

TO: Village Council and Mayor Brown
FROM: Finance Committee, Rob Bartlett - Chair
RE: Village Garbage Stickers
DATE: January 29, 2021

The Finance Committee met on Friday, January 29, 2021 at 4:15 pm via Zoom to discuss the Village's Garbage Sticker program. Present at the meeting were Finance Committee Chair Rob Bartlett, Finance Committee Members Joe Stelzer and Kelly Rankin, Mayor Bill Brown, Chief Rick Hines and Superintendent John Scherpenberg.

Currently, the Village requires that all waste that is collected by Rumpke have a sticker on it. However, the size of the waste bin has now increased by 42% (from 45 gallons to 65 gallons), which will likely lead to a reduction in sticker income for the Village. We are already losing money overall on waste and recycling (see attached table). Furthermore, there have been several complaints from residents about the sticker system.

The Finance Committee is recommending eliminating the garbage sticker program, and offset that with an increase in the waste and recycling fee that is collected via Greater Cincinnati Water Works monthly billing. Now that the Rumpke contract has been renegotiated and, with the waste being taken to the curb, we have reduced the cost as low as it can go, we are also recommending charging enough such that the income generated roughly covers the cost of the new Rumpke contract (the new Rumpke contract is for \$286,425 versus \$319,566 in 2020). Currently, we charge via GCWW \$8.33/month for houses and \$5.83/month for apartments. We are proposing to increase that to \$19.00/month for houses and \$14.26/month for apartments. Again, this increase offsets the loss of the sticker income plus a nominal monthly increase to get the Village to roughly breakeven.

If council agrees with this recommendation, an ordinance will need to be drawn up and voted on. The Finance Committee is recommending we discontinue the garbage sticker program effective May 1, 2021. If council agrees to draw up the necessary legislation, then we would recommend we begin to communicate to residents that we will be voting on this over the next 3 council meetings and that the garbage sticker elimination would commence May 1, 2021, so residents can plan their garbage sticker purchases appropriately. We should also notify Kroger, MariElders and Ace Hardware, so they don't over-order stickers from us. Mayor Brown has already notified the Village Office that we are considering this, so we don't order more stickers. If a resident or one of the organizations that are selling the stickers ends up with surplus stickers after May 1, 2021, we believe it would be appropriate for the Village to buy the stickers back. The communication that goes out to residents about this change will need to include how the sticker buy back will work as well.

If council agrees with these recommendations, the next step will be for the Village Solicitor to draw up the necessary ordinance for a first reading at the next council meeting, and to begin communicating this potential change to residents and to those who sell the stickers. The final reading would then be at the second council meeting in March, and there would be more than 30 days until it would go into effect.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rob Bartlett, Chairman

Kelly Rankin, Vice-Chairman

Joe Stelzer, Member

Exhibit A:

Year	Annual Waste Fees Collected	Stickers Fees Collected	Rumpke Costs	Sticker Costs	Shortfall	Adjusted
2015	\$96,189	\$105,177	(\$264,763)	(\$1,668)	(\$65,065)	
2016	\$95,971	\$94,744	(\$264,763)	(\$1,668)	(\$75,716)	
2017	\$97,449	\$94,524	(\$291,496)	(\$1,668)	(\$101,191)	
2018	\$99,194	\$90,579	(\$302,670)	(\$1,668)	(\$114,565)	
2019	\$130,179	\$107,397	(\$283,325)	(\$1,668)	(\$47,417)	(\$72,056)
2020	\$37,614	\$90,342	(\$344,205)	(\$1,668)	(\$217,917)	(\$193,278)

2019 Rumpke costs of \$24,639 were missing in November, 2019. This was paid in January, 2020.

So 2019 shortfall was really (\$72,056) and 2020 shortfall was really (\$193,278)

2020 is when we started billing via GCWW in September, so only 4 months of annual waste fee income that year.

2021 new contract with Rumpke is \$286,425 with a 3% increase in 2022.