



Transcript of the Plumsted Municipal Utilities Authority

PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER 2024 SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING RATES
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2023 AT 6:30PM

Commissioners and Staff Present

Mr. Steven Grosso
Mr. Michael Ruppel

Mrs. Beth Kimmick
Chairman Brian Kubiel

Mr. Brian Brach, PE, QPA (Interim Executive Director)

Mrs. Kelsey McGuckin-Anthony, Attorney, (Dasti,
Murphy & McGuckin)

Mrs. Cynthia MacReynolds (Recording Secretary)

Commissioners Absent

None

Exhibits

Exhibit No. 1: Affidavit Certifying to Publication of the Hearing Notice in the Asbury Park Press
(Published October 30, 2023)

Exhibit No. 2: Affidavit Certifying to Publication of the Hearing Notice in the Trenton Times
(Published October 30, 2023)

Exhibit No. 3: Correspondence Notifying the Plumsted Township Clerk of the Public Hearing
(Dated October 30, 2023)

Exhibit No. 4: Excerpt from N.J.S.A. 40-14B-23
(Undated)

Exhibit No. 5: PMUA Solid Waste & Recycling "Bill Code Listing" from Edmunds
(Undated)

Exhibit No. 6: Excerpt from Waste Management Contract Proposal
(Undated)

Exhibit No. 7: Suplee, Clooney & Company Solid Waste Analysis Letter
(Dated November 21, 2023)



Motion to Enter into Public Hearing

Chairman Kubiel: Next item is the Public Hearing for the Adjustment of the 2024 Solid Waste and Recycling Rates.

Mr. Ruppel: I make a motion we enter into the public hearing.

Mrs. Kimmick: I'll second that.

Mrs. MacReynolds: Mr. Grosso?

Mr. Grosso: Yes.

Mrs. MacReynolds: Mrs. Kimmick?

Mrs. Kimmick: Yes.

Mrs. MacReynolds: Mr. Ruppel?

Mr. Ruppel: Yes.

Mrs. MacReynolds: Chairman Kubiel?

Chairman Kubiel: Yes.

Presentation of Evidence

Mrs. McGuckin-Anthony: At this time, the Plumsted Municipal Utilities Authority will hold a public hearing for adjustment of 2024 solid waste and recycling rates. If it's okay with the board, I'd like to present seven items into evidence to start the hearing.

Chairman Kubiel: Please do.

Mrs. McGuckin-Anthony: Okay, Exhibit No. 1, which we can mark as A-1, is an Affidavit Certifying to Publication of the Hearing Notice in the Asbury Park Press. Publication was October 30, 2023.

Exhibit No. 2 is an Affidavit Certifying Publication of the Hearing Notice in the Trenton Times that was published on October 30, 2023.

Exhibit No. 3 is Correspondence Notifying the Plumsted Township Clerk of this Public Hearing, that was also dated October 30 2023.

Exhibit No. 4 is the Excerpt from N.J.S.A. 40:14B-23, Statute Applicable to this Hearing.

Exhibit No. 5 is the Plumsted Municipal Utilities Authority Solid Waste and Recycling Bill Code Listing from Edmonds.

Exhibit No. 6 is an excerpt from the Waste Management Contract Proposal.

Exhibit (No.) 7 is Suplee, Clooney & Company Solid Waste Analysis Letter dated November 21, 2023.

Mr. Brach: All right, thank you. So I am Brian Brach, Interim Executive Director, Plumsted MUA. I just wanted to provide a summary to the board of the solid waste and recycling, (what) I call the "Metrics and Proposed Rates". So essentially, in chronological order, the excerpt from the statute basically says that revenues must meet expenditures. So with the authority, we have been undergoing a study with Suplee, Clooney of the various rates, solid waste and recycling, as well as sewer. So Solid Waste and Recycling, essentially, and there are excerpts from the Waste Management current contract, it was a one (1) year contract with four (4) extensions. 2024 is going to be year number four (4). Every year Waste Management has increased their charges for solid waste and recycling, and the Authority not once has ever increased our charges. So if you look at the, the Solid Waste and Recycling Metrics and Proposed Rates sheet that I provided to the board, essentially just as an example, the typical resident in Plumsted has one (1) Trash Can and one (1) recycling can. Trash is picked up once a week, recycling once every two (2) weeks. The MUA bills them \$90 a quarter. In 2024, Waste Management will be billing the Authority \$93.30 a quarter. So every quarter, for every account, and we have 1272 accounts approximately, you're losing \$3. And that's just an example. There's four charges on here. And what we've done, with the help of Suplee, Clooney, was to identify that the solid waste side of the Authority is going to lose about \$15,000 this year. That does not include delinquencies. That does not include whatever charges from the other functions of the Authority that should be paid for by the solid waste side of things. So what we're doing moving into 2024 is proposing 4 rates. For the one (1) Trash Can and (1) recycling can, we're proposing a rate of \$100 a quarter. For an additional trash can, we're proposing a rate of \$21 a quarter. For an extra recycling can, we're proposing a rate of \$12 a quarter. And for those very few residents that have recycling only, we're proposing a rate of \$40 a quarter. Essentially, these rates take into consideration (the) Waste Management charges and the cost of the customer service representative that we've hired. Tina is going to be the Solid Waste Liaison, is what I call her. And that's it. There probably are other charges we can put in there, but these are commensurate with where the market is. And that is what the Board is going to be considering tonight.

Questions and Comments

Chairman Kubiel: Thank you. Is there any questions from the Board?

Mr. Grosso: No, I appreciate you finding out this data. I know we've been requesting it for quite some time. So I appreciate it.

Mr. Ruppel: Can I, I would add (those Michael Ruppel), I would echo the same sentiment. The one question I do have is a relatively simple one. I know the answer, but I thought we put it in the record. So what do you think the anticipated proposed increase to revenue would be across the full fiscal year?

Mr. Brach: So at the proposed rates, the gross revenue is going to be about \$52,800, additional next year. So you know, from that, you would net Waste Management fees, they are going up, so they're going to take a portion of that. We lost \$15,000 this year. So of that \$53,000, I would say there's probably about \$20,000 in net revenue.

Mr. Ruppel: Thank you.

Chairman Kubiel: Any other questions or comments from the board?

Mr. Grosso: No.

Chairman Kubiell: At this time, I'd like to open it up to the public for any comments.

Mr. Ruppel: Seeing no members of the public. Mr. Chairman I make a motion, we have...

Mr. Bahnam: I have a quick question.

Mr. Ruppel: You'd have to have to come up to the podium.

Mrs. McGuckin-Anthony: Sir, if you could just come over here and speak into this microphone...

Chairman Kubiell: ...and state your name and address for the record.

Mr. Bahnam: Bernard Bahnam, 370 East Millstream Road, Cream Ridge.

Mrs. McGuckin-Anthony: Just need you to speak into the microphone for the record. Statute requires a record of this hearing.

Mr. Bahnam: Bernard Bahnum, 370 East Millstream Road, Cream Ridge, New Jersey. When, when these go out for bid, are they like just an open bid put out there for like, we're the township, we're looking for a bid and by this date give us your best cost back; or is this like, like how do you guys do your bidding with this?

Chairman Kubiell: When it's bid, they...it has to be bid in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, specifically as it relates to solid waste because there's a whole outside of the law, a whole separate guidance just for solid waste. At that point, the bids get advertised as well so any solid waste contractor can appropriately submit the documents.

Mr. Bahnam: Okay, and from the past couple of bids, have we gotten multiple bids? Or is it...

Chairman Kubiell: This is, this is actually an extension of the bid we're currently working on in year four (4), because it's a five (5) year bid.

Mr. Bahnam: Okay.

Chairman Kubiell: You can't, under solid waste purchasing, you can't do it less than five years.

Mr. Bahnam: Okay, so whoever gets the bid, gets five (5) years. Okay. Thank you so much.

Chairman Kubiell: So you're very welcome.

Mrs. Kimmick: Thank you.

Chairman Kubiell: Any other comments this evening?

Motion to Adjourn Public Hearing

Mr. Ruppel: Seeing none, I make a motion we close the public, the public portion, of the public hearing.

Mrs. Kimmick: I'll second that.

Mrs. MacReynolds: Mr. Grosso?

Mr. Grosso: Yes.

Mrs. MacReynolds: Mrs. Kimmick?

Mrs. Kimmick: Yes.

Mrs. MacReynolds: Mr. Ruppel?

Mr. Ruppel: Yes.

Mrs. MacReynolds: Chairman Kubiell?

Chairman Kubiell: Yes.

Mr. Ruppel: I have one other question, Brian. So do we need a motion to adopt that rate?

Mr. Brach: So the motion to adopt the rates is the next item on the agenda to be considered under Resolution 2023-16, establishing 2024 solid waste recycling collection services rates and corresponding revisions to the authorities rules and regulations.

Mr. Ruppel: Yes, I would make the motion that we adopt that.

Chairman Kubiell: That's fine. But we have to go back in a public session, or a regular meeting first, according to what this agenda says?

Mr. Brach: Didn't we just do that? We were done with the public hearing (inaudible)...with the public session, we got a motion to go into regular meeting.

Chairman Kubiell: Next item on the agenda is Resolution 2023-16, establishing 2024 solid waste and recycling collection system rates and corresponding revisions to the Authority's rules and regulations.

Mr. Ruppel: And again, I'd make that motion.

Mr. Grosso: I'll second.

Mrs. MacReynolds: Mr. Grosso?

Mr. Grosso: Yes.

Mrs. MacReynolds: Mrs. Kimmick?

Mrs. Kimmick: Yes.

Mrs. MacReynolds: Mr. Ruppel?

Mr. Ruppel: Yes.

Mrs. MacReynolds: And Chairman Kubiell.

Chairman Kubiell: Yes. Okay.

(The Authority adjourned the public hearing at approximately 6:41 pm.)

Respectfully submitted,

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Cynthia MacReynolds, Recording Secretary