

**PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES**

**CITY OF PORTAGEVILLE BOARD OF ALDERMEN**

Public Hearing – Trash Collection Services

Portageville City Hall

January 6, 2025

**CALL TO ORDER**

The City of Portageville Board of Aldermen held a Public Hearing on Monday, January 6, 2025, at City Hall at 5:00 pm to discuss trash collection services provided by Sharp Disposal. Mayor Walker called the public hearing to order.

**ATTENDANCE**

Dennis Walker, Mayor	Kristine Adams, Ald. Ward 1
Gary Faulk, Alderman Ward 1	Mike Cook Jr., Ald. Ward 2
Rachel Wrather	Carol Bowden
Patty Johnson	Joey Terrett
Millie Terrett	Joseph Denton
Kris Simmons	Bill Little
Martha LeSieur	Bruce Cronan
Susan Warren	Al DeLisle
George DeLisle	Lacie Fowler
Edith Partee	David Womack
Karen Gowan	Kevin Guthrie
Lori Robinson	Dan Rogozio, Republic Services
Shirley Estes	Joseph Young
Vince Berry	Linza Legrand
Joanne Haulbold	

Kami Sharp with Sharp Disposal entered the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

A representative with Sharp Disposal was not present at the start of the meeting, so Mayor Walker recognized citizens who wished to speak regarding their experiences with the service provided by Sharp Disposal for the City of Portageville trash collection.

Edith Partee- West 9<sup>th</sup> Street

Partee expressed concerns with communication breakdown when it comes to pick-up changes due to equipment failure or holiday routes, especially for individuals who do not have social media or electronic

services. She suggested that a schedule of foreseeable changes, such as holidays, be posted with the pickup changes at the beginning of the year. She also had concerns over their workforce and would like to know about turnover issues. She would like to see Code Enforcement enforce trash policies regarding the use of trash containers.

Bill Little- Baker Avenue

Little agreed with the communication issues and spoke regarding consistency in a holiday schedule.

Joanne Haulbold- Huffman Ave.

Haulbold spoke regarding concerns of the trash service workers stopping at a local business for hours at a time. She also asked about an email that she stated came from the City of Portageville regarding the use of special trash containers being required. Carol Bowden, City Collector, stated she was unaware of any email stating that and reassured her that there is not a requirement on the type of trash can needed at this time.

Vince Berry- Robin Lane

Berry addressed the consistency issue with the timing of trash pick-up during a normal route being sporadic in nature. He also inquired about the tracking of customer complaints regarding Sharp Disposal service. He was informed that citizens should complain through City Hall as those complaints can be tracked through the Collector's office.

David Womack- Main Street

Womack asked about the rollaway dumpster that use to be located at the Street Shed. Mayor Walker stated that this was an expense that the City could not withstand at this time. Womack stated that there were multiple dumpsters currently overflowing and that he felt that Sharp Disposal had taken on too many towns.

Shirley Estes- Huffman Ave.

Estes stated that as a business owner, her dumpster had not been emptied in three weeks. She also thought that the removal of the hopper at the Street Shed had resulted in illegal dumping around town.

Millie Terrett- West 9<sup>th</sup> Street

Terrett stated their business dumpster on Highway 61 had not been emptied in weeks.

Lori Robinson- Stafford Drive

Robinson stated that the New Madrid County library dumpster had not been emptied in three weeks as well. She stated that they are paying a



higher rate for a dumpster than regular business trash and the dumpster is never emptied.

Dan Rogozio with Republic Services spoke about their holiday scheduling consistency and confirmed that residents are supplied with one republic trash can. Any additional would have to be paid monthly.

Susan Warren- West 5<sup>th</sup> Street

Warren expressed concern over the elderly citizens if a company like Republic services is awarded a contract with the City of Portageville. They will not provide the service that Sharp Disposal currently does where the trash employee goes to their home to get their trash container, empties it, and then returns the container to its location.

Laci Fowler- Hailey Drive

Fowler spoke about chain of command issues and explained her experience with dealing with Sharp Disposal directly. It was reiterated to contact City Hall first with complaints or issues, so a paper trail is kept.

Karen Gowan- West 10<sup>th</sup> Street

Gowan spoke about her dumpster at her business on Highway 61 North not being emptied as well as the quality of the dumpster with broken wheels.

Kami Sharp with Sharp Disposal entered the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

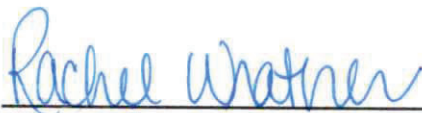
Mayor Walker stated that he would postpone the start of the regular City meeting by ten minutes to allow citizens time to address Sharp with their comments and concerns.

Sharp addressed Partee and explained that there are two trucks that run on Monday and Friday in Portageville. One is for residential route, and one is for dumpsters only. Sharp did concede that there were times when they did not have enough equipment to handle everything and had been overwhelmed.

Sharp also took notes regarding the consistency in routes, employees taking breaks for over an hour at a time, holiday schedules, dumpsters not being emptied, quality of dumpsters including lids, holes and broken wheels.

ADJOURNMENT

No further business, Mayor adjourned the public hearing at 6:10 pm.



Rachel Wrather  
City Clerk



Dennis R. Walker II  
Mayor