

March 5, 2020

Dear Resident(s),

Due to rising costs for the Village to operate, Council must look at alternatives for the shortfall in our garbage rubbish fund and solutions to fix this deficit. The Council has been discussing the problem and potential solutions for many months and are ready to bring the community into the discussion.

Background

Tipping Fees

The Cherokee Landfill owned by Republic charges the Village to dump trash into the landfill (tipping fee).

Year	Amount Charged by Republic per Ton	Tons of trash disposed of by the Village
2016	\$58.20	925.98
2017	\$61.11	824.49
2018	\$63.55	886.28
2019	\$66.73	806.44
2020	\$70.07	???

Recycling

Recycling reduces the amount of trash that goes to the Cherokee Landfill. Curbside recycling began in the Village in 2006. When curbside recycling began, the first 3 years the cost was paid for by the Logan County Solid Waste District. In 2009 the Village began paying for the curbside recycling service. The data we have from 2017 showed that 2-3 tons of recycling was picked up each week. In 2019 the cost for curbside recycling was \$33,000 for the year.

There is no cost to the Village for residents to use the Sidney Street Recycling Center. In fact the Village receives an annual check for what is recycled at the Sidney Street Recycling Center. The amount is around \$1100 a year.

Trash/Garbage/Rubbish

The current base rate is \$10.50 a month. In 2015 (the last increase) the monthly rate was \$11.67. In 2017 the base rate was decreased to the current rate (\$10.50) when the Village went to ALL PAYT orange trash bags instead of allowing residents to select from options (PAYT orange bags, 1 can, 2 cans, and 3 cans). The PAYT program started in 2005. The PAYT orange bag prices were raised in 2006 and March of 2019.

Current PAYT orange bag prices:

Large bags - \$1.25

Small bags - \$0.75

Our PAYT orange bag prices are the lowest in the area.

The trash truck (the packer) was purchased in February 2016 and cost \$160,080.66. The current loan pay off for the packer is \$43,015 and will be paid off in 2022. The truck is currently being used 20% of the time since trash is picked up on Tuesday / Friday mornings.

Most Villages around us in Logan, Champaign, and Shelby counties are using one of the following private companies to provide trash service: Republic, Waste Management, Rumpke, and Roberts.

For example: West Jefferson uses Waste Management. West Jefferson residents currently pay a base rate of \$17 per month, but the WJ Council is considering increasing the base rate to \$20 per month, with bulk item pick up once a month and only picking up yard waste on the first Monday of the month.

The Village of West Liberty uses our base rate to cover services provided to our residents: weekly brush pick up, leaf pick up, snow removal, and other services.

Proposed Changes will be put into Ordinance

The Village has entered into an agreement with Republic/Cherokee Landfill at the February 11, 2020 Council meeting to lock in a rate of \$52.50 per ton disposed of at the landfill for 2020 with a gradual increase over future years (10 year agreement). Unfortunately the closest landfill not owned by Republic is in Franklin County and with the man hours to drive south of Columbus and wear and tear on the truck, the Council did not feel this was a viable option.

In order for curbside recycling to continue each residential property will be charged \$5 per month. The base rate will increase to \$13 per month.

The price of the bags will be increased as follows:

Type of bags	Price per bag	Price per roll
Large 32 gallon	\$1.50	\$15.00
Small 13 gallon	\$1.00	\$10.00

The proposed solution will become an ordinance that will be brought before Council with regard to changes to the garbage/rubbish and recycling. An ordinance (law passed by Council) must be voted on at 3 separate meetings and must receive 4 years at each meeting in order to become law.

The first reading/vote will take place on March 9

The second reading/vote will take place on March 23

The third and final reading/vote will take place on April 13

Upon approval by Council the new ordinance which includes rate and price increases with new policy will be implemented on May 1, 2020.

You are invited to these meetings to provide your opinion during the public participation section of the meeting. All meetings start at 7 pm Please contact the clerk's office to be put on the agenda 24 hours prior to the meeting. The clerk may be reached at 937.465.2716

Council believes that residents do not want the Village to allow a private company to bid on our trash and recycling pick up (this is also known as outsourcing). Council wants residents to have high quality service but cannot continue to allow this part of the budget to exist with an annual shortfall.

Thank you for your understanding
Village of West Liberty