

**APPROVED MINUTES - SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF OAK PARK  
HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2011 AT 6:30 P.M.  
IN ROOM 101 OF OAK PARK VILLAGE HALL**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

President Pope called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Trustees Brewer, Hedges, Johnson, Lueck, Salzman and Tucker; President Pope  
ABSENT: None

Village Manager Tom Barwin noted that there was an adjustment to the contract for Item B on the Consent Agenda.

**III. REGULAR AGENDA**

**IV. DISCUSSION OF THE CURRENT SOLID WASTE CONTRACT**

Mr. Barwin gave a brief history of Oak Park's solid waste collection process. The Village's current contract with Waste Management expires December 31, 2011. Last fall during budget sessions, staff was asked to negotiate a possible extension of this contract. Director of Public Works John Wielebnicki and Environmental Services Manager Karen Rozmus would present the results of these discussions

Mr. Wielebnicki stated that the Village has been under contract with Waste Management since 1998 and has enjoyed a good relationship with them. He noted that the results from the last community survey indicated that 81% of residents rated their services as excellent or good. The discussion this evening would be to decide whether to move forward with preparing documents to enter into another contract with them or put this work out for bid.

Mr. Wielebnicki referred to the proposal distributed to the Board, specifically noting the attachments regarding rate history of the contract, resident rates and rate history, comparison of rates from various other communities and contract cost comparisons of other municipalities who also participate in the Regional Disposal Project.

He added that it is the recommendation of staff to accept this proposal as negotiated. The contract includes refuse collection, recycling collection, equipment fee (supply and maintenance of carts) and a once-yearly leaf collection fee, among other things. The tipping, or disposal, fee is paid through the Regional Disposal Project and is not part of the Waste Management contract.

Mr. Wielebnicki noted that the contract cost has increased an average of 3.5% each year over 14 years, including the current proposed increase. He added that he is unfamiliar with

the market but has heard that rates have risen fairly high. Waste Management considers Oak Park a valuable customer and this contract will allow them to just break even.

Mr. Barwin clarified that the terms include a 3.5% increase in the first year; years two through five will include a CPI adjustment with a floor of 2.5% per year, not to exceed 4%.

Mr. Wielebnicki added that during negotiations, a potential pilot program for food waste was proposed, which involves composting of food scraps and would include an additional cart for collection of these scraps along with yard waste.

Trustee Johnson referred to the notation regarding rate history in other communities, indicating that those that went out to bid experienced a 24% to 30% increase. He asked if that was over the life of the contract or a yearly increase. Mr. Wielebnicki explained that those large increases occurred in the first year; additional yearly increases were based on the CPI.

Trustee Johnson asked about the 10 solar powered compactors being placed in the Village that was referred to in the proposal.

Jim Karls of Waste Management explained that they are the size of a 30-gallon basket but will hold 150-180 gallons of compacted trash. They do not need to be in direct sunlight to operate. Ms. Rozmus added that they will be located in business districts and high-traffic areas where the current refuse cart is serviced six times a week. Service could be reduced to once per week, resulting in an annual savings of \$6,000, or \$600 per unit.

Trustee Lueck asked about battery and light bulb recycling. Ms. Rozmus explained that Waste Management's Think Green from Home Program supplies mail-in containers for residents to recycle these types of items. There is also a program to provide at-your-door hazardous waste collection for residents.

Trustee Hedges expressed concern that this contract has not been bid out for 14 years.

Trustee Brewer noted that the Village should look at other bids to ensure they are being fiscally responsible.

Mr. Wielebnicki stated that should the Board decide to go out to bid, this proposal would become void. He expressed concern that another contractor might not provide the same quality of service and additional features. Waste Management would be free to bid, but rates would be higher than currently being proposed, due to escalating fuel costs which would be factored into a new bid.

Mark Dykema, District Manager at Waste Management, discussed fuel costs and noted that his company has been losing money on this contract for the last couple of years but values their relationship with Oak Park. He noted that some of the sustainability initiatives discussed this evening could not be initiated in other communities, as Oak Park is a leader in environmental stewardship.

President Pope commented that it is difficult to get a true cost comparison with other communities, as Oak Park's waste disposal program is different than most of the others, especially with the fall leaf program.

Trustee Salzman asked why the Village did not go out to bid for this large contract.

Mr. Barwin stated that the Village has been pleased with this contractor and is getting fair pricing compared with other communities. The level of service and relationship with Waste Management and their knowledge of the community were also factors. When going out to bid, costs could be higher than the current offer and staff are pleased with service levels and contract features.

Trustee Johnson agreed with staff's recommendation. He believed that the Village would have higher costs than what was negotiated with Waste Management and lose the other high-value items, such as the 10 solar powered compactors valued at \$50,000. That would significantly add to the costs if they were included as add-ons to an RFP.

President Pope asked Mr. Dykema if it was possible to remove the floor increase of 2.5%. Mr. Dykema said that he would get back to Mr. Wielebnicki or Ms. Rozmus with this information.

Trustee Hedges asked if it was possible, for comparison, to approach the quality contractors and ask them for prices. Mr. Wielebnicki replied that the appropriate way to do that would be to go out to bid.

Trustee Johnson spoke about the Waste Watch program that was part of the contract. WM drivers go through a training program with the Oak Park Police Department and learn how to identify and report questionable situations on their routes.

- A. It was moved and seconded to approve **A Motion to Direct Staff to Prepare the Necessary Documents for a Contract for Solid Waste Services** with Waste Management in the manner as presented by staff with the exception of eliminating the floor on the CPI increase.

The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: Trustees Brewer, Johnson, Lueck, Salzman and Tucker; President Pope

NAYS: Trustee Hedges

ABSENT: None

The motion was approved.

## **V. CONSENT AGENDA**

- B. Resolution 2011-R-66 entitled **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH THE SELECTED ARTIST AND AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AN EASEMENT FOR PUBLIC ART**

### **APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded to approve the item under the Consent Agenda.

The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: Trustees Brewer, Hedges, Johnson, Lueck, Salzman and Tucker; President Pope

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The Consent Agenda was approved.

#### **VI. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

In compliance with the Open Meetings Act, it was moved and seconded to adjourn to Executive Session for discussion of setting the price for the sale of property and for litigation.

The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: Trustees Brewer, Hedges, Johnson, Lueck, Salzman and Tucker; President

Pope

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The Consent Agenda was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 P.M. Monday, June 13, 2011.

#### **SUBMITTED AND RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF:**

By: MaryAnn Schoenneman  
Interim Deputy Village Clerk

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Teresa Powell, Village Clerk