



CITY OF AVON

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NEW AGREEMENT WITH REPUBLIC EQUALS TRASH PICK-UP SAVINGS FOR RESIDENTS, CITY, SCHOOLS

City's exploration of options leads to better deal

AVON, Ohio – Feb. 18, 2019 – Avon City Council approved a memorandum of understanding with Republic Services that will allow many residents to save money on trash and recycling pick-up, provide certainty on rates for the next five years and eliminate costs for pickup at city and public school facilities.

“We asked ourselves a simple but very important question: Are the residents getting the best deal possible?” said Mayor Bryan Jensen.

To answer that question, City Council’s Finance Committee decided to explore a number of options, including joining the Lorain County Solid Waste Recycling Consortium, a multi-community competitive bidding process for trash and recycling hauling.

City officials emphasized that entering the consortium in no way imposed any requirements or obligations to accept a bid, and that the city was free to negotiate an agreement on its own. Republic, which has provided services to city residents for more than 40 years, offered to continue providing the city trash hauling services at a price that beat all consortium bidders.

“We did our due diligence, and in the end, the answer was clear that we should stay with Republic,” said City Council President Craig Witherspoon.

Highlights from that new memorandum of understanding include:

- Beginning in May 2019 through April 2021, rates for households that use a 96-gallon trash container and 64-gallon recycling container **will decrease** about \$10 per year.
- Rates for users of 64-gallon trash and recycling containers **will remain unchanged at their current levels** through April 2021.
- All rates will increase 3.5 percent on May 1, 2021, but rates then will be locked in through 2024.
- Collection services for all municipal buildings and Avon Schools will be at no cost for the duration of the memorandum of understanding.
- Republic will eliminate a \$111,480 annual supplemental recycling fee currently paid by the city – meaning savings to the city of \$557,400 over the life of the memorandum of understanding.
- Collection day will move from Friday to Monday – a change that city officials believe will be better for residents.
- Republic has also assured the city it is proactively addressing customer service issues.

The lowest bid through the consortium would have cost many city residents as much as \$80 more per year, city officials said.

“We thank the Lorain County Consortium for giving us the opportunity to explore other avenues of service,” Mayor Jensen said. “I’m sure they can appreciate what we need to do for our residents – we need to get them the lowest price possible for the same service, and that’s exactly what we accomplished.”

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