

Committee backs garbage contract

Written by MARK JAEGER
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Recommended Advanced Disposal proposal would introduce automated cart collection to village

The Village of Fredonia's Public Works Committee has recommended a new waste-hauling contract with Advanced Disposal.

The proposal will be forwarded to the Village Board for approval on Thursday.

Under the Advanced Disposal proposal, automated trucks would be used to pick up curbside carts on a weekly basis.

Recycling collection, which will also utilize carts, will be done every other week.

The standard wheeled-carts hold 95 gallons, but smaller 32-gallon carts will be available on request.

If the contract is approved, the village will no longer be the only municipality in Ozaukee County that collects garbage bags left at the curb.

After meeting with village officials several times, Advanced Disposal offered two contract options and Waste Management offered six different alternatives.

Price was a driving force in weighing the choices, which ranged from the \$10.31 per household per month for the recommended bid to \$16.50 per month for the highest bid, submitted by Waste Management.

According to Village President Chuck Lapicola, the five-year Advanced Disposal contract could eventually run as high as \$11.82 per month because of a 3% cost hike that is to go into effect after the third year of service.

Although the automated system was touted as a way to hold cost in check, the proposed contract will cost the village an estimated \$9,900 a year more than it currently pays.

Although continuing bag collection was not offered as an option, a representative from Advanced Disposal said the cost of continuing the current service would have been significantly higher.

Both bidders said cart-based collection is more efficient than bag collection, and minimizes the risk of injury to the drivers. One-man crews are also used for automated collection, reducing personnel cost.

The most costly option offered by Waste Management would have cost nearly \$78,000 a year more than the village now pays for waste collection.

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Garbage collection charges are covered by the village, but officials warned that state-imposed levy limits mean cuts in services elsewhere may be required to make up for the additional garbage expense.

“We are talking about a sizeable amount of money,” Lapicola said.

“If we find it isn’t working, we have five years to buy a truck and take it on ourselves.”

The committee said it would work with Advanced Disposal to set up a large-item collection drop-off, possibly as often as four times a year.

Residents can also call the hauler directly to have furniture and other large items hauled away for a separate charge.

Public Works Director Roger Strohm said he is also talking with a company that would be interested in handling electronics recycling in the village at no charge.