

**ROSCOMMON TOWNSHIP
SOLID WASTE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
8555 KNAPP ROAD, HOUGHTON LAKE, MI 48629**

July 2, 2019

6:06 p.m.

Public Hearing was called to order by Diane Randall, Roscommon Township Supervisor at 6:06 p.m.

Present: Randall, DuPuis, Hose, Christian, and Milburn

Others present: See attached Sign-In Sheet

Supervisor Randall thanked everyone for attending. She stated the Public Notice was mailed by first-class mail on June 21, 2019, and that notice was published twice in the Houghton Lake Resorter. She advised there was correspondence from property owners that were not able to attend the Public Hearing, and advised the board will answer the questions the best they can until Republic Services representative arrived at the Public Hearing. Supervisor Randall discussed the reasons for the change in the Solid Waste Special Assessment and explained Republic Services contract was signed in 2018 for the five years and has gone up three percent each year. She advised that currently the residents have the recycling services and composting available at the Compost Center and the recycling service at the Township Hall during the winter months. She further advised there has been changes to State of Michigan testing requirements and permits this last year regarding the Compost Center. She provided the Solid Waste Special Assessment was set in 2008 at \$110.00.

At 6:11 p.m., Supervisor Randall opened the hearing for public comment for the Solid Waste Special Assessment:

AJ Vargas (393 Goldenrod) stated she liked the Compost being on Towerhill and was in favor of Option 1.

Norman Middleton (133 Questview Dr.) asked about the cost and increase from the \$110.00 to the new price of \$140.00.

Bill Miller (416 Goldenrod) questioned about the curbside pick-up and if large item pick-up will remain the same.

James Stewart (6518 W Houghton Lake Dr) stated his concern with his beach debris and recycling sitting out and blowing around with the weekender's residence.

Carol Steward (65189 W Houghton Lake Dr) asked if she has three blue bins then she will get charged \$140.00 times 3. Supervisor Stated that was correct.

Pat McCormick (149 Pepperell) questioned if all three choices were for the same company and asked if it was necessary to vote on the cheapest one, and stated she did not want the Compost Center closed.

Jerry Zepka (5922 W Houghton Lake Dr) asked if there will be another bin for curbside recycling and compost, also stated that it will be hard to keep the piles of seaweeds on the side of the road instead of brining truck loads to the Compost. He does not want the Compost Center closed but was in favor for the curbside Recycling.

Bob Philo (6006 W Houghton Lake Dr) asked how many Compost Center Permits were issued in 2019 to date; Supervisor Randall stated there has been 527 resident Stickers, 16 non-resident stickers and 2 lawn care stickers. He asked why this wasn't put onto a ballot to have residents to vote on in the August or November Election; Supervisor Randall stated the board is utilizing Public Act 188 of 1954 which was utilized from the

very beginning, also that not everyone gets charged for the utilization the Solid Waste if they have vacant land or a renter so having it on a ballot would be quite difficult. Philo asked if the bin at the Township Hall will be done away with, extra bins for the recycling, how will composting be done if the Towerhill location gets closed; Clerk Milburn stated there will be stickers given to designate with recycle and compost bins. Bob Philo's wife gave him her time to speak. What kind of criteria will the board use to make a decision? Supervisor Randall stated that her as a board member will use letters from the residents as well as what the public have to say at the Hearing. He also stated he goes to the Compost on frequent bases with seaweed, junk and dead fish he gets out of the lake and he doesn't know what he will do with the composting if the board closes the Compost Center.

Robert Scheick (10650 Sparrow Rd) likes the system the way it is and goes every two weeks to the recycle center. He suggested for the unmanned recycle bin in the winter to close the gate every night before we leave, unless it has to be open on a Saturday which people are lazy and throw their garbage in the bin. Would like additional material to take to the recycling or compost. Concerns with private road trash pick-up, and aske if it is a separate truck that would come and pick up the recycle and compost.

Anonymous resident thanked board for doing the Public Hearing. She would like to keep the trash pick-up just the way it is, and wouldn't like the curbside recycling and asked how the recycling is split once the truck takes it. She is going to Option 1 and asked about the Hazardous Waste.

Jerry Devisscher and Meg Rourke (Owners of Shenanigan's Pub and have two homes in Roscommon Township) wanted to look at the big picture with the Sewer Authority raising their prices from \$66.00 to \$75.00 per unit. Meg gave Jerry her minute. Stated with the Sewer Authority raising rates and the Solid Waste going up for the township, will everyone be able to afford that? Most of the people here are retired, and they like the way the things are. Asked when this would take effect, which Supervisor Randall stated it would be on the winter Tax Bill.

Linda Stevens (143 Questview) asked with Option 3 if the bags can be with any manufacture or if they have to be bought through Republic? Supervisor stated any manufacturer. Will there be a limit on number of bags allowed to be placed out; Supervisor stated no. Concern with weekender's having the bins out when they are not here. She would like to go with Option 1.

Dale Kortman (6619 Dovetail Ln) Concern with not getting picked up at all being on a private road.

Anonymous resident asked if the same recycle bins would be used from six years ago. Supervisor stated they would be similar but probably not the same.

James Eckert (106 Broadway) Prefer Option 1 since he lives on the lake and has seaweed to takes to the Compost Center.

Margret Senak (1084 Blackhawk) Prefers Option 1, she uses the compost a lot and liked the idea of closing the gate at night.

Frank Fowler (129 Questview) Likes Option 1, says if it isn't broke why fix it? Would like to leave everything the way it is including the money.

Carol Meyer (104 Questview) Would like Option 1 and included she would like more education on recycling.

Robert Mcgee (West Emery) Voted for Option 1.

Bill Kumpula (108 Hall Ave) asked what to do with branches larger than 2-inch diameter. Clerk mentioned Republic stated the larger stuff could go in your blue garbage bin if its larger than 2 inches.

Dennis Duford (5392 W Houghton Lake Dr) lives on the lake and takes debris out of lake, and says compost starts to marinate immediately and choses Option 1.

Gloria Burns (134 Marquette) Vote for Option 2. She stated she has more recyclables than garbage.

Doug Reed (110 Hubbard) he would like Option 2. He is concerned with people throwing away too much recycling items. He also asked if it is a cost to have the compost monitored; Supervisor stated it would cost the township to provide instruments.

Gail Haenlein (7122 W Nestle) she would like Option 1, maybe half the price due to people on limited income. She stated to put a camera at the recycle bin during winter months with it is at the township.

Ted Varisck (121 Hall Ave) Prefers Option 2 and asked if the recycle would be picked up every other week for twelve months? Supervisor stated for twelve months.

Robert Bonacorsi (114 Oak Marr) is in favor of Option 2, he does a lot of recycling in the county and also donates his time for the Hazardous Waste.

Doug Pavlovich (503 Nicolet Tr) favors Option 1, asked if the Compost could be open less hours but all year long and if the recycle bin at the township be put behind a gate and have hours people can use it.

Beth Toomey (1291 Loxley) stated curbside recycling is a nightmare from living in the city and asked if there will be bins for each different kind of recycling? She took her husbands time as well. She asked if Republic could do Hazardous Waste instead of the county.

Karen Philo (6006 W Houghton Lake Dr) stated it's already hard enough to ride her bike down the bike bath that if there are more bins out by the road it will be harder to utilize the bike path.

Supervisor stated from correspondence received via mail there was 27 in favor of Option 1; 5 that wanted Option 2 and 17 that would prefer Option 3, with some that don't want any change at all with anything. Supervisor stated that the board will pass a Resolution to decide which option to choose, then letters will be sent out again regarding Assessment and benefits received. There will be another public hearing with letters sent out. She then asked by raise of hands how many people would like Option 1 which majority of the hands went up in favor of the Option 1, a few people raised their hands for Option 2 and two people raised their hands for Option 3.

Supervisor thanked everyone for coming and closed the hearing at 7:06 p.m. and asked for people to stay for our regular Township Board meeting which would follow.

