

**THE CITY OF KENT, OHIO
COUNCIL WORK SESSION
WED., FEB. 25, 2009**

This work session of Kent City Council was called to order by Wayne Wilson, President Pro Tem, in the absence of John Fender, Mayor & President of Council, on Wed., Feb. 25, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: MR. AMRHEIN, MR. DELEONE, MR. FERRARA (ARR. @ 7:07 P.M.), MR. HAWKSLEY, MR. TURNER, MS. WALLACH, AND MR. WILSON

ALSO PRESENT: D. RULLER, CITY MANAGER; G. ROBERTS, SERVICE DIRECTOR; J. FERLITO, HEALTH COMMISSIONER; AND L. COPLEY, CLERK OF COUNCIL

ABSENT: MR. KUCHAR, MS. SHAFFER, AND MAYOR FENDER
J. SILVER, LAW DIRECTOR

MOTION TO EXCUSE MR. KUCHAR, MS. SHAFFER, AND MAYOR FENDER.

Motion made by Mr. Hawksley, seconded by Mr. DeLeone, and carried by a voice vote of 5-0-1, with Mr. Wilson abstaining. (Mr. Ferrara had not yet arrived)

Pro Tem Wilson explained this was the first of two public hearings on the issue of citywide trash pickup by a single hauler. He said the staff would be presenting a ten-minute presentation from staff. He said the Council will then ask questions, followed by audience questions and comments. He told members of the audience they will have the opportunity to ask their questions, after giving their name and address for the record. He said if the staff was unable to provide them with a response at this meeting, they will receive a followup letter. Mr. Wilson said they would not be voting on the issue during this meeting.

DAVE RULLER, CITY MANAGER: Mr. Ruller explained he prepared a summary sheet on the issue. He said they were present to listen and discuss the issue, and would try to answer their questions. He said he has learned to never tread on trash lightly. Mr. Ruller said they have studied this issue for nearly three years, and this was just another step in a lengthy process. He said they would be looking for another session in the next three to four weeks.

GENE ROBERTS, SERVICE DIRECTOR: Mr. Roberts explained this was not a new topic, and evolved from a concern about the quality of life in neighborhoods. He said the discussions started in Oct. 2006, and on Feb. 4, 2009, Council reviewed bids from three companies, and authorized two public meetings.

Mr. Roberts said that currently, they have trash containers every day of the week, because of multiple vendors in the City. He said someone is picking up trash every day of the week. Mr. Roberts said they have problems all over Kent, and showed a picture of College Street. He said a fire was made from trash left out overnight.

Mr. Roberts displayed pictures of empty trash cans with recycling containers awaiting pickup. He said with the single-hauler process, they would coordinate so that the trash and recycling were picked up the same day, and there would be nothing on the streets for the other six days each week.

Mr. Roberts displayed pictures, explaining the picture was of three homes in a row that had three different haulers. He said they do not know who haulers for the residents of Kent, and are unable to talk to anyone, if there is a problem.

Mr. Roberts said one benefit of a single-hauler contract would be decreased costs, overall, adding that only one category would have a modest increase. He said they would have less neighborhood truck traffic which would equal increased neighborhood safety and pavement life. He said there was a study recently that determined that one trip by a trash truck equals fifteen hundred trips by autos. He said on a typical street of twenty homes, each house makes ten trips weekly with their auto, for a total of fourteen

hundred trips a week on the street. He said that a trash truck impacts the roads more than all of the auto traffic created by those living there.

Mr. Roberts said they would benefit from the scale of usage. He said they looked at other communities, and found this done in Hiram Twp., Streetsboro, and Aurora. He said they cannot have one price for every household, as their intent is to provide the service that best benefits the residents of Kent. He said the trash would be picked up on the same day as the recycling, and they would be able to reduce the illegal dumping. He said the trash hauler would be licensed by the Health Department.

Mr. Roberts said the bid results were interesting. He said the minimum generator service is the bag service. He said they previously quoted bags at a price of \$1.85 per bag, and they could be purchased at a retail outlet. He said they have confirmed that price increased at the first of the year to \$21.50 per ten bags. He said a household using one bag every other week would cost \$4.30 per month, and the low bidder, R&R, would charge \$4.80. He said this was the only service with an increased cost.

Mr. Roberts said a thirty-gallon can will reduce by eighty cents per month. He said two cans would reduce by \$6.91 per month, while three cans would reduce by \$6.40 per month. Mr. Roberts said currently the average of unlimited service is \$24.05, and that would reduce to \$20.50, for a savings of \$3.55.

He said they tried to assess the cumulative savings, adding that they are unsure of people's usage. He said he estimated that 10% of their estimated customers would buy bags. He said they estimated the number of customers to be 6600, adding this was based on their utility billing customers. He said 10% would be 660 people, and from his observations throughout town, that number seems high. Mr. Roberts reviewed various scenarios at this time, and said that with 10% of the customers using bags, the citywide savings would be \$357,100 citywide, annualized, or \$29,759 monthly.

Mr. Roberts said he came up through the Engineering Division, and ran the street program for many years. He said the average number of automobile trips was ten per household, and with twenty homes on a street, that equated to 1400 automobile trips per week. He said one trash truck equals 1,500 automobile trips.

Mr. Roberts said that trash trucks affect the cost of pavement maintenance. He said the pavement conditions will improve with less truck traffic, and that will mean they spend less money. Mr. Roberts said the streets in Kent are atrocious, adding that is partly because of heavy weights induced by the trash haulers. He said it is not their fault, adding the trucks are designed to carry a certain amount of cubic yards. He said that they have no way of knowing their weight until they are on the scales. Mr. Roberts said they have thirteen licensed haulers in Kent for industrial, commercial, and residential, with eight collecting residential trash.

At time, Mr. Roberts introduced **John Ferlito, Health Commissioner for the City of Kent**. Mr. Ferlito explained that he handles the nuisance complaints. He said they had 157 trash complaints in 2007. Mr. Ferlito said that he cites the people, giving them forty-eight hours to remove the trash. He said if it is not removed, he has it removed and bills them. Mr. Ferlito explained that unpaid bills are placed on the property taxes.

Mr. Ferlito said they have a lot of trash issues with the student rentals, but those are not the only places. He displayed a picture from Farmbrook, where the family moved out and had not paid the bill, resulting in a lot of trash at the curb. He said the student houses have problems because when people move in or out, no one claims the trash. Mr. Ferlito said the trash could be on the curb for two to three weeks, which is why they changed the laws and he can pick it up after forty-eight hours. Mr. Ferlito said that some of the properties do not have unlimited trash, and when they move out, they leave a large pile. He said the trash company would not pick it up. Mr. Ferlito said that people dump couches and furniture on various corners throughout town, and the City has to pay the cost. He displayed a picture from Crain Avenue where the resident moved on a Wednesday, and her hauler only came on Tuesdays. He said he worked out a deal, picked up the trash, and the resident pay the bill. He said they also have problems with

people moving out, leaving their trash in their backyard.

One resident from the audience asked how a single-hauler would change these problems, and Mr. Ferlito said he would work with the people. He would know the current usage they pay for, and if necessary, explain that they need to increase their service. He said he would have a little more control with the trash hauler, and could preempt some of the existing problems. He said that he has to wait for the trash to show up before he can do anything, and people get made at him. Another resident asked how one trash hauler is going to pick up the entire City, and Mr. Ferlito said they would be working four days a week. A resident asked why they have to buy bags, and Mr. Roberts said they do not have to buy bags if they have trash cans.

Mr. Ferlito showed a home on the corner of Miller and Crain that has been vacant for many years, with a large amount of trash. He showed another picture of a four-unit dwelling on Walnut, with trash overflowing. He said the owner explained he only has four people living there, and nonresidents are using the dumpster, which is another type of problem in Kent.

Mr. Ferlito said they need better control on handling trash, and they may be able to preempt some of the problems. He said if they have one company, they will know the day of the week the trash is to be picked up. He acknowledged this will not end all of the problems.

Pro Tem Wilson called for questions from Council at this time.

Ms. Wallach asked who would be charged, the resident or the landlord, and Mr. Robert said the ordinance mandates that the property owner has to provide the service. He said the property owner may pass the cost onto the resident.

Ms. Wallach asked if a duplex can get unlimited or if they would be charged twice, and **Gary Vincent, R&R Sanitation**, said they would be charged by the unit. Ms. Wallach indicated they would be charged double, and Mr. Vincent agreed.

Ms. Wallach asked if someone has one can per week, but on occasion, have extra trash, whether they would be charged, and Mr. Roberts said if there is an occasional extra bag, there is no extra charge. He said if someone purchases the one-can service, and has more weekly, the City will talk to them about increasing their service.

Ms. Wallach asked if the City would do the billing or the company, and Mr. Roberts said the company would do the billing. He said that most trash haulers bill quarterly. Mr. Roberts said they hoped to do this like recycling, on the utility bill, but did not think they could do that in a short amount of time. He said they would look at that as part of a utility bill down the road, adding it would reduce their cost. He said they would be paying a fee to do the billing. Mr. Roberts said the savings would go back to the residents, and a resident asked how long that would take. Mr. Roberts said they needed to update the computers.

Ms. Wallach said a lot of people buy their bags at the grocery store, and some buy large amounts in advance. She asked if there would be an exchange program, and Mr. Roberts said there would be an implementation period. He said it would be at Council's discretion how they wanted to handle bags left over from other haulers.

Ms. Wallach asked if they could find a product to spray the bags so as to dissuade the animals, and Mr. Roberts said he did not think there was such a product. He said the ordinance calls for a secured lid and trash can. Ms. Wallach asked if they could mandate the trash cans when there is a problem, and Mr. Roberts said they intend to go on a complaint basis until there is a problem.

Mr. Ferrara said he has had a few people ask about an "opt out" provision, and Mr. Roberts said it could be included. He said if they go to an op out program, it would have to be rebid. He said there is a minor opt out section in the original ordinance for those people who have businesses and pay for trash pickup. He said they are not mandated to buy residential trash service if they are paying for commercial trash

service.

Mr. DeLeone asked the savings to the City, for the City trash that is picked up, and asked if there is a break on the prices. Mr. Roberts said their current provider is R & R, and the cost for city properties will go from \$620 monthly to \$506 monthly. He said they will have a trash hauler in Kent five days a week, so the Health Commissioner has them available for special circumstances. He said the City properties will be picked up on a the fifth day.

Mr. Wilson said that he heard the City will not do the billing. He said in their recycling program, if one does not pay for recycling, the City can shut off their water. He said that Mr. Ferlito has problems with people not paying for trash service, and asked what happens if people do not pay R & R. Mr. Roberts said the bad debt clause is in the contract. Mr. Roberts said the ideal situation would allow for the City to bill this as part of the utility bill. He said with their current bills, they can add one more line, but there is no room for five more alternatives. He said the ordinance calls for mandated trash, and failure to do so is a mandated provision unless one has opted out.

President Pro Tem went to the audience for comment at this time, reminding those wishing to speak to give their name and address for the record.

Jane Gwinn, 511 Harvey St: Ms. Gwinn asked if they opt for doing the billing, if it would be monthly or quarterly, adding a quarterly bill may be a hardship for some. Mr. Roberts said a new computer system could do it either way. He said he would like it monthly.

Ms. Gwinn said she works with seniors, and asked if they would have any help with their containers, and Mr. Roberts said that would be at the Health Commissioner's discretion. He said if one is healthy, they can buy the door service directly from the vendor. He said if someone is unable to take their trash out, they have the capability to do it.

Ed Kovach, 907 Morris Rd.: Mr. Kovach said that Mr. DeLeone asked about a savings for the City, adding the residents are paying. He said Mr. Turner previously brought up a good comment about opting out. He asked if they are "stuck" with R & R, adding he has M & M. He said he has had fine service for years, and his trash cans are put back, with the lids on.

Mr. Roberts said they are mandated to go with the lowest bidder. Mr. Kovach asked if they can opt out, and Mr. Roberts said there is no provision. Mr. Kovachs said they put out a couple cans per week, and said it would be more. Mr. Roberts said the resident selects the service, based on their usage. He said if they put out extra, occasionally, there would be no extra charge, as everyone is sometimes a little over and sometimes a little less. Mr. Kovach said he has an old microwave, and asked what happens to that, and Mr. Roberts said it would be picked up, for an extra fee. He said microwaves are not that expensive, unlike the "big" items that contain refrigerant.

Mr. Ruller said he wished to address the first point. He said the City has trash service for all of the city buildings, and the City pays for this trash service. He said that is what Mr. DeLeone meant.

Pat Andrews, 1117 N. Mantua: Ms. Andrews said she is not against a single trash hauler. She said they would be putting a lot of little people out of business. Ms. Andrews said she started with Conrad one year earlier, and it is the best pickup she ever had. She said the company takes whatever she puts out at no extra charge, and now there will be charges for extra. She said they would be putting a lot of people out of business.

Paul Keller, 1026 Elno Avenue: Mr. Keller asked who is charging those low prices, adding the cheapest he could find was \$50 per quarter, and Mr. Wilson said those prices are with R & R, the lowest bidder. Mr. Keller asked why the City went away from the single hauler system, and Mr. Wilson said they never had one. Mr. Ferlito said they had a single hauler for one year, adding it was in 1965 and was Waste Management. He said the second year saw all other companies under bidding them and Waste Management refused to do the service. He said that people could opt out, and that is what happened.

Mr. Wilson commented that competitive bidding drove it out.

Tony Decenzo, Waste Management: Mr. Decenzo said they have asked some questions, and he made some notes. He said based on the size of the City, with a four-day pickup, they would need to cover 1500 homes daily. He said that would be two to three trucks daily on the streets, and that would be four days per week. He said that is a lot of truck traffic.

Mr. Decenzo said he went to R & R's website, adding they accept cash, check, money orders, or credit cards over the phone. He said his company has thousands of customers in Kent, and they can pay online or with auto withdrawal. He said they have a number of options.

Mr. Decenzo said he is not going to discuss the commercial aspect. He said with bag service, he would suggest that people tie one bag on the trash can so the driver knows it is their bag.

Mr. Decenzo said that opt outs are terrible. He said some people take it to work, and their boss is paying for the volume. He said if they allow opt outs, they need to see where it goes, and if it is a business, they need to let the business send a letter on their letterhead. Mr. Decenzo said that would decrease their opt outs.

Mr. Decenzo said that Mr. Roberts has done an awesome job. He said the more conversion time they allow will see the trucks going across town. He said if someone signed up with his company through September, and stopped their service in June, his company would give the ma refund.

Mr. Wilson asked if they have the bag service, and Mr. Decenzo said that was correct. He commented that two bidders were within \$1000 of each other, while R & R was substantially lower. He said his company serves a number of communities the size of Kent or greater. He said they know how to handle large communities.

Mr. Ferrara asked Mr. Decenzo if they were the single hauler for some towns, and Mr. Decenzo said they were, adding that included Newton Falls, Youngstown (with 28,000 households), and they did have Struthers. Mr. Ferrara asked if other communities mandated the same type of cans or provided them, and Mr. Decenzo said that some do and some do not. He said an advantage to the carts are that they are contained. He said they look much nicer in the City. Mr. Decenzo said that going to one hauler will not prevent dumping on the tree lawn. He said it is how they handle it and preempt it that will prevent that.

Mr. Turner asked if they have any community that has an opt out provision, and Mr. Decenzo said that was correct. Mr. Turner asked how many people opted out of the community, and Mr. Decenzo said the city of Kirkland signed a five-year contract. He said the Mayor wanted opt-out provisions, adding he is not "that crazy" about them. He said the community has about 2400 homes, and they anticipated 25 to 50 opt outs. He said they have had 175 so far. Mr. Decenzo said when they forecast their prices, they do not anticipate 175 people not wanting the service. He said some are telling him that it is a knee jerk reaction, as people do not like their choice taken away. He said they had to apply for opt out and it has to be approved by the City, which is why he suggested they get permission on a letterhead. He said it changes their financial dynamics. Mr. Decenzo told Mr. Turner that is why Mr. Roberts is cautious about using the opt out provision.

John Thomas, 1621 Chadwick Rd: Mr. Thomas asked Mr. Roberts what the aggregate price of gas was from NOPEC, and Mr. Roberts said he would have to look at it. Mr. Thomas said it was approximately \$9.98, adding he shopped around and his rate is \$6.42. He said he opted out, and some on Council have never been part of the aggregate. He said he has a family of six, and they use 2.75 bags per month. He told Mr. Decenzo he was a knee jerk. He said his family's thinking about recycling would be negatively impacted. He said they would put more solid waste into the stream to be land filled, adding it would cost him approximately \$40 more per year.

Nancy Adams, 336 High Street: Ms. Adams asked if recycling is in addition to this cost, and Mr. Roberts

said that was correct. She asked if R & R would pick up their recycling, and Mr. Roberts said that recycling would stay with Solid Waste Management. Ms. Adams said they would have two trucks weekly, and Mr. Roberts said that was correct.

Ms. Adams said she is a recycler, adding she admires Mr. Thomas' viewpoint. She said they need to consider something else, adding it is the pollution caused by diesel trucks. She said if they cut down on the amount of volume on their streets, it would be a big improvement. She said they have not talked about diesel pollution or reducing their carbon footprint. Ms. Adams said this is a chance for them to reduce the carbon footprint, and they would have less trucks roaming around the City, which would be advantageous to people's health. She said it does not count in the City's coffers, but does count in their personal exposure.

Caroline Arnold, 1322 Chelton Dr.: Ms. Arnold said that most of them know she bikes around town, until she broke her wrist a few weeks ago. She said Chelton Drive is in terrible condition, and there are potholes near the area where trash is picked up in front of every house. She said there are no sidewalks. Ms. Arnold said the quality of their streets and the air pollution is a disaster. Ms. Arnold said the streets are unsightly, adding the trash cans on her street are there every day of the week. She said if the wind blows, the cans are blown in the street and it looks bad. She said when she bikes downtown, and uses Main Street, there are trash cans in the bike lane. Ms. Arnold said this is a simple step they can take to help out one another. She said the carbon dioxide released in this cascade of trucks weekly and the air pollution affects the children in their community, other communities, and all over the world. She said it seems like a nice way to act locally, and make a difference in their own community and for the entire world.

Dorothy Meyer, 308 S. Lincoln Street: Ms. Meyer said she uses one bag every three weeks, and asked her cost, and Mr. Roberts said it would be twenty-five cents more per bag than what she currently pays. She said she is paying \$1.85 now per bag, and Mr. Roberts said that price went up to \$2.15 per bag. He said it is the same process. Ms. Meyer asked if she puts out one bag if she is only charged for one bag, and Mr. Roberts said the process is unchanged.

Walt Adams, 336 High St: Mr. Adams said this is an excellent plan. He said he thought it was a crime for trucks to be above a certain weight on streets other than state highways. He said the reason for this is because the base of the streets cannot handle the weight. Mr. Adams said he lives on a dead end street, and as a result, they have seven trucks going up and down, for a total of fourteen passes on a substandard residential street. He said Vine Street is already breaking up, adding he felt they already knew what kind of money they will need for street repair in the not too distant future.

Mr. Adams said in the 1970s, there was no universal pickup or recycling, and people still burned their trash in their back yards. He said with the Air Pollution Control ordinance, Council enacted a requirement for trash pickup. He said there was a great deal of objection and controversy. Mr. Adams said there may be some controversy with this plan. He said the Administration has outlined a lot of benefits, and he hoped Council had the courage to enact this, as it had a great many benefits. He urged the City to start their own billing as soon as possible. He said there will be problems with the billing, and it could be chaotic, so the sooner it gets in place, the better. Mr. Adams said he could not figure out how an 'opt out' provision would be of any benefit, adding if people opt out, the entire system will collapse. He said if many opt out, there will be no benefit nor low cost associated with a single hauler. Mr. Adams wished them luck and thanked them for listening.

John Gwinn, 511 Harvey Street: Mr. Gwinn said he told them previously he supports the single hauler. He said the program is good, and protecting the citizens is a very good program. He said he was unsure that opting out was worthy of much consideration by Council.

Mr. Gwinn said Kent is a green city. He said they have heard the reuse, recycling mantra for decades. Mr. Gwinn said the proposal will allow them to continue to use bags, but the increase in price to more trash does not seem to encourage minimization of waste. He said he realized the haulers are collecting trash on a volume basis, while a hauler pays to dump it on a weight basis. Mr. Gwinn said that someone

with a thirty-gallon can double the amount of trash for \$1.10 more monthly, or triple it for \$4.00 more monthly. Mr. Gwinn said if they are trying to get people to think about recycling and reuse, the curve ought to be steeper at the upper end. He said the cost per bag would end up being more than the thirty-gallon can. He said it is possibly a small aspect, but seems to be something that Council may want to look at in terms of baseline prices and what additional prices might be. He said they may have been thrown off by what was bid, adding he is unsure how the curve was devised. He said they may see some modifications to the curve.

Mr. Gwinn said the bags should not require an extra container. He said he has used them for fifteen years, and only once was it torn open. He said it is more convenient for a trash hauler to not have to open a container, and that may reduce the City's cost.

Mr. Gwinn said as a result of the bid prices, the bags will cost fifty cents more. He said the figures were less than transparent, as they showed two bags per month. He said the way it was presented previously, one bag cost about the same as a thirty-gallon can per month. He said they do not have a good handle on the number of people using bags, and how many bags are used. He urged them to keep the bid price as low as possible.

Ms. Wallach asked Mr. Gwinn if it would be logical to make the cans the same price as the bags, adding if the bags are a lot less, it will encourage them to put out more. Mr. Gwinn said the bag user pays in advance, and the company gets the money in advance. He said the customers are inconvenienced as they have to go buy the bags. He said it is not an exact comparison. Ms. Wallach said his concern was they need to encourage people to put out less trash. She said if it cost more to put out four bags per month, instead of one can, that would encourage people. Mr. Gwinn suggested they compare the bag versus the can and see what holds more. He said they can put much more in a can than bag, as they must be able to close the bag.

Pat Andrews, 1117 N. Mantua: Ms. Andrews asked if the schools and/or businesses would have the same waste hauler, and Mr. Wilson said they would not. Mr. Roberts said it was not recommended, as some business may need two pickups per day. Ms. Andrews said they have the right to choose whomever, but the residents do not. Mr. Roberts said the typical business is not in a residential neighborhood. Ms. Andrews said they only have one cable company and one trash company, and asked what is next. Mr. Wilson disagreed about the cable company, adding there are more now. Ms. Andrews agreed with Mr. Wilson.

Wayne Kvam, 1585 S. Lincoln St.: Mr. Kvam asked why R & R has no bag service if they have the biggest footprint in Kent, and Mr. Roberts said he would have to defer that to Mr. Vincent from R & R. Mr. Kvam asked if the residents were well served with no bag service, and Mr. Roberts said he did not know the level of service. Mr. Kvam asked if they have been persuaded to offer bag service, why they cannot match a competitor, given the advantages of the contact and the right to raise their prices. Mr. Roberts explained it was a sealed bid, and no one knew the prices until they were open. He said there will be no increase without an agreement between the City and the company. He said they would entertain an increase if the cost of diesel increased.

Mr. Kvam said he was civic minded and happy with his company, but would sacrifice that for the common good, if he sees it. He said it is strange that single persons, elderly, or retired persons will be the ones seeing a price increase. He said it might cause a few waves, and Mr. Roberts agreed.

John Thomas, 1621 Chadwick: Mr. Thomas said he was taken by Mr. Roberts' responses about commercial and industrial establishments not being covered. He said Mr. Roberts noted that he talked "to folks in the industry." He said he heard Mr. Roberts say that some portion of his decision and recommendation, throughout this whole process, to not include all elements of the community, were driven by the industry.

Paul Keller, 1026 Eino: Mr. Keller said he has R & R. He said his service is not good, and the pickups are irregular. Mr. Keller questioned if they should take that into account.

Ed Moisio, 522 Harvey Street: Mr. Moisio said it is unfair to the trash haulers in Kent. He said he has a gentleman that hauls in a van and a pickup truck, and employees about six people. He said they will not have a job, because Kent wants to go to a single trash hauler. He said his lid is placed on his trash can. Mr. Moisio said he had R & R, and they used his lid as a frisbee, so he went to someone who gives him service. He said that R & R is the lowest bidder and hauls away the City's trash. He said he dislikes the City telling him who to do business with and telling him to save eighty cents, when he would rather spend it so some are employed.

Paul Craven, 1103 Eino: Mr. Craven said when this proposal was first thought of, he talked to a member of Council who said one reason for it was because people put their trash out the night before, allowing animals to get into it, making a mess. He said the City felt that a single hauler would solve the problem, adding he does not see that happened. He said if people are ill-mannered, it will continue. He said if they are pigs, it will continue. Mr. Craven asked how having one trash company will eliminate the problem and make people any more conscientious about how they act. Mr. Roberts said that part of it is that they will have the information relative to the service at the location. Mr. Craven said if they are in the habit of putting the trash out at night, for whatever reason, they will continue doing it and one hauler will not solve the problem. Mr. Roberts agreed.

Roberta Seeman, 221 Pleasant: Ms. Seeman said she is satisfied with her current company. She said that R & R is sloppy, and she wants to stay with her company. She said she could not see why they need a monopoly in Kent.

Walt Adams 336 High Street: Mr. Adams said he has R & R, and it is good service. He said he is sorry they are getting a bad rap, and sorry about the attitudes of some. He said they have been very good.

Ms. Wallach said that R & R does not have the bag option, adding they used to for a cost of \$2 per bag. She said they discontinued that the previous year.

Mr. Wilson said he was probably too relaxed with the rules, and should not have allowed attacks on R & R. He apologized to Mr. Vincent for allowing that to happen. He said the issue was not about who would get the contract, but the possibility of a single hauler.

President Pro Tem Wilson adjourned this meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Linda M. Copley, Clerk of Council

Wayne A. Wilson, President Pro Tem