

RUSSELL TOWN HALL

August 26, 2009

Chairman Jim Dickinson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Trustees Jim Mueller and Kristina Port were present.

This was a special workshop meeting called for the purpose of discussing a single waste-hauler program, and curbside recycling. This meeting was properly sunshined and reading of minutes and other formalities were dispensed with until the next regular meeting.

Mr. Dickinson introduced Munson Township Trustee Todd Ray and Dave Lelko, Chardon City Manager. Also in attendance were Mr. Villers, Director of the Geauga-Trumbull Waste Management District and representatives from waste haulers: Waste Management, Landmark and Universal Disposal.

Mr. Dickinson explained that this meeting was being held to present the idea of an exclusive franchise to a single waste hauler for Russell Township. This franchise would be for residential users and not commercial users. The Township is granted the right to have a single waste hauler by state statutes. The Township can prevent other residential waste haulers from coming into the Township if there were a single waste hauler franchise.

Mr. Dickinson made a presentation in which he said the Township is considering a single waster hauler because of a savings in cost, more and better level of service, possible increase in recycling and lower wear on the roads. The following questions were also discussed: How will the residents realize a cost savings, How the residents of other communities experience savings, What levels of services might be available, What is "Bag Service", How is safety enhanced, How can the township save money, How can aesthetics be improved, What if you are not happy with the service, Will the recycling center be kept, and other issues which included questions such as will back yard pick-up be available, will there be a discount for senior citizens, and will haulers offer additional services such as brush hauling, removal of construction debris and the duration of the contract. Mr. Dickinson urged residents to let the Trustees know what they think.

Mr. Mueller said that curbside recycling would increase recycling. Statistics show an increase of 12%. Mr. Mueller discussed savings and elimination of the need to travel to the recycling center, which would be a cost savings to residents, and the lowering of carbon dioxide emissions.

Mr. Villers commented that research shows this type of program shows many positives with the only negative being it takes individual choice away.

Mr. Winston asked if the state statutes also included recycling service. Mr. Dickinson re-read the state statute and felt recycling was allowed.

One resident felt that individual service allowed for the best price and service.

A suggestion was made to allow more recycling centers around

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the township.

A resident compared lack of service from the cable company; would the waste hauler service have the same problems. He wanted to be able to make an individual choice.

A waste hauler representative suggested that the Township have input from the haulers on the contract. He said the cheapest recycling was at drop-off centers, but curbside service increases the recycling and backyard pick-up is a challenge for the haulers.

The Universal Disposal representative said they do not have curbside recycling.

Yard waste was discussed and it was noted that this is a third type of recycling.

Mr. Butters reminded everyone that the original object was to get some of the heavy trucks off the Township roads and this should be the focus.

A resident asked if there were any statistics to show that heavy trucks damage the roads. Mr. Mueller assured her that there were many statistics to show that heavy trucks do damage the roads.

Mr. Dickinson said this proposal is a work in progress and residents should contact the Trustees with their opinions.

Upon the motion of Mr. Mueller and seconded by Ms. Port the meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Dickinson, Chairman

Gerri Heck,  
Fiscal Officer