

**SUPERVISOR COMMENTS**  
**JULY 2021**  
**SIMSTOWNSHIP.ORG**

**TRANSFER STATION ...** On 7/12, Denny Killingbeck's crew did an outstanding job on both sides of the drive in taking down four dead trees, removing stumps, removing the old fence - except for the gate - and leveling the areas in preparation for a new fence. His crew brought in eight yards of topsoil and seeded and strawed the area. All of this work will allow us to keep the grass mowed, provides a nice, level base for the new fence and sliding gate and improves driveway drainage.

We've had a couple operational hiccups over the last two weeks that caused us to close the facility early on one occasion and delay opening on another occasion. In the first, we simply ran out of room for garbage and had to close at 2:00 on July 5th. On July 12<sup>th</sup>, Denny's crew were working in the yard, but the issue that delayed opening was the Republic truck was unloading and loading the forty yard "doghouse" recycling units. Since it is a very large truck and the forty-yard boxes are fifty feet long, there simply was not enough room to safely allow passenger vehicles and residents on to the premises until Republic could remove and replace the boxes and exit stage left. This delay took twenty-three minutes.

Unfortunately, this situation may not change anytime soon and we're never sure what time Republic will arrive as they do not have a fixed schedule for the time being. Republic has a driver shortage situation currently and they are doing the best they can to service our yard. Typically, they try to get in early morning as they have a key to the gate, and they know what to do. If boxes need to be changed to different locations, then Mark arrives early to coordinate those changes. We are asking residents to please be patient as we will open as soon as it is safe to do so. By the way, if our residents know of anyone looking for a good paying job with benefits, contact Republic at 810-768-2218.

Another issue occurred on July 5<sup>th</sup> after the yard had closed at 2:00, where two separate, possibly, disgruntled resident's dumped thirty bags of garbage at the front gate and drove away. That is an issue of cold, bold littering so I contacted law enforcement plus Mark. We went through the garbage and found an address and when the Sheriff deputies showed up, they also found an address, and all this was going on at 10 p.m. on the 5<sup>th</sup>. The next day, a resident sent Mark a cell phone photo, Mark emailed it to me, and I forwarded to the Sheriff. A resident had taken a photo of a dark blue late model truck along with a license plate number. Illegal dumping is a misdemeanor that is good for ninety days in the pokey and a \$500.00 fine and Sims and Whitney Townships will aggressively report these dumping situations to law enforcement. On the 6<sup>th</sup>, another resident came to Sims Hall and reported a silver pickup dumping garbage at the gate, but they had no phone and were not able to get license plate info. The deputies were following through with a visit to both addresses and a

report to the prosecutor. All of that adds to the mystery of eight white garbage bags and twelve black garbage bags suggests two perps. One address was on Crescent and the other on Huron Rd/US23.

So now that you know the rest of the story, please be patient with our employees and know that they will get you in and out as quickly and safely as possible. We have added four additional dumpsters which helped a little and the plan is to add an additional forty-yard propane-powered compactor, possibly this year.

**Water Meter Installs ...** As of July 13<sup>th</sup>, there are only 146 meters remaining that need to be installed. If you have not had a new water meter installed, particularly if your meter is located indoors, please contact Miehl's Mechanical Service Department at 989-233-5823 and select Option 1 to schedule an appointment for replacement.

### **Final Thoughts ...**

- A. *May we think of freedom, not as the right to do as we please, but as the opportunity to do what is right. Peter Marshall*
  
- B. *Self-Work is required to be perpetually happy and nothing is required to be perpetually sad. bam*