for automated and semi-automated collection systems that utilize wheeled carts.

Ms. Biggins-Ramer cited disparate pricing by contractors, truck traffic and wear and tear on roadways and lack of reliability and continuity of service as reasons to consider the establishment of a Township Solid Waste District. She explained that ORC 505.27-505.33 provides language and authority for township has to become their own Solid Waste District, bidding out for pricing, and, if desired, granting a contract for solid waste and recycling purposes. She added that a township could undertake this individually or with other townships.

She shared lessons earned when Montville Township established their own Solid Waste District last year. Montville established three levels of service for the bid, including the contractor being responsible for billing for services. She stated that communities could create a document that defines the services best for their population. She listed a scope of services to be considered including, how many levels of service are desired; whether recycling is wanted by a resident; whether carts are owned or rented (there may be grants available to the Township to purchase carts); special consideration for individuals who may not be able to get trash/recycling to curb and individuals who have a commercial collection system. She also discussed the provision of annual Opt-Out Waivers for legitimate individuals; she informed the audience that Montville did negotiate an opt-out provision with the selected vendor.

Ms. Biggins-Ramer explained that once bids are received the Township might accept or not accept submissions. If a contractor is, accepted existing residential solid waste haulers will be notified that no other residential hauler will be permitted to operate in the Township except the hauler who has been awarded the Township contract. Residents will also be notified as to contract pricing and timeline for initiation of services.

At this time, Mr. Burns opened the floor up to the audience.

Resident Kevin Meyers (Laurel Road) asked if the rate would be fixed or would the price go up? Ms. Biggins-Ramer stated that price increases are negotiated through the contract. Montville's pricing increases slightly annually over the course of the five-year term.

Resident Rich Hartman (Mattingly Road) asked about the wear and tear on the carts and stated he has no problem with the current residential waste system. He is concerned about potential problems with the implementation and prefers to take care of his own garbage.

Resident Terry Walrath (Hinckley Hills Rd.) expressed his concern that the carts are too big to fit in his garage. He prefers to have freedom of choice, rather than have the Township notify him who their hauler is.

Ms. Lutzko stated that it is her observation that the idea is that if we go to a system the price would go down which is a benefit to people over all. Resident Jim Dolanz agreed with Ms. Lutzko's statement

Ms. Biggins-Ramer introduced Don Johnson from Kimble Waste Hauling who responded to the cart concerns. Mr. Johnson said that it is his experience that the carts last for a significant period and depending on the terms of the contract, Kimble maintains all carts.

Resident Lee Anders asked if there would be any curbside recycling restrictions. Ms. Biggins-Ramer responded that the curbside pick-up would accommodate the same materials as the single-stream containers at the town hall.

Mr. Schulte asked Mr. Johnson about the negative effects of garbage truck traffic in subdivisions. Mr. Johnson responded that over time, the weight of a garbage truck may affect concrete subdivisions, but in his experience, more damage is done on blacktop roads where the berm is affected.

Resident George Sheroke stated he feels the cans are too big, he would like them smaller. He also expressed concern for residents with long driveways, especially in the winter. Mr. Johnson replied that the larger cans are required due to the amount of residential garbage and helpful in reducing Workman's' Comp claims by utilizing automation.

Resident Bruce Schneider (Center Road) asked about a total opt-out for individuals like himself who average about one bag of garbage a month and have a 1,300-ft. driveway. He understands the need, but others may not have this need. Resident Diane Dermody (Lyonswood Dr.) shared her concern that she often is notified that the service will be delayed a day and suggested that if the company is saying they will provide service on that day, they do so.

Resident Kathy Smich stated she is pro-recycling and that her hauler just recently stopped curbside recycling pickup. She will go back to using the single-stream bins at the town hall.

Ms. Biggins-Ramer responded that the contract language could address many of these concerns.

Mr. Benson stated that there will still be two trucks, even with one hauler and asked the trustees to not forward this proposal.

Mr. Anders asked Ms. Biggins-Ramer how carts should be located on a driveway during the winter, citing a reduction in driveway width due to snow. She replied that carts should be placed about 3-ft. apart.

Resident Cindy Engleman liked the idea of curbside recycling, but she lives on Ridge Road so cans can be a challenge and bags are easier. She feels less restrictive is better. Mr. Walrath asked what a resident would should do if they are dissatisfied with the service provided by the hauler chosen by the Township. Ms. Biggins-Ramer suggested opting out or taking their concern to the Trustees.

Resident Kevin Kosik (Ridge Road) stated he has no problem with his Kimble cart on his gravel driveway and is happy with his experience.

There being nothing else from the audience, Mr. Burns made a motion to adjourn the Special Meeting at 8:38 p.m. Lutzko second. Vote: S=yes, L=yes, B=yes.

Meeting minutes approved by:

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