

Village of Camillus  
Special Meeting  
June 25, 2012

Present: Mayor Patricia J. Butler  
Trustee James Palumbo (absent)  
Trustee Ann Eckert  
Trustee Timothy Stapleton  
Trustee Bridget Yule (absent)

Attorney: Robert J. Allan  
  
  
  
8 people in attendance

Mayor Butler opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. by leading the "Pledge of Allegiance". Mayor Butler stated that at the last meeting on June 18, 2012 there was a Public Hearing that was tabled. This Special Meeting is a continuation of the Public Hearing regarding a resolution to impose fees for solid waste collection and/or disposal and to require large commercial users to provide for private solid waste collection and/or disposal.

Attorney Allan stated he modified the resolution that he had offered for June 18, 2012. This resolution had what essentially was the same fee schedule that was recommended by the prior Board. The plan was to charge everyone for trash pick up except single family homes or the first unit in a two family or greater rental homes. The Board was expecting that this would generate \$39,000. He got an impression from the members of the public and some members of the Board that the Village no longer wanted to pick up commercial properties. He stated that this is a fairly substantial change in policy which is why he recommended a Special Meeting. He revised the resolution to read that the Village DPW will no longer pick up trash from restaurants, funeral homes, gas stations and other large commercial properties and they would have to get their own trash hauler. He stated the Board needs to pass a local law that allows it to add the unpaid fees (once you have adopted the fee schedule) to the Village tax bill. He amended this resolution so you can bill starting August 1. By doing this you will be billing people in August and September. If the bills are not paid by November you may add it to their tax bill in January 2013.

Attorney Allan stated you have two issues. (1) Do you want to get out of the commercial trash hauling? (2) To come up with the fee schedule that is fair to charge people?

Attorney Allan stated that Mayor Butler has contacted other villages. Mayor Butler stated she contacted Villages with similar populations. Minoa has dumpsters that they pickup, it is done by private haulers. They have two apartment complexes that also use private haulers. Elbridge and Jordan have their trash and recyclables picked up by private haulers. Solvay is still hauling trash and they do 95% of small businesses. As of August 1 this is changing and they will be having a private hauler. The Village of Mexico contracts out. Liverpool uses a sticker system. Manlius does collect trash for private residences but multi-units of four or greater and commercial businesses use a sticker system.

Attorney Allan stated to fill the budget gap is to increase the \$120 per unit for two family, three family, small offices and small store fronts.

Mr. Leland Vogelsang stated if you do charge the commercial business, especially restaurants,

\$350 would equal one fourth below the amount you should charge. He stated that when he owned a restaurant ten years ago he paid over \$800 for trash pickup. Now he has a three family with three people and you are going to charge him \$360 when you are charging a restaurant \$350 which is \$10 less. A restaurant would generate a lot more trash. It would seem fairer if you charge restaurants \$1,200 per year. Trustee Stapleton stated this administration is taking its fee schedule from the prior administration and is unsure where the numbers were generated from.

Mr. Vogelsang stated that maybe you should charge by the amount of trash. Mayor Butler stated that she understands the sticker method works. Trustee Eckert stated how does this work as trash bags come in all different sizes. Trustee Eckert stated that the money we don't collect will be offset by the reduction in tipping fees.

Ms. Helen Kiggins asked why the Village doesn't get out of the trash pickup all together. Mayor Butler stated that our residents value the current trash collection system and they expect the same level of service that they have now.

Ms. Kiggins asked how many days the DPW picks up trash? How long do they work picking up trash? What do they do five days a week? How much do we pay for the worker's benefits? It appears that they pick up trash three days a week. Mayor Butler stated they pick up trash Monday and Tuesday mornings and recyclable on Wednesday. When the packer is full they bring it to the dump. They perform other tasks in the afternoon. They have to time their runs to the dump with OCRRA's hours of operation. Mayor Butler stated they pick up furniture, recycling, brush, trash and construction and demolition debris. Not all items go OCRRA; construction and demolition go to the Town Landfill, furniture goes to Ley Creek, and brush goes to the Town Highway barn for composting or shredding. Attorney Allan stated it sounds like Fehr does not pick up items that the Village DPW picks up. Trustee Stapleton stated that is true, private trash haulers will not pick up everything the Camillus DPW picks up.

Ms. Belle Brown asked if the DPW picks up medical waste. Mayor Butler stated no the Village DPW does not pick up medical waste.

The Clerk stated that she went through the assessment roll and calculated if we send the bills out using the formula of charging \$120 for a two family if owner occupied or \$240 if not owner occupied and the amounts in the old resolution for commercial the Village could come up to \$37,330. This did not count Connelly Acres, Villager Apartment, McNamara's Pub and Crabby Kirk's recycling because we know that the Village DPW does not pick up for these.

Trustee Eckert stated that the way we want to charge is to give all multi unit property the first unit not be charged even if the owner does not live in the property. The Clerk stated she figures the \$37,330 estimated a little differently. This would reduce this amount.

Ms Kiggins stated that this schedule of fees is way off for commercial properties.

Trustee Eckert stated that gas stations should get their own trash haulers because of their oil wastes.

Trustee Stapleton stated if we charge the commercial properties more this may make up for the

shortfall in the budget. Otherwise we will get out of the commercial trash collection and find a way to make the budget work.

Attorney Allan stated he remembers that people were saying the Village should not pick up gas stations and restaurants. If this is the case then raise the rates on everyone else.

Mr. Robert Schultz stated that on Onondaga Hill Waste Management charged him \$90 per quarter. The neighbors got together and used one hauler. That way you don't have five haulers coming into your neighborhood.

Mayor Butler stated that our DPW serves more than just picking up trash. We have aging residents and our workers are more alert than an independent trash hauler would be. They notice if there is a change and they would check on the residents. This is part of being a community.

Mr. Schultz stated it is still the Board's responsibility to collect this \$39,000. Mayor Butler stated that this Board inherited this situation and they are trying to resolve it.

Attorney Alan stated that the fees to be charged are set by resolution and does not have to be done tonight. You should probably try to find out how much restaurants and gas stations pay. You have to decide if you want to continue to pick up restaurants, gas stations and commercial properties. Trustee Stapleton recommended if you can make money leave them in the collection. One way to do this is leave them in at a high rate and give them the option to get out. Attorney Allan stated you have to make a decision because you are running out of time. You do need to pass the Local Law that allows you to add the unpaid on the tax bill hopefully in early August.

Ms. Belle Brown stated the Camillus Fire Station should also pay for trash collection.

Upon motion of Mayor Butler, seconded by Trustee Stapleton and unanimously approved the Board moved to close the Public portion of this Public Hearing 7:58 p.m.

A resolution was made by Mayor Butler to adopt proposed Local Law #1 – 2012. There was no seconded.

Upon motion of Mayor Butler, seconded by Trustee Eckert and unanimously approved the Board moved to schedule a Public Hearing on July 16, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. for a proposed Local Law to provide that unpaid fees and charged for municipal solid waste collection shall be included with the annual tax levy pursuant to General Municipal Law Section §120-C.

Mayor Butler stated that she would like to set up an ad hoc committee to work on getting prices from private haulers for commercial properties. Mayor Butler appointed Helen Walsh, Michael Walsh, Sue Hines and Trustee Bridget Yule to this committee.

Upon motion of Trustee Stapleton, seconded by Trustee Eckert and unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Sharon Norcross  
Village Clerk/Treasurer