

*Held***November 27, 2012****OPENING OF MEETING**

Mr. Ritter called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Mr. Deters, Ms. Rinehart and Mrs. Harlow were in attendance.

TOWN HALL MEETING

Mr. Ritter thanked everyone for coming tonight. He said that we have made many changes this year and started with a mind-set of continuous improvement. He said that we have reorganized many of the departments to streamline and create synergy.

Rumpke Underground Reaction

Mr. Ritter said that about two months ago we had a session at the landfill, but some had some reticence about coming to the site.

Jay Roberts, Rumpke's Director of Engineering and Environmental Affairs, made a presentation, which is Attachment #1 to these minutes.

In response to Mr. Ritter's question, Mr. Roberts said they now have back-up power to the flares. They learned a lesson with the last event and the flares have operated much more consistently since then.

Connie Watson, of 2977 Stout Road, said that Rumpke officials say there is no problem for public safety, but an asthmatic woman needs an inhaler to get to her car. No one ever tells her what's in the air she's breathing.

Brad Miller said that weekly air monitoring occurs at 21 sites, including a fixed monitoring site at Bank and Hughes. He said they continue to collect data and an Ohio EPA toxicologist reviews the data. There are no short or long-term health effects and the data shows lower compounds in the air than at other air toxic sites.

Ms. Watson said that she reports the odors and people call her back. She asked how to go about finding out the results of that test.

Mr. Miller spoke about the citizen canister program where samples are collected at your home and you then receive a letter about the results. He said there is further information about the air monitoring on the website.

Jean Smith, of 2978 Stout Road, said that there will be congressional hearings on the Rumpke landfill. She has results of tests that were done which don't show what Mr. Roberts shows. There is a big health hazard. She proposed to the Colerain Township Trustees that they place a moratorium on giving Rumpke their expansion until investigated by federal engineers. One engineer said it would be a 20-30 mile radius if there is an explosion. The Board is the caretaker of the people and they are not taking care of us.

Mr. Ritter said that we have been in a lawsuit for seven years and any expansion is on hold until the lawsuit is settled. The Ohio Supreme Court declared Rumpke is not a public utility and now this issue goes back to Hamilton County courts.

Kevin Ashley, of 9568 Brehm Road, asked about the age of the reaction area?

Mr. Roberts said that waste was placed in 1997; this is phase 5 of the landfill.

Mr. Ashley asked if they know the cause of the reaction and Mr. Roberts said they do not.

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Gayle Frankenbach, of 10010 Voyager Way, asked if the reports will provide specific chemicals and if they will they provide MSDS for the chemicals.

Mr. Miller said that for the total levels there is data on the website. There are no MSDS for this as they look at the ACGIH Threshold Limit Values.

Liz Siefert, of 10340 September Drive, asked if it does any good to call the EPA for an odor.

Mr. DeJonckheere said that it does do good. They have a system for responding to complaints made to the 24-hour call line. The call is relayed to Rumpke and Rumpke staff responds. The phone number is 946-7777.

Ms. Siefert asked if the smell will ever go away.

Mr. DeJonckheere said that he hopes so.

Paul Siefert said that they have directed people to the website, but what about people who don't have internet.

Mr. Miller said that residents can call and they will send to them.

Mr. Siefert asked why they don't know the causes.

Mr. Roberts said that it is unusual for this to happen. He said they have experts in from the US EPA and other agencies. There is a lot of speculation, but they can't put a finger on it exactly.

Mr. Siefert asked why they're not making an effort to get to this.

Mr. Roberts said that the efforts are being made to control it, including covering it.

Mr. Siefert said that they are not controlling it since it is expanding.

Mr. Roberts said they are working to control the landfill gas, settlement, and the stability of landfill.

Mr. Siefert said they are using a smell to mask the odor. He asked how they are controlling that.

Mr. Roberts said that they use a number of odor neutralizers. It is a delicate balance to use them.

Mr. Siefert asked about the effect of deodorizers on our health.

Mr. Roberts said that all are permitted for use and made of natural ingredients,

Joe Kampf, 11502 Old Colerain Ave., said that the area is three to four times the size from 2009. His son can't go outside to play because of the odor. He said they are asking for an expansion and you have something burning.

Kim Colangelo, 5813 Squirrelsne Lane, said that odor control blankets don't work. She said she wants to enjoy the outdoors, but is not able to because of odor.

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Nancy Lindemood, of Squirrelsnest Lane, said that at an April 2010 EPA meeting, there were recommended solutions, but not a whole lot has been done. She said Rumpke is not neighbor friendly. Health effects are often not obvious in a short time, but people are dealing with dealing with long-term consequences.

Jim Acton said that they have many sites in Kentucky, Indiana and Ohio and asked if there any of the same problems there?

Mr. Roberts said that they have nothing at their other landfills.

Mr. Ritter asked about the reaction in northern Ohio and the progression with controlling it.

Mr. Roberts said that is a countywide landfill, south of Canton. The reaction began three or four years prior to ours. They have similar processes with the Ohio and US EPA. We have done some of the same things they have to mitigate the effects of the reaction, but this hasn't stopped or controlled it.

Caren Whitcomb, of Elkgrove Ct., asked why the air quality monitoring was discontinued December 1.

Mr. Miller said the monitoring was for the southern expansion and the addition of the compost facility. In five years there were about 300 samples and the highest concentration was lower than allowed. They decided to use their resources for other monitoring.

Rich McVay, of 8198 Daleview, asked how long the landfill has been around.

Mr. Roberts said 1945.

Mr. McVay asked how many more years they can operate.

Mr. Roberts said it is about 15 years, assuming two million tons/year.

Mr. McVay discussed a five-step program for improving the perception of the community. He asked about what the Board can do to improve the perception about Rumpke. He said that they need a strategy to build a vision for the Township that has no landfill in the future.

Carl Hafer, 5889 Squirrelsnest Lane, said that it still stinks and it's bad. She said that if one looks at the wind direction and speed, it would take you to a location where it stinks. The odor control blankets aren't doing anything. She said the trucks are washed, but they drip on Colerain Ave., between Struble and the interstate. The road smells bad and you get slop all over your car. The street sweeper is pathetic.

Mr. Deters said that he appreciates everyone's attendance and that there is more to come on the underground reaction.

2013 Temporary Appropriation and Forecast

Mr. Rowan thanked everyone for coming tonight. He said they are in the process of aligning the team as we look forward to 2013. He said the goal is to make the budget process as seamless as possible and to make the tax budget as close to accurate as possible. There will be minimal tweaks, as necessary.

Mr. Rowan's presentation is Attachment #2 to these minutes.

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Mr. Rowan said the budgeting process is based on historical trends, but that doesn't translate to the future. He said the benchmarking projects have been completed by each department and these will be constantly reevaluated as a guide for the future. He said the challenge is to maintain non-core services. For shared services, they are also looking at internal sharing with being more creative in using existing personnel.

Mr. Rowan discussed state budget reductions and explained that Ohio's 2011 biennial budget significantly reduced three major sources of funding from the general fund: local government fund (cut 50%), estate tax (eliminated in 2013) and tangible personal property tax (eliminated in 2013). The total forecasted loss in 2014 is \$1.5 million.

Mr. Rowan discussed how they are creating greater efficiencies with revenue enhancements, cost savings/reallocation of resources, and personnel changes.

Mr. Rowan said that there are no short-term solutions to the general fund's fund balance problems. The community center is going through a re-branding process and must find a way to sustain. The police fund is in year six of a five-year levy, so we must think long-term and how to provide vital services. He said that we have a duty to provide roads and safety services. But, how do we sustain the parks and community center?

Rich McVay offered his kudos for the increased transparency. He said that there are 58,000 people who can't come to the meetings. Homeowners have seen their spending power go down 17% and home sales are 20-30% lower. Yet, Township spending has gone up 30% with public safety increasing 80%. He said the Board needs to take seriously what burden has been placed on the residents. He said that the solution is to get more people to move in so base goes up.

Mr. McVay said that with the benchmarking work, there is not a lot of response about what others are doing. There is potential savings in comparison to peers.

Mr. Rowan said that the benchmarking will continue and we will evaluate options as we learn from that data. Decisions we make now are going to impact our citizens differently. He said he hopes to come up with a balanced plan. He said that we'll do everything we can to communicate/inform/engage the community about what that means and looks like.

Jim Acton said that many neighbors don't leave work until after 5:30 and we need younger people here. He suggested that the Board have meetings on weekends or a more reasonable time, later.

Mr. Ritter offered this thanks to all who attended. He said this is an honest conversation about finances. This is a current forecast, not a blueprint for the future. We will have new forecast.

Minutes of

WORK SESSION

Meeting

BARRETT BROTHERS, PUBLISHERS, SPRINGFIELD, OHIO

Form 6101

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ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, at 7:29 PM, Ms. Rinehart motioned for adjournment. Mr. Deters offered a second. The roll was called:

- Mr. Deters. "Aye"
- Ms. Rinehart. "Aye"
- Mr. Ritter. "Aye"


 Fiscal Officer


 Trustee


 Trustee


 Trustee