

Jerusalem Township



Jerusalem Township Board of Trustees Special Meeting Held on July 24, 2021.

The Board of Trustees of Jerusalem Township met in-person in the Township Meeting Room at 9501 Jerusalem Road on the above date at 11:00 a.m.

Dave Bench opened the meeting at 11:00 a.m. with a moment of silence followed by the pledge of allegiance with the members as listed during roll call:

Beau Miller, Present
Dave Bench, Present
Mark Sattler, Present

Trash Pickup Information – Printed information about trash pickup along with an agenda was distributed to all attendees at the sign-in table.

Public Participation

Mark Sattler, Beau Miller and Dave Bench all discussed the overall concern with the upcoming August 2021 trash contract expiration and the general fund being forced to cover the 911 dispatching costs for all calls for service except Fire and EMS.

The Klumm Brothers proposal includes providing a toter to each household. Two sizes are available with the standard 96 gallon being the most common but if someone is requesting a smaller toter, they would provide it. In addition, Klumm Brothers will pick up one bulk item from each household at no charge on the first pick-up of each month. For those residents who are elderly or disabled, Klumm Brothers will retrieve the toter from the home, empty it for the resident, and return it to the home.

The cost per month per household is \$12.50 or \$150.00 a year. This would be added to the resident's tax assessment on those properties that are considered improved (not empty parcels). This will free up the hotel tax to be utilized for payment to the County for dispatching services we are forced to cover in starting in 2022. The cost of 911 dispatching is being phased in but is estimated at around \$40,000.00 and is expected to increase each year. The Fiscal Officer shared how our hotel tax revenue has been insufficient to cover the cost of trash collection for the residents since before COVID-19 started. We do not expect to see any reduction in future trash collection costs and must bear the burden of using general fund money for dispatching costs. The board also shared that 911 dispatching costs are entirely separate from the issue of the Sheriff charging the Township for road patrols beginning in 2022 (estimated at \$500,000.00 per year).

Mark Sattler read out loud phone messages and emails received regarding the trash assessment from citizens:

Deborah Teft – I vote to terminate Republic and go with Klumm Brothers. Thank you.

Danielle McVicker – I am not able to attend the garbage meeting. From what I have read I think the new proposed plan sounds good. The fee is fair and I am happy to be getting a new garbage tote.

Rhonda Eckman – we are unable to attend the meeting but would like to give our opinion on this situation concerning the short fall of funds. Keith and I would like you to know we have no problem attaching the amount (150.00) to our property taxes through Lucas County Auditor. Also Klumm brothers would be adequate for our garbage services.

Krissy Smith – I have no problem paying for my garbage collection as long as we have shopped around for the lowest rates. We moved from Toledo so we are accustomed to this and feel it is a realistic expectation of a home owner. What about an unlimited pickup? How often will they allow and will it cost extra. The township email responded: "As to unlimited pickup, Klumm Brothers will pickup one bulk item each month at no additional charge per house hold if we select them."

Eric Klavinger – We were not able to attend either meeting but we would like to see the township go with Klumm Brothers and add the 12.50 per month to the residents tax. We appreciate you bringing this to the residents for our opinion and discussion.

Randy Graffis – He is in support of garbage charge and \$150.00 tax.

From the audience in physical attendance:

Bill Tank – shared concerned over those residents who are behind on their taxes and will still get their garbage collected. Mark Sattler shared that the County Auditor has a system in place to address delinquent taxes on properties. Bill is just worried that they will never pay their taxes and will still receive the services paid for by others. The Fiscal Officer shared that the problem exists with property owners who are getting fire and ems services as well and but he has a concern over people who would not pay for trash collection themselves but instead burn their garbage which is a health and fire safety hazard.

Dave Frost – asked the board of trustees for the current cost of trash collection and what our future cost be with this assessment through Klumm Brothers. The board of trustees and the fiscal officer reported we spent just over \$140,000.00 in 2020 and if we use 1,100 as the estimated number of households paying the \$150.00 a year, we will see around \$165,000.00 in revenue to pay for trash collection. The Fiscal Officer also mentioned as Bill Tank had already indicated that some households will not be paying their taxes and the general fund will be still contributing to the cost of collection if a shortfall from assessments exists.

Christine Rademacher – asked the board of trustees what is collected by the hotel bed tax. The fiscal officer reported in 2020 we collected \$83,532.70 in hotel tax.

Sandra Lytten – asked if the Township would be able to use monies from COVID 19 assistance to address lost income. The fiscal officer indicated that any of this federal assistance monies will come with specific strings attached and that we are not sure what those strings look like. She also asked

what our future cost of garbage collection would be after year 1. Beau Miller reported that this \$12.50 a month per household is for a three-year contract with an unknown future extension of the contract.

Robin Christman - asked the Board of Trustees and the Fiscal Officer if these federal assistance monies could be used to replace the lost hotel tax revenues. The Fiscal Officer reported that past monies received were used almost entirely for the purchase of Fire Department turnout gear and that restrictions on use of monies we may receive in the future are not yet known.

Bill Tank - asked the Board of Trustees what has been done already to reduce the General Fund expenditures. Beau Miller answered that the Township has reduced our copier costs by changing providers and employees receiving health insurance are now paying a portion of the healthcare premium.

Elvis Shepherd - wanted to piggy back on a conversation he had with Bill Tank regarding how members of the Township can volunteer to assist others in addressing concerns. Bill and Elvis discussed in the past how there were individuals who assisted citizens with property clean up.

Sandra Lytten - asked the board of trustees how much is paid for our website servicing and hosting. The Fiscal officer reported that our fee is \$200.00 a month. Mark Sattler indicated that all of the work completed recently on updating the website is included in that monthly fee along with website hosting. The board all agrees that the service is excellent.

Marty Rupprech - asked what would happen if a resident used their own purchased toter instead of the toter Klumm Brothers proposes to provide. The Board indicated that Klumm Brothers will still provide a new toter that will fit the special truck arm.

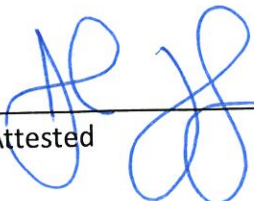
Christine Rademacher - asked the board what is the cost of a second toter. The board indicates that the proposed cost for one toter is \$12.50 a month but they will get more details from Klumm Brothers if we decide to contract with them. The board also indicated Klumm Brothers agreed to pick up additional bags along with the 96-gallon toter but only on an irregular basis. They understand some folks have parties that may result in more than 96 gallons of trash.

Adjournment:

With no further business before the Board Mark Sattler made a motion to adjourn today's meeting. Seconded by Beau Miller with roll call as follows:

Beau Miller, Yes
Dave Bench, Yes
Mark Sattler, Yes

Motion carried at 12:10 p.m.

Attested 

Approved 