

PVCA Meeting Notes 4 June 2009

Commissioner Mark Taylor report

1. Discussion of the decision regarding the Croyle property.
2. Discussion of LMT's upcoming decision regarding trash collection. Our commissioners are eager to receive your feedback on the various options. Details to keep in mind:
 - a. Unlike most townships, we have rear-yard collection, which for years has been subsidized by the real estate tax (because the fees have not been increased for the trash collection).
 - b. Currently the township has 39 field operations personnel in the field. Township would try to find employment for the employees who would be laid off, as well as reduce it by attrition.

Options:

1. Keeping the status quo: rear-loading trucks loaded by teams of 3 men who manually handle the garbage. \$3.5 million/year
 2. Continue with manual curbside pickup (5 feet off the curb), with no rear yard collection. Benefits include fuel and labor savings. Projected cost is \$2.9 million/year.
 3. Automated curbside; purchase of new vehicles which have automated pickup; requires new type of trash container. New trucks and new containers would need to be purchased; labor costs would be saved. Abington Township converted 1 year ago to automated pickup and has found it successful. No rear yard collection. \$1.9 million/year.
 4. Continue with manual pickup, no new trucks. Add \$200/year for rear-yard pickup. (Mark notes that some residents have raised the issue of varying length of driveways.)
 5. Automated curbside collection with optional rear-yard collection fee.
- c. Discussion:
 - i. People are concerned about the jobs of the trash collectors.
 - ii. Some people like the employees and like having them in the community.
 - iii. One person suggested perhaps we should do away with trash pickup by the township and take it to the dump ourselves.
 - iv. Some sense that people in general would prefer to keep rear-yard collection.
 - v. Option #1 was recommended by vote by a majority of those present.
3. Further discussion following up to last meeting's discussion about whether to support the resolution that the Gladwyne Civic had passed in favor of having the Township's Board of Commissioner's ad hoc meetings held open. The vote was not in favor of adopting the Gladwyne resolution.