

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN PARK  
BOROUGH COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING  
MONDAY, MAY 17, 2010**

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A special meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Franklin Park was held on Monday, May 17, 2010 at the Franklin Park Fire Hall, 2360 Rochester Road, Sewickley, PA 15143.

Council President Amy Sable called the meeting to order at 7:47 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Cathy Krummert called the roll:

**COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Richard H. Hartman, Second Vice President..... present  
Jane A. Hopey, Vice President..... present  
Andrew Hrishenko..... present  
Ash K. Marwah..... present  
David J. Quatchak..... present  
Amy E. Sable, President ..... present  
Junior Councilperson Brennan McGovern ..... absent  
Mayor Dennis E. O'Keefe ..... present

**STAFF:**

Cathy Krummert, Borough Secretary..... present  
Donna Platt, Secretary/Receptionist ..... present  
Ambrose Rocca, Borough Manager..... present

Mrs. Sable opened the meeting by thanking everybody for coming this evening to share their thoughts on the automated trash collection. She explained that the borough had applied for a grant from the state with the idea that automated collection might be mandated by the state government within the next few years. The rationale for applying for the grant was to lessen the economic burden that Franklin Park would endure if a switch from the manual collection system to an automated system became mandatory. The borough has now been awarded the grant in the amount of \$500,000. Borough Council must now consider the option of accepting the grant and making a switch to automated collection or rejecting the grant and remaining with the manual system. This meeting was called by Council as a way of gauging public sentiment with respect to automated collection. No decision has been made with respect to this issue and the goal tonight is to provide information to the residents regarding the automated system. Council would like to hear feedback, thoughts and questions with respect to this issue.

**PRESENTATION BY BOROUGH MANAGER, AMBROSE ROCCA**

1. History of Landfills in Pennsylvania
2. U.S. Supreme Court Decision (City of Philadelphia v. New Jersey, 1978)
3. PA Act-101 of 1988
  - a. Requires Communities > 5,000 to recycle
  - b. Tipping fees
  - c. Grants to host communities
  - d. Operating grants to communities & counties
  - e. Equipment start-up grants to local governments
4. Allegheny County Solid Waste Plan
5. Franklin Park Solid Waste Disposal & Recycling
  - a. Current
  - b. Proposed
6. Past & Future Direction of Waste Industry
  - a. Comingled Collection (1970 & Prior)
  - b. Basic Recycling (1980 & 1990's)
  - c. Single Stream & Yard Waste (1990's to   ?  )
  - d. Food Waste Municipal Compost (2000 to   ?  )
  - e. Future of Garbage Collection (Deja-vu)

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**MR. QUATCHAK** – Mr. Quatchak thanked everyone for coming. Hopefully everyone is here to learn a little bit about how a system could work. He is here to learn about how the residents feel about the options that we have.

**MR. MARWAH** – Mr. Marwah commented on the proposed automated collection. He stated that he is against the system, and the primary reason is because it will cost a lot more. He noted that he and Mr. Hrishenko voted no on the grant application. Mr. Marwah then discussed the cost comparison information he had prepared and distributed comparing the current system to the proposed automated system. He noted that the borough could submit a grant application in the future when the conditions are right. He is concerned that the borough would be bound by the automated service, and he is suspicious that the costs for Franklin Park will be higher than the costs for Marshall and Pine Townships. The grass clippings are the only things we are not recycling right now, and we need to better educate the public on how to compost grass clippings. There are 68 private lanes in the borough and the automated trucks cannot go on those lanes. The hauler would have to use pick-up trucks to collect the trash, and this would add to the cost.

**MAYOR O'KEEFE** – Mayor O'Keefe thanked everyone for being here this evening, and he noted that it is important to have this meeting to receive comments from the residents before making a decision.

**BOROUGH MANAGER** – Mr. Rocca commented that Franklin Park tries to respond to our residents' needs. We received feedback that many seniors and sticker customers want to retain their service. Mr. Rocca then called the DEP to discuss the possibility of maintaining this service. He made the argument that the sticker program is a pay-as-you-go system because the stickers are based on the pro-rata share of the monthly fee. The individual he spoke with indicated that more than likely the sticker program would be acceptable, but the borough would have to go back to the DEP with a full blown program showing what we intend to do. The DEP would then respond to the borough and let us know if the sticker program would be acceptable. Based on his preliminary inquiry, the sticker program would remain intact. Mr. Rocca also indicated that private lanes would be collected the same way they are now with the hauler having the option to collect them manually with a smaller truck.

**MRS. HOPEY** – Mrs. Hopey asked for clarification regarding the senior sticker fees. Mr. Rocca clarified that there would be no monthly fee associated with the sticker program; seniors would only pay for the stickers they use. The sticker rate is based on a percentage of the amount that the regular customer pays. The sticker system would remain intact and would not change. Mrs. Hopey noted that we take care of seniors in the borough. When the time comes, the borough would bid both manual and automated collection. Nothing is set in stone.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

Linda Hoffman, 2268 Montgomery Road – Why do we have to keep importing garbage from other states? It was noted that the Supreme Court ruled that the state cannot regulate where the garbage comes from. The state is trying to regulate the garbage that does not go into the recycling stream and encourage more recycling.

Suzanne Broughton, 2377 Jenkinson Drive – She supports trying to make this work. She was one of the volunteers who instituted Franklin Park's voluntary recycling program in 1991 and she was the chair of the EAC from 1997 to 2002. In the past Franklin Park has taken creative steps in providing local services. The proposed plan greatly expands the material that can be recycled and has some incentive to do so, which our current system does not. We must move away from throw away habits and conserve resources. We should support a plan that has incentives to recycle, but we have to be sure it works for everyone. The incremental costs between container sizes should be increased so that the larger container costs much more and residents would be encouraged to use the smallest container and recycle more. The borough should provide all three containers at no cost to the residents. Residents should be able to recycle their current trash containers at the onset of the new program. She supports trying to make this work. Although there are some things that need to be worked out, we need to move in that direction.

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Ted Lutz, 2398 Rochester Road – Stressed the recycling part of the system. Single stream recycling that we are considering is the latest and best way to go, although he is not pushing the automated system. What do you do with larger items to put out? Maybe consider expanding the current system to the next level.

Gary Bleakley, 2430 Brandt School Road – Commented on the problem he would have placing the containers out for automated collection. What is the reach of this equipment? Mr. Rocca noted that the mechanical arm has limits and could probably reach 6 feet.

Jerry Clark, 1515 Sandhurst Drive – His biggest concern is the cost and if the hauler would pass on the cost of the new trucks to the residents.

Dick Lindley 1544 Old Orchard Road – Need to educate people not to throw paper products in with the garbage. Let people know what should be recycled and what garbage is.

Joanne Sikina, 1648 Farmington Court – Her relatives and friends who have automated service bring their extra garbage to her house. Yard waste should be collected on a more frequent basis. She also expressed a concern that there would be more dumping with the automated service.

Albert Deeds, 1519 West Ingomar Road – He noted that his lawn care service blows his grass back on the lawn and it is just fine. He suggested residents consider doing this to cut down on the amount of yard waste collected.

Yorum Vodovotz, 1607 Franklin Fields Drive – He is opposed to this plan because of the lack of transparency and an artificial set of options. There is no reason we cannot expand existing service with incentives for recycling. It has not been explained what the grant is for. If the grant was specifically to implement automated pickup, then it is designed to benefit a certain industry. Where are the containers purchased from? Why haven't all of the true options been made available? Mr. Rocca responded that by law any service that the borough provides is advertised and bid on a competitive basis. Containers would be purchased the same way. It is an open process with transparency at its best. Mr. Marwah noted that the grant is for the purchase of approximately 4,750 recycling carts and lids and approximately 4,750 yard waste carts and lids.

Marilyn Senik, 2515 Hopkins Church Road – Are we creating a monopoly? How will we benefit and what leverage will we have when it is time to renew a contract? What about companies going out of business and the jobs that will be lost. When they mandate something it is going to cost you.

Richard Reiter, 2599 Glenchester Road – If the motivation for switching to automated collection is environmental protection, how come there is no mention of increased pollution generated from the diesel that will be used. Attachment "A" on the website refers to \$6,000/year to purchase and operate trucks. What does this figure include? Can existing trucks be modified to use these arms, or do they have to buy new trucks? He is also concerned about where to locate the containers at the street. It makes the most sense to improve recycling with the existing system.

Oscar Miller, 2406 Marble Lane – Do the costs outweigh the benefits? We need to explore more possibilities and change what we are doing rather than going with automation. He has two objections because he lives on a private lane and because of automation. Automation is not just an end to be desired just for itself. Jobs should not be eliminated. What happens if it is snowing and they will not drive up the private lanes? Will the borough require pickup trucks to collect on private lanes?

George Wochley, 2399 Traci Drive – Right now we have a choice about what we put out. Under the proposed plan, do we have a choice as far as competitive bidding? Will it be restrictive on who can actually bid for this service? He is concerned about eliminating jobs since a lot of people are unemployed today. We should increase education and public awareness to convey the options for recycling.

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Bob Lang, 2379 Wharrey Drive – Mr. Lang asked for clarification regarding the senior sticker program. It was noted that those who choose the sticker program would only pay for the stickers they use, and they would not receive containers or pay a monthly fee. He thanked Borough Council for the way they have handled and negotiated past garbage contracts. We have a great deal the way it is. He is totally against automated collection and discussed his reasons including aggravation, hardship, creating an eyesore and the cost. He urged Council to send the \$500,000 back to the state. This \$500,000 is taxpayer money from all over Pennsylvania.

Howard Frey, 1511 West View Lane – He is concerned about the size of the containers and moving them. If some residents are not doing a good job recycling, we should get them on the ball. He thinks we are doing a good job with the current system.

Charles Windisch, 2377 Wharrey Drive – He asked for clarification of the costs for senior citizens. It was noted that the information provided by Mr. Marwah shows that residents in Marshall and Pine pay a base fee and also a separate cost for bags. The borough is proposing that the sticker fee for senior citizens may increase, but seniors would not pay the monthly base fee. Mr. Windisch noted that the borough cannot provide cost information, but the residents are expected to give Council the right to go ahead. He hopes that Council will think of the senior citizens when you do this because it is totally wrong. Mrs. Sable clarified that no decision has been made. Part of the reason we don't have facts and figures with respect to the costs is that we cannot get those things until we bid out a contract. We are using the bid amounts from local communities, but we can bid it differently so that seniors only have to pay the sticker amount and not the base amount. We do not know how this will impact the fees for the rest of the community.

Debbie Stetor, 1511 King Charles Drive – She and her husband live alone and they recycle as much as they can. She is in favor of the proposed automated system. She pointed out that her children have moved to places where they are more progressive in the way that they handle the environment. If we want to attract people and kids that are generating income to pay taxes, these are things we have to consider.

Wayne Franz, 2493 Matterhorn Drive – He thinks recycling is a good thing, but he has questions and concerns. Sometimes he sees one truck collecting both garbage and recycling. Do we receive grant money for the yard waste dump site at Blueberry? Staff responded that all materials that are dumped are submitted for grant money. The grant will pay for two of the three cans, but how will we pay for the third can? What about the disposal of building materials and larger items? If this program will save money in labor, why will we not see a reduction of costs? Council noted that Marshall Township has one-half of the population of Franklin Park. Franklin Park received \$9,000 in recycling grants this year and Marshall received \$70,000 in grants.

Mr. Ralph Pennetti, 2389 Wharrey Drive – He noted that after reading the information and listening to the presentation, the only people who would gain anything with the proposed system would be the garbage companies. His biggest concern is hauling the large containers due to physical limitations. What about elderly residents?

Yunkai Zhou, 1400 Christa Court – He noted that there is a problem with transparency and it is not clear whether or not it will help the environment. The proposal is confusing. If in the end this proposal would help the environment, he would be willing to pay more because it is worth our children's future.

Frank Guzek, 2566 Wexford Bayne Road – He has been recycling since 1974 because he is a contractor. It is a lot of work, but everyone can do it. There are bins at the churches for paper and the borough has dumpsters for cardboard at the municipal building. He also thinks there should be dumpsters for aluminum and glass because the borough could make money from it. We do not need this proposed system. The more we keep government out of what we do, the better off we are.

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Terry Mowrey, 2530 Wexford Run Road – He is concerned about the cost; look what happened with cable television costs. If we go with this system, we will limit the competition as far as the bidding process goes. We need more means for recycling now. The politicians made Pennsylvania a dumping ground for everybody else's garbage and now we have to pay for it since they are telling us we have too much garbage for the landfills. Remember in November.

Jim Stetor, 1511 King Charles Drive – He is totally in favor of the proposed system because it will encourage more recycling, and it will be more convenient. He likes that the recycling and yard waste containers are free. We will have less tipping fees, and it will be better for the environment.

Bob Parry, 2585 Matterhorn Drive – He noted that with the current system, the garbage men come down the street and do little things to provide customer service. He is against the proposed system.

Karl Sieg, 2558A Pheasant Run – What is the replacement cost for the containers and how long will the containers last? He really doesn't have an opinion one way or the other. Most people have limitations on the storage of trash cans. It may be necessary to make alterations to dwellings to accommodate these cans, and if that is the case, he requested that the borough waive building permit fees. Mrs. Sable explained that the containers are expected to last approximately 10 years, and the borough would have a system in place to replace them after that period of time. This system would require money to be put away for that, and there would be a charge on the bills to cover the replacement costs. Mr. Marwah commented that a \$1.25 charge would be added to the monthly fee. The borough would set aside \$20,000 from the grant money each year to purchase these cans.

Lynn Mowrey, 2530 Wexford Run Road – Are residents going to be able to vote on this matter? Mrs. Sable noted that there is no process in place for residents to directly vote for or against. Residents were invited this evening to share their thoughts so Council could find out what people are thinking. This will help Council to make a decision so that they represent the will of the people.

Alina Kurtanich, 1605 Fieldstone Lane – Mr. Rocca had noted that we have one of the lowest real estate taxes, but he did not say that we have one of the highest school taxes. She disputed that garbage collectors have one of the highest worker's compensation rates. She asked who would benefit from people losing their jobs. The companies will because they will pay less worker's comp rates. Unemployed workers will not be paying taxes. How will the mechanical arm pick up garbage bags without breaking them? Will there be a restriction on the number of garbage cans a resident can have? She noted that phone books are recyclable. She is all for recycling and the environment. She believes there are better ways, and she has not been presented with the facts. Council should have done more research to educate the public before they are asked to make a decision.

Gerr Wenzel, 2407 Bellwood Drive – He is somewhat conservatively in favor of this program. Everything seems to be going in favor of the contractor; lower labor costs, higher efficiency, lower landfill costs and eliminating the hazardous occupation. What is in it for the residents? If the costs will be about the same as what we have, why should we change?

Denise Miller, 1600 Fieldstone Lane – How many garbage containers can you put out and what is the cost for additional containers? The response was that the price of the containers will be set at the time of bid. If a second container is needed, the borough can specify a nominal add-on cost. There is no limit to the number of containers. What is the ratio between seniors putting bags out and the regular service picking the bags up? What is the ratio of how many families are going to put those cans out? Is the cost for three more trucks, more cans and all that is proposed going to make up the costs and what is the balance between setting this program up and keeping the same as what we already have? Are stickers available to everybody? Mr. Rocca answered that the sticker program is open to seniors and non-seniors, but there are lower sticker rates for seniors. She is kind of against the program because she does not see it doing anything for us, and she does not see how it will eliminate any more trash than we already put out.

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Ray Uhlig, 2387 Oakview Drive – Taxpayers pay for the grants. This is a program that we are going to pay for, and our children and grandchildren will pay for it. He does not want this. There has to be a better way than going into debt. It is not the debt of Franklin Park, but the debt of our state.

Karl Apel, 2478 Matterhorn Drive – He thanked Mr. Marwah. Council was totally unprepared this evening. Automation is not related to recycling. How was the grant written? Why can't we just buy the containers and not have the automated system? Mr. Rocca noted it is a pay as you throw system. You do not pay for the yard waste or the recycling materials. All of the communities across the country who have implemented this system have followed this format because it works.

Bill Kipp, 1505 Brimfield Drive – If you are a sticker customer will you still recycle and put out yard waste? The response was that sticker customers would still receive recycling and yard waste containers. We would still have a need for a yard waste dump site even if the site at Blueberry fills up. He encouraged Council to consider finding another place for excess yard waste. Mr. Rocca noted that the state's goal is to divert yard waste out of the waste stream so it does not end up in the landfill. The borough chips the yard waste to save space. Mr. Marwah read from the grant requirements. Yard waste collected with this equipment will be taken to a composting facility that is operating according to the department regulations and guidelines. Grant funds will not be released under this or any other category of this agreement if the borough fails to comply with the provisions of Act 101. Mr. Rocca clarified that the yard waste materials collected by a hauler would have to go to a site to be composted. The yard waste material that is brought to the borough dump site does not have to be composted. Mr. Kipp asked if this program is adopted what would the costs be based on? Mr. Rocca noted that the costs would be based on the size of the garbage container selected. Mr. Kipp noted that there are some petitions circulating this evening, and he guessed that they had been signed by the majority of the people here and they say "No". Mr. Kipp stated that in the future, the state will mandate this type, or similar type, of service. We just don't know when that will be.

Mary Ann Stearns, 2505 Matterhorn Drive – Serving on Council is a thankless job. They were elected by us to do what is in the best interest of Franklin Park. Council does a pretty good job and maybe they weren't fully prepared this evening. She appreciates Council letting all of the residents speak. She is concerned about senior citizens and Council should take that into consideration. Is it a possibility to put this on the ballot and let the residents vote?

Angela Baehr, 2527 Secretariat Drive – In favor of any program that increases recycling. Also in favor of a program that composts yard waste. If Council votes against this, she would like to see other ways to increase recycling in the future.

Brigitte Savchik, 2393 Bellwood Drive – How was the recycling rate determined for the borough? Mr. Rocca noted that the figure provided by the hauler is divided by the total garbage collected. How does the borough know what residents recycle at their homes? She believes the figure should be higher for Franklin Park. How about a referendum in November? If we only have six months to make a decision, she votes "No" right now.

Charlie Powell, 2471A Brandt School Road – He recycles, composts his yard waste and takes corrugated cardboard to the municipal building for recycling. He lives on a private lane and takes his garbage to the end of his driveway in the back of his vehicle. We can recycle without having automated collection. It is an education problem not an automation problem. He stated that automated machinery will not pick up garbage bags. The driver gets out and throws them in the truck. If the borough really wants to save money, we need to spend more on education.

Juvens Charles, 1507 Brimfield Drive – There are no projections for future cost increases. Costs in Pine and Cranberry have increased tremendously since the program started.

Lee-Hannah Allen, 1898 Pioneer Drive – Why do we need to have an automated system to recycle more? We should expand what we already have.

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Rick Beideman, 1549 Crestview Drive – One thing he noticed in the original presentation was the future and that we would not need all of these separate bins. Everything will be together and recycled. Maybe it would be better to just wait.

Bill Lafayette, 1520 Sandhurst Drive – He has not seen any evidence in the handouts that the state wants automated collection. Mr. Rocca clarified that the state wants us to adopt a pay as you throw system, and the typical way to do that is by using these containers. Mr. Lafayette stated that there are plenty of systems that use these types of containers that do not use the automated arm for collection. How will the borough contract for this service? Mr. Rocca responded that specifications will be written and it will be done through a competitive bidding process. The borough typically receives three quotes when bidding. There are two companies that provide this service now, but other companies could start to provide the service. Mr. Lafayette asked if the two companies have equipment that is interchangeable when it is time to re-bid the contract. We are not dealing with a situation where there would be a good competitive atmosphere, and before we know it, the prices will start going up. We may be stuck with a system that only one or two companies can operate.

Jill Hartman, 2602 Big Sewickley Creek Road – What happens to these large containers when they blow over in bad storms and fall into the road? Who takes care of the damage to containers and cars if they are hit? She takes offense to not recycling. Years ago there was no garbage pickup and residents had to take their garbage to the dump. They separated and recycled cans and they also composted. A lot of people still recycle this way. Many people make their own sauce and can their food. This may be one of the reasons that the recycling figure is low for Franklin Park.

John Ripper, 2547 Field Club Drive – He appreciates Council serving, and many times it is a thankless job. He hopes Council will make the right decision. There are three issues: environmental, user-friendly and economics. Right now we can put out as much garbage as we want, and it is a reasonable price. What do we do with excess garbage with the automated system? Will there be an excess waste charge? Pennsylvania takes in garbage from other states. He does not see the benefit for the environment. Don't change something that isn't broken. The automated trucks can only pick up one side of the street at a time and they will use more fuel. The system will be a lot more expensive for a lot less.

Joe Deley, 2595 Matterhorn Drive – What is the population density (people per acre)? Mr. Rocca noted that there are 1,000 per square mile. Mr. Deley noted that the Hong Kong population density is 2,000 per acre. How do they handle their trash? Someone should check it out. A lot of cities are considering using a trash to cash system where they burn trash to make energy and electricity. Also, there is equipment that separates recycling from trash automatically.

Barbara Brock, 2347 Wilvan Lane – The garbage companies have used a pickup truck to collect trash on her gravel lane. The ultimate pay as you go program is the sticker system and she has used that system since it was made available. There is no way anybody on her lane could use the automated containers, and it is not feasible for much of the borough. She would like to see incentives for people to separate and recycle. If there is some way to modify the system we have now to encourage more recycling that would be the way to go.

Tom Kendig, 2380 Oakview Drive – He thanked Council for listening. He stated that approximately 85-90% of the people are against the proposed system, and he asked Council to consider that.

Joan Sarver, 2364 Kuhlview Drive – She has lived in the borough for 50 years. During those years we have had good government, a wonderful police department and a super fire department. Her children live in Forward Township and residents leave their carts at the street all week. She does not believe this system would work on her street. She has a long driveway and there are other sick and elderly neighbors. She thanked Council for the job they do and asked them to reconsider if they are seriously thinking about doing this.

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Tammy Whiteside, 2390 Charles Wray Drive – She commented on the source of statistical information provided in the handouts this evening. Why would we consider taking taxpayers dollars from across the nation from a country that is almost going bankrupt? The deficit is not shrinking and this is something Council should consider. She stated that there is an overwhelming number of people who don't want it. Residents have not been presented with complete facts and figures. If Council's job is to represent the residents, they should go back to the drawing board.

Betty Gail Dietz, 2443 Rochester Road – She is not sure how they will get their containers up and down their long driveway. They compost everything they can. Our society today is a throw away society. Leaf bags are available to compost leaves, and the mulch is brought back to the borough for residents to use in their gardens. Grass does not need to be thrown away.

Charles Windisch – He thanked Council and asked that they listen to the people this evening. He noted that the City of Pittsburgh is not doing this and this system doesn't work.

Bob Lang – He asked that pictures be posted on the website showing the automated trucks picking up plastic bags. If recycling is such a big deal why doesn't the borough consider a recycling co-op? Residents could drop off items and they would be weighed. At the end of the month the materials could be sold to make money that could be given back to those who are involved in the recycling effort.

**MR. HRISHENKO** – Mr. Hrishenko noted that he makes sure he is prepared and he puts in a lot of time for the borough. Mr. Hrishenko is against the proposed service and he discussed several issues including: large trucks, small trucks, environmental issues, wear and tear to roads, loss of business & income by small haulers, increased costs, issues with containers, issues with collection on private lanes, issues with large items/extra items and costs for seniors. Once we get into this automated system and accept the grant from the state there is no turning back. He noted that he and Mr. Marwah are against the system. He suggested that residents talk to the other Councilmembers and let them know where they stand. Make sure they vote the way the residents want them to vote.

**MR QUATCHAK** – Mr. Quatchak thanked everyone for taking the time to come out. He came to the meeting trying to find out what people wanted, and his mind was not made up before he came this evening. It was misinterpreted that Council did not know what they were talking about. Until the borough would actually write the specifications, we cannot provide the details including dollar figures. The information provided tonight was based on what surrounding municipalities have done. It is speculation based on people's best guesses. We do not have the information available to us at this time. The grant money is available and the main goal was to find out if there is public interest in an automated system. It is clear from tonight that there is not an interest. Mr. Quatchak and Mr. Hrishenko represent the western half of the borough, which is Ward 1. This ward includes larger lots, more seniors and more private drives and long driveways. Mr. Quatchak heard the residents this evening and he thanked them for their time.

**MRS. HOPEY** – Mrs. Hopey stated that she had received telephone calls and listened this evening. Council will listen to the residents and do what the people want. She noted that some information had been distributed that was inaccurate. We do not know what the costs will be until we would put specifications out for bid. She appreciates the residents coming out and voicing their opinions. Mrs. Hopey likes the automated system but that does not mean she will vote that way.

**MR. HARTMAN** – Mr. Hartman noted that he never was in favor of automation, and he would not vote for it.

**MR. MARWAH** – Mr. Marwah is against the automated system and he will be against it until the price comes down. He noted that some speakers this evening provided some suggestions and questions. One suggestion was to burn the trash. Mr. Marwah noted that it would take a lot of trash, and it is extremely risky. The question was asked if the residents could vote on this matter in November. Mr. Marwah noted that under the borough laws set by the state, Councilmembers must make the decision as your representatives. Mr. Marwah noted that there is a draft proposal at the DEP on mandating yard waste recycling, but it could take 5-10 years or may not ever happen.

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**MAYOR O'KEEFE** – Mayor O'Keefe thanked everyone for staying this evening. He noted that the borough officials did not come here to sell you this program; we came to inform you. Until the bidding process would go forward, numbers are not factual. It is also likely that the cost of our current system could increase in the future. Council could have just taken a vote and it would have been mandated. However, we did not want to do that because we wanted to hear from the residents first. We want to do what is right for the residents of Franklin Park.

**MRS. SABLE** – Mrs. Sable thanked everybody for coming out tonight to let us know what you are thinking. Since we have been elected to represent the interests of the citizens of Franklin Park, we called the meeting as a way of gauging public sentiment with respect to automated collection. We heard your sentiment loud and clear. It is not that we were unprepared. We wanted to hear your opinions, your questions and your thoughts on the issue and that is why we called the meeting. Council had not previously made a decision. We really appreciate that you shared your thoughts with us tonight.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN** – Mr. Marwah moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Quatchak and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy L. Krummert  
Borough Secretary

Audience Present – 230 (approximate)