Minutes of a Special Meeting of the
Spring Lake Township Board of Trustees
June 6, 2022

The meeting was held at Barber School, 102 W. Exchange St, Spring Lake

1. Welcome and Call to Order/Roll Call of the Board:
Clerk Boersma called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.
Present: Carolyn Boersma, Jim Koster, Cathy Pavick, Ellen Pearn, Ernie Petrus, Jerry Rabideau,
Absent: John Nash
Participants: Gordon Gallagher, Spring Lake Township Manager, Ron Bultje, Spring Lake Township Attorney

2. Selection of Chair for the Meeting
Trustee Rabideau chaired the meeting in the Supervisor’s absence.

3. Pledge of Allegiance
The meeting was opened with a greeting and the pledge of allegiance

4. Introduction of Crystal Morgan
Crystal Morgan is an attorney that works with the Township on several zoning matters.

5. Public Input on Single Waste Hauler Concept
22 people were present. One person left after the meeting opened. 8 people went to the podium to share their thoughts.

All were extremely dissatisfied with the customer service received from Republic Services. The billing amounts are all over the place, and not consistent with agreements signed with the Township or HOAs. They felt that the customer service was unresponsive to the concerns that were shared with the company when residents called with complaints. Republic drivers are sloppy and allow garbage to fall out of trucks into yards and roadways. The trucks spill oil frequently.

Several were concerned about a monopoly and do not want one in Spring Lake. They did not agree with eliminating competition, or the smaller waste haulers trying to make a living. Residents should be able to choose their waste hauler.

It was suggested that if the Board goes in this direction, then this should become a municipal service that the residents pay thru their tax bills.

Many said the issue should go thru the bid process.

Other Comments that were made:
If this were to become a municipal service, there would be a significant cost to the Township to deal with complaints. The contract should include a fee to be assessed to the waste hauler for every wrong bill received by the residents.

A fuel surcharge should not be tied to diesel, because Republic is converting away from using that type of fuel.
The contract should list what recycling is allowed.

Yard waste pickup should go thru December.

What happens if Republic is given the contract and they pull out of the area before the end of the contract?

A 4.5% yearly increase is too much. The contract should not be longer than 3 years.

Why do businesses not have to comply or be included in the contract?

6. Appreciation to all in attendance

5. Adjourn
The meeting adjourned at 6:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

H. Carolyn Boersma, MMC, MiPMC
Spring Lake Township Clerk