

**DOVER TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
WORK SESSION MINUTES
OCTOBER 24, 2016**

The Dover Township Board of Supervisors Work Session for Monday, October 24, 2016, was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairperson Matthew Menges in the Meeting Room of the Dover Township Municipal Building. Supervisors present were Matthew Menges, Charles Richards, Robert Stone, Stephen Parthree and Stephen Stefanowicz. Other Township Representatives in attendance were Laurel Oswalt, Township Manager; Michael Fleming, Township Public Works Director, Charles Rausch; Township Solicitor and Tiffany Strine, Township Secretary. There were no members of the public present. This meeting is being recorded for the purpose of minutes only.

This work session is being held for the purposes of discussing the Dover Township Trash Contract for 2017.

Manager Oswalt informed the Board that the current Township trash contract will end on July 1st, 2017. A completed proposal for a new contract respectively needs to be in place and Pre-bid conference held in February 2017. Following this process will be the advertising of the bid, bid opening and bid awarding, all of which are planned to commence by the end of March 2017.

The Board discussed various issues with the current Township trash contract that must be determined prior to the bidding and issuance of the next Township trash contract. Discussions regarding the determination of making trash collection mandatory or not mandatory for residential customers was of large stance with all of the Board members.

Chair Menges stated that he feels as though trash collection should not be mandatory and that he would like to see the option for residents to opt in or to opt out. Chair Menges added that this contract should be maintained with one provider or hauler and that he would like to see provisions maintaining that residents whom opt out must legally dispose of their trash.

S. Parthree, C. Richards and R. Stone stated that they would like to see the non-mandated approach of trash collection for the Township.

R. Stone remained affirmative to instilling the key factor that the Township remain free of unwanted trash and clutter and that trash be disposed of appropriately and accordingly. R. Stone questioned the concern of wear and tear to the roadways from residents. C. Rausch is going to further research the aspect of a non-mandatory trash collection service and the Township option of delineating the trash collector or hauler.

Manager Oswalt stated that the trash contract was made mandatory due to the limiting of trash provider and haulers allowed to be on the roadways thus furthering the wear and tear on Township roadways. Mandating trash collection also aids in the provider and haulers estimate of residents contracted within the Township. This helps to create better contracted rates due to better monitoring practices.

C. Richards inquired as to the possibility of instituting the mandating of various zones to participate in trash collection. This would give the option to not participate in such zones as agricultural.

Attorney Rausch informed the Board that under the Pennsylvania Solid Waste Management Act, the Township is responsible to make sure that all the trash is adequately disposed of within the Township. The Pennsylvania Solid Waste Management Act instills the legitimate use and obligation of the Township to dispose of trash at the municipal level.

S. Parthree would like to see the option or exemption for elderly relatives and residents with minuscule amounts of trash have a lessened burden to dispose of their trash either with the option to partake in collection altogether or utilize a lessened financial exemption.

Manager Oswald stated that the Township is a mandated municipality for recycling. The costs for recycling are currently included with the current trash contract and fees. Manager Oswald questioned as to the conflicting ideas of mandating recycling but not trash collection.

The current Township trash collection contract includes the following fees:

- A four (4) bag option equaling \$171.60 per year.
- A per bag option equaling \$4.00 per bag.
- An optional service offering for the rental of a Tote for service equaling \$7.80 per year.

The current Township trash contract maintains unlimited recycling, one (1) large item pick-up per week and Christmas Tree Pick-Up.

The Board discussed the ideas of possible exemptions to a mandatory trash collection contract. Trash collection for vacant homes and elderly relatives with smaller amounts of trash were taken into consideration. Trash collection exemptions for snow birds; also known as people who move from the higher latitudes and colder climates and migrate southward in winter to warmer local places, were taken into consideration seeing as their trash collection could also greatly vary. An option to consider offering to these residents, that fall into this category, a free-quarter as an exemption was discussed.

The possibility of including brush and leaf collection with the bidding of a new trash contract was discussed. The Board unanimously decided to retain these services within the Township as they currently stand. It was discussed; that in the upcoming year, the Township implement brush collection zones for efficiency of service.

The maximum length allowed for a Township trash collection contract is five (5) years with the availability of a one (1) year extension.

Chair Menges affirmed that the Township must remain mindful during the drafting of the Township trash collection bidding documents and overall costs to the residents in determining the best bid and the refinement of the choice to one option.

Board consensus was reached and it was determined that C. Rausch pursue further research of non-mandatory contractual options for Township trash collection services.

The work session was adjourned at 7:00PM.

Respectfully submitted by: _____

Tiffany Strine, Recording Secretary