



**Village of El Portal
Solid Waste Special Assessment
Date: 09/27/22
Meeting Start: 6:37 PM
Meeting End: 6:46 PM
Meeting Length: 00:09:23**

Mayor Nickerson: All right, good to see everybody here tonight. The Solid Waste Special Assessment meeting for Tuesday, September 27th, is called to order at 6:37 PM. We're going to have a moment of silent meditation before the pledge of allegiance. Thank you.

All: I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Mayor Nickerson: Thank you very much. Madam Clerk, may I please have a roll call?

Clerk Jacobi: Roll call. Mayor Mayor Nickerson.

Mayor Nickerson: Here.

Clerk Jacobi: Vice Mayor Vice Mayor Urbom.

Vice Mayor Urbom: Present.

Clerk Jacobi: Councilperson Pirela.

Councilperson Pirela: Here.

Clerk Jacobi: Councilperson Lightfoot will not be in today. Council person Martin.

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Councilperson Martin: Present.

Clerk Jacobi: Also present for the record, Clerk Jacobi Jacobi, village clerk, Christia Alou, village manager, and Joseph Gallagher, attorney.

Mayor Nickerson: Thank you very much, Madam Clerk. Do I have approval of the agenda? This is special assessment, you guys dealing with the budget, there's really nothing that can be added to this agenda, as is we have motion to approve the agenda?

Vice Mayor Vice Mayor Urbom: So moved.

Mayor Nickerson: Moved by Vice Mayor Vice Mayor Vice Mayor Urbom. Do we have a second?

Councilperson Pirela: I'll second.

Mayor Nickerson: Second by councilperson Councilperson. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye.

Mayor Nickerson: All opposed say nay?

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Councilperson Pirela: Ready for me to read it, mayor?

Mayor Nickerson: That was just the motion to approve.

Councilperson: No. I'm saying, are you ready now for me to read the-- Sorry, good and welfare.

Mayor Nickerson: Next is good and welfare. Does anybody want to come up and talk about anything that relates to this agenda? Now's your time to do so. Name and address for the record and three minutes are yours. Hearing and seeing none, moving on to the resolutions. Attorney Geller, this is your time to shine.

Geller: Resolution of the Mayor and Village Council to Village of El Portal, Miami-Dade County, Florida, adopting the rate for solid waste and recycling services in the Village of El Portal, as indicated in Attachment A. Posting solid waste and recycling assessment for property located in the Village of El Portal for the fiscal year beginning October 1st, 2022. Approving the rate of assessment for the budget for fiscal year 2022/2023.

Fixing time and date for final adoption and assessment providing for incorporation of recitals providing for an effective date.

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Mayor Nickerson: All right. Anybody from the council, anybody in the audience, if you guys have any questions about the [unintelligible 00:02:27], solid waste, special assessment. You guys can go ahead and ask them questions now. If not, I'll just ask for a motion. Do I have a motion to approve resolution adoption to [unintelligible 00:02:44]?

Councilperson Martin: So moved.

Mayor Nickerson: Moved by Councilperson Martin. Do I have a second?

Vice Mayor Urbom: I'll second.

Mayor Nickerson: Second by Vice Mayor Vice Mayor Urbom. Madam Clerk, may I please have a roll call please?

Clerk Jacobi: Roll call. Councilperson Martin.

Councilperson Martin: Yes.

Clerk Jacobi: Councilperson Pirela.

Councilperson Pirela: Yes.

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Clerk Jacobi: Vice Mayor Vice Mayor Urbom.

Vice Mayor Urbom: Yes.

Clerk Jacobi: Mayor Mayor Nickerson.

Mayor Nickerson: Yes.

Clerk Jacobi: Motion passes for tonight.

Mayor Nickerson: Thank you very much. Moving on. I've seen some trepidation. Anybody have any questions about it or are you guys all right? Everybody good?

Vice Mayor Urbom: You talking about with the waste management?

Mayor Nickerson: With the waste management, yes. I had a feeling somebody might have had a question.

Vice Mayor Urbom: The cost is nominal, but I'm a tree hugger. This is going to sound surprising, but after learning so much about recycling, it is my opinion that we might possibly be paying twice for garbage. I'm not prepared to move towards any type of action.

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I'm actually looking for someone who can come in and talk to us about what the true state of recycling is, and what is actually happening with the recycling.

That's all. We need to move to where manufacturers are making things out of things that aren't plastic, basically, but that's not for tonight's meeting.

Speaker 1: I think Pembroke Pines took it out of their-- They're not doing recycling.

Mayor Nickerson: I read about something with that, also, that a lot of the stuff that we think is recycling, it just goes into the garbage, anyway. Almost the majority of stuff.1

Speaker 1: Even the things that aren't recyclable, because people don't know how to recycle and some people don't care about recycling, and they dump the regular stuff in there.

Vice Mayor Urbom: I'm a contrarian, I actually believe that recycling encourages manufacturers to continue making things out of garbage.

Mayor Nickerson: A while ago, I passed out an-- Everybody received it, this was months ago, when I passed out the schedule for-- Do you guys remember? I've had little fliers, a schedule of a bulk pickup, your waste, your recycling. Then there was a sheet on there that was yellow and it was, "What you can and cannot recycle." I don't know if you guys

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remember that. That was on there, but maybe we need to have some type of town hall or something like that.

You know what? When we do that-- This is our village, that Saturday, that October 29th, that thing that I'm going to plan with that whole day of things. We can maybe do a little recycling thing there. Maybe we can do that, that'll be good.

Vice Mayor Urbom: [crosstalk] I'll see what I come up with to help with that.

Speaker 2: Maybe the vice mayor wouldn't mind leading that portion of the day.

Mayor Nickerson: That'd be good. All right. You guys. Thanks for that. I felt the energy, somebody has something that they were thinking about and want to pass by somebody and not noticed them. Good and welfare. Does anybody that has anything that they wanted to come up and talk about, at all? Could be anything at all. Anybody hearing? All right. Say your name and address for the record. The floor is yours.

Jay: Hi, Jay Rivera, 225 northeast 86th Street. Regarding this trash recycling that is being passed on, is the contract being open for renegotiation? What is the rate that you're going to add on to our taxes? Is it the same from last year? What's going on?

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Mayor Nickerson: All right. The contract is a five-year contract?

Speaker 2: Yes, it is.

Mayor Nickerson: Five year, we're in year number two?

Speaker 2: Yes, we're in year two, so we have a little more time. The rate is at the same rate presently, but they have informed me that they will be presenting us with an increase. I did state to colossal waste that we've already presented the numbers, but we'll see what they are presenting. There's some indication that they want to increase the fee at some point, based on increases to them.

Jay: If I recall, this company had already requested a rate increase in the last 24 months.

Speaker 2: Yes, they have.

Jay: And their service has not improved.

Speaker 2: I am in agreement with you. To that end, I'm looking to maybe reconsider, when this contract is up, that we put this back out for a bid.

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Jay: Is there a termination clause on here, and what the penalty would be? I read contracts, so we need to be prepared for that.

Speaker 2: [crosstalk] That's fine. I will share that with you. I just don't have it on me right at this moment. Yes, there are some reasons for termination. I don't know that we're at that point yet, but let me share that with you and we can discuss.

Jay: Service is bad. Trash cans-- I know it's been automated in collection, but trash cans are being thrown in your driveway or away from your house. Those are issues that you need to consider with the percentage of rate increase. I know we're all paying too many taxes, and this is additional.

Speaker 2: Absolutely, I agree. Back when we made the decision, or we did the RFP-- The waste management contract had been so old and we had renewed so many times, we couldn't do it again, and they did go up on their rates, like everybody else. We went with the lowest bidder, and that isn't necessarily always the best, and that's what we've seen.

Jay: Cheap has always come out more expensive.

Speaker 2: Right, It does.

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Jay: Okay. Thanks.

Mayor Nickerson: Thank you very much. Appreciate that. Seeing or hearing nobody else, we're good in welfare. Do I have a motion to adjourn?

Vice Mayor Urbom: So moved. What's going on tonight?

Mayor Nickerson: Do I have a second?

Councilperson Martin: Second.

Mayor Nickerson: Motion made by Vice Mayor Vice Mayor Urbom, seconded by councilperson Martin. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye.

Mayor Nickerson: All opposed say nay. Hearing none, the El Portal Solid Waste Special Assessment meeting is adjourned at 6:46 PM.

[00:09:23] [END OF AUDIO]

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