

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

September 10, 2019

6:03 p.m.

Public Hearing was called to order by Diane Randall, Roscommon Township Supervisor at 6:03 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 August 23, 2019, and that notice was published twice in the Houghton Lake Resorter. Supervisor Randall reviewed some history regarding the Solid Waste Special Assessment stating, in 1997 the Recycling/Compost Center on Tower Hill was called the Transfer Station, and that property owners paid a millage, so commercial and vacant land property owners also paid for the Solid Waste. She also mentioned in 1998 the Township contracted with City Environmental, which was later bought out by Waste Management. The Solid Waste Special Assessment was then initiated of Public Act 188 of 1954, at that time the Solid Waste Special Assessment was \$71.00, then was raised to \$101.00 ten years later. The last assessment on the 2018 winter Tax Bill was \$111.10. She specified the Solid Waste Special Assessment pays for curbside pickup, recycling and composting (which include costs from the State of Michigan), employee and equipment costs, liability and workers compensation, and Household Hazardous Waste. The Township Board obtained quotes from Republic Services to include curbside recycling and composting. Under the Public Act 188 of 1954, the Board notified over 2,700 residents within the Special Assessment District of the options that were available. At the July 2, 2019, Public Hearing, the majority wished to keep the curbside solid waste pick-up and the recycle and compost center operation remained open with the cost of \$140.00 per unit. She also stated compost/recycle permits are available to residents as part of the Assessment. Non-residents pay a fee. She indicated this hearing was to ensure the units being assessed is accurate.

At 6:09 p.m., Supervisor Randall opened the hearing for public comment:

Beth Toomey (1291 S Loxley) asked how the Board can provide an informed decision if no one can answer our questions with no Republic representative present at the hearing. She also asked about savings between the 65 gallon and 90 gallon bins.

Ann McClain (2791 S River Rd) asked with raising the Assessment if they would get her neighbors money who puts garbage in her bin. She also questioned in 2023 if there would be curbside or try to go with a different company.

Mr. Talbert (126 Dodge) questioned how much money goes back to the township with the money that is collected, and asked about the new charge of \$140.00 per resident. He also asked what would happen when Whitmer raises the fuel taxes .45 cents, and if the charge goes on the summer or winter taxes.

Anonymous resident asked about the residents that go south for the winter, and if Republic still gets paid for the houses where they don't pick up trash, and possibly having a pass for the people who leave for the winter to not pay for the service.


Jim Day (5122 W Houghton Lake Dr) stated he is a seasonal resident and only has about 10 bags of trash per summer. He also stated downstate if there is an unoccupied dwelling you can send Waste Management a waiver that eliminates that billing for that residence during that time it is unoccupied. He also stated being seasonal residents they pay more for school taxes.


Lorna West (323 S Nellsville Rd) stated she is grateful for the garbage pick-up.

Inez Brooks (2215 Heightsview) asked why the assessment is on the winter taxes with the school tax being on here. She asked if it could be divided between the summer and winter taxes.

There were other questions regarding winter recycling with a suggestion of having the recycling available twice a month. Hazardous Waste Day was mentioned and resident asked if there would be a rebate if Republic decides to pick up hazardous waste curbside or if Hazardous Waste Day doesn't happen anymore. Another resident asked if everyone pays the \$140.00 no matter how big their lot is or how many acres they have, also if commercial properties pay the same amount of the \$140.00. There was an inquiry what residents who have more than one garbage bin pay, and if any resident had the option to opt out of the trash pick-up.

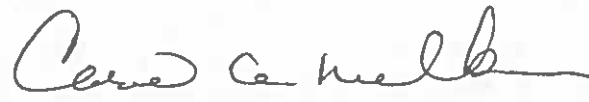
Supervisor thanked everyone for coming and closed the hearing at 6:51 p.m., asked for people to stay for the regular Township Board meeting which would start at 7:00 p.m. She also offered to look up anyone and what they were being charged for the Solid Waste Special Assessment.


Diane F. Randall, Supervisor


Carie A. Milburn, Clerk

CERTIFICATE

I, Carie A. Milburn, the duly elected and acting clerk of the Township hereby certify that the foregoing constitutes a true copy of an excerpt of the minutes of a public hearing of the Roscommon Township Board, Roscommon County, Michigan, held on September 10, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at which meeting all board members were present as indicated in the minutes and the public was given an opportunity to express their opinions; that said meeting was held in accordance with the Open Meetings Act of the State of Michigan, and the foregoing excerpt contains all material pertinent to the Solid Waste Special Assessment District Public Hearing.


Carie A. Milburn
Roscommon Township Clerk