

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
TRASH PUBLIC HEARING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2010, 6:30 P.M.
MAYOR MATTHEW E. BRETT PRESIDING**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Binder, Dishong, Flaiz, Koons, Porter and Wolfe
OFFICIALS PRESENT: Police Chief, Street Commissioner, Solicitor Ondrey
and Fiscal Officer Romanowski
GUESTS: Jean and Marty Wynne, W Bel Meadow; Dick Baker,
Waverly; Peter Rutkowski, Sheerbrook Drive;
Jon VanWagoner, Sheerbrook Drive; Sheldon McCartney,
Old State Road; Bob McIntyre, Manorbrook; Casey Forbes,
Snyder Road; Janet Boehler, Bell Road and Mary Kay
O'Toole, Foxhall Drive

Mayor Brett called the Public Hearing to order. Mayor announced that the purpose of the Public Hearing is to get feedback from residents regarding the possibility of centralized trash.

Binder stated there was a nice response to the trash survey that was included in the last newsletter. Centralized trash seems to be a topic of interest within the Village. Binder reviewed how the process would work if, in fact, South Russell decides to follow through with a unified contract. Binder reviewed his handout and discussed the key components of centralized trash and the possible benefits.

Wolfe reported that there were over 200 responses received from the survey and gave an overview of what was learned.

Casey Forbes, Snyder Road, stated that they have used Waste Management in the past. When Waste Management abruptly stopped giving their customers the option to recycle, Mr. Forbes contacted the company. He asked if recycling trucks that travel Snyder Road to get to other communities could pick up recycling as they drive through. When Mr. Forbes was told there wasn't enough participation on Snyder Road to continue recycling, he told the company that he would be willing to contact residents on the street to get more families involved. The company was not willing to work with the residents. Mr. Forbes doesn't care which carrier is chosen, but recycling is vitally important to him. He now takes his recycling into Solon. Curbside recycling would be wonderful.

Binder responded that if South Russell negotiates a contract with a centralized carrier, his expectations would be that the company would not be able to drop a service.

Jean Winn, W Bel Meadow, feels very strongly about recycling. If curbside recycling were part of the contract, she would like to see the carrier supply larger containers for those residents who want them.

Peter Rutkowski would like to see unbundled service options so residents could pick their own services with recycling being available but not mandatory. Mr. Rutkowski would also like the bid to be competitive.

Binder stated that flexibility is an issue of importance. Wolfe said flexibility would also include residents who have special needs and require trash pick up at their door.

Janet Balor, Bell Road, was upset when trash and recyclable pick-up dates were split. Rate increases and the number of garbage trucks on the roads are also things she feels should be considered. Ms. Balor would like to see larger recycling bins made available to residents.

Bob McIntyre, Manorbrook, reported that 6-7 trucks travel Manorbrook per week. Mr. McIntyre's concerns are the condition of the trucks and the speed they travel. He stated that, with a unified hauler, vehicle standards could be established and heavy truck traffic on streets could be reduced. This would make the children safer and minimize wear and tear on Village streets.

Mr. McIntyre volunteered to help write the RFP. He said it would be important to include a statement that if the chosen hauler is sold or merges with another company, the Village would have a specific period of time to evaluate the contract and possibly raise the performance bond. Mr. McIntyre suggests hefty payment and performance bonds. The payment bond ensures that the carrier will pay state and landfill tipping fees in a timely manner. If a large company says they are self-bonded, Mr. McIntyre suggests that this be included in the RFP. McIntyre said standards should at least be set to ODOT minimums. If spot inspections aren't passed, their contract could be lost. Mr. McIntyre believes centralized trash is a terrific idea. He does believe Waste Management has taken over smaller companies, while their service continues to worsen, costs continue to rise. If price can't be negotiated below what residents are already paying, at least there is unification. Quality, safety and traffic control are just as important as price.

Binder stated that Wolfe has reviewed RFPs from other Villages. Language regarding many topics is included in these contracts. For example in one RFP, if a given driver is reported two times in a year by residents for speeding, he is banned from the Village. Stipulations are made about age and maintenance standards of equipment. Binder pointed out they would be putting together a wish list. He feels that South Russell will be able to negotiate a contract that would benefit residents.

Dick Baker, Waverly Lane, is concerned with Waste Management. Mr. Baker thinks they offer good service, but he feels they could be more cost effective. Multiple trucks travel through his neighborhood without making pick-ups. He also stated Waste Management does not offer residents smaller containers.

Binder asked if anyone present felt strongly against centralized trash removal. There was no response. Wolfe commented that no one was opposed to centralized trash based upon the survey results.

Flaiz sees a potential problem with one large provider that would probably be chosen by most residents in the Village. There is a pretty substantial minority who have had problems with that company in the past due to service issues and have since switched to another provider. The minority would most likely prefer freedom of choice than be forced to return to that large provider. Flaiz feels, however, the majority of people probably don't even think about it.

Dishong asked if there is an opt-out provision. Binder stated that they are discussing an all-in approach or making it cost prohibitive for another hauler to come into the Village. Wolfe stated that an opt-out provision would defeat the purpose.

Solicitor Ondrey stated that Chardon considered centralized trash, but they have rejected the idea for now. Residents did not want their freedom of choice taken away.

Flaiz stated that he attended the Public Hearing in regards to centralized trash in Russell Township. A fairly large group of people attended who were very upset with one specific trash hauler. They felt that due to the company's size, it would probably come in with the lowest bid.

Binder pointed out that cost is not the only issue in choosing the trash hauler. Getting a company that is responsive and responsible is just as important.

Flaiz stated that if performance standards were enforced and the company was held accountable, large companies might also have a high standard of performance.

Bob McIntyre said he believes the key issues for South Russell are safety, service and performance. Since the Village is not procuring a service with Village funds, but are granting a franchise, the contract doesn't have to be awarded to the lowest bidder. He feels a list should be developed of services the Village would like included in the offer and see who responds.

Jean Winn asked if Trash Day would be eliminated if South Russell implements centralized trash. She stated she relies heavily on the Village's Trash Day to dispose of bigger items. Binder stated that Trash Day is very important to the residents. They might be able to have the hauler be the service provider for Trash Day, but he doesn't see the service being eliminated.

Casey Forbes asked if the Village currently regulates providers that pick up trash within the Village. There are at least five service providers in South Russell and none of them are regulated by the Village.

Porter asked if any neighborhoods have contracts with an individual hauler. Some developments have an arrangement with a particular hauler. Mary Kay O'Toole, Foxhall Drive, stated that 95% of Kensington uses Waste Management. Residents in their

neighborhood get a price break, there are no additional charges and they have recycling and trash pick-up on the same day.

Mayor said the Village hopes that, as a group, residents will have more power and be able to negotiate more than an individual homeowner would. Mayor thanked everyone for attending and for stating their desires and wishes in regards to this issue.

Mayor adjourned the Public Hearing.

Matthew E. Brett, Mayor

Danielle Romanowski, Fiscal Officer

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c:My Docs/Word Docs/Minutes