

City of Hewitt
509 East Third Ave
Hewitt, Minnesota 56453

City Council Minutes
Special Meeting

August 13th, 2014
City Hall, 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER The Hewitt City Council met in special session to discuss organized garbage pickup service for the city. Mayor Juanita Mitchell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE The City Council and all present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Council present: Juanita Mitchell, Mayor
 Jim Opelia, Councilmember
 Donald Fitzgerald, Councilmember
 Alice Melzer, Councilmember
 Alex Weego, Councilmember

Staff present: Luke Mitchell, Maintenance
 Michael Dagen, Clerk/Treasurer

Guests: Dave Templin, Carolynne Bisel,
 Richard Kirckof, Bonnie & Wayne Uberto,
 Diana Chromey, Karen & Duane
 Ziemkowski, Marietta Mathews, Lucinda
 Fore, Rosettie Mathews, Julie Denny, Linda
 & Jonathan Koenig, Michael & Ginny
 Bruder

SPECIAL MEETING TO DISCUSS ORGANIZED GARBAGE SERVICE

Mayor Juanita Mitchell said that the reason the organized garbage issue came about is that there are a hand full of people in town who don't take care of their garbage. Juanita said that the people who currently have garbage service

**SPECIAL
MEETING
CONT...**

would get a discount on garbage service with organized pickup. Michael Bruder stated that the City of Hewitt asked Prairie Sanitary service to provide an estimate for organized garbage service. Jim Opelia said that it is a pretty good assumption that the people who are stock piling garbage are choosing to not pay for the service. Ginny Bruder stated with mandatory service, the garbage would be picked every week, so people would be less likely to stock pile their garbage. Mrs. Bruder said that with mandatory garbage, the citizens would also receive a 35 gallon recycling bin free of charge. Clerk Dagen shared that if the council would vote for organized garbage service, the program couldn't be implemented for 6 months due to state requirements. Prairie Sanitary presented an updated price list for 35, 65 and 95 gallon garbage bin options. Mike Bruder shared that the bins will need to have their lids closed to be picked up and there will be blue bags for sale for any extra garbage. Wayne Uberto shared that he thinks the city should go after the ones who are causing the problems and leave everyone else alone. Juanita Mitchell said that the City of Browerville implemented organized garbage and after some initial complaints the program is now very popular. It was asked if this service would affect the commercial properties and Ginny Bruder said no. Alex Weego asked the group, out of everyone in the room who would be for and who against organized garbage service. Alex stated that 9 people were for the service and 4 against. Wayne Uberto asked if mandatory garbage is going to be implemented; the contract for the service should be bid out every year to keep the prices low. Clerk Dagen mentioned that the state requires that organized garbage service contracts be bid out every 3 to 7 years which would be determined by the council. Alex Weego said that the city did bid out the garbage contract and there was only one bid. It was asked if medical waste could be picked up and Ginny Bruder said that medical waste would need to be wrapped up, labeled and set on top of the garbage can to be taken.

Alex Weego said that he wants everyone to know that he understands the individuals' concerns and no matter what the council decides it will be in the best interest for the city as a whole.

MEETING
ADJOURNED

Donald Fitzgerald made a motion **to close the special meeting**, Jim Opelia 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

Mayor _____

Clerk _____