

Supervisor's Report

An update for our last meeting.

At our last meeting I reported that at the October Board of Supervisors meeting I had spoken against and voted against a resolution to eliminate \$1 tags for garbage . With the elimination of the \$1 tag, the cheapest tag would be \$3 which could be used for a bag up to 30 gallons.

It is true that Columbia County has been losing a large amount of money on Solid Waste. This “hemorrhaging” has been attributed to the people who toss in garbage without any tags, or toss in big bags with only a \$1 tag.

Before the full board I argued that eliminating the \$1 tag would only penalize the people who were obeying the rules and that it would not resolve the cheating which would continue. Several supervisors joined me in voting no, and one or two abstained- but the Resolution passed.

But, I can now report, the Solid Waste Department has reversed their policy. At the Public Works Committee on October 25, 2022, Department Head Jolene Race reported that they were able to buy 7 gallon bags to be sold for \$1.00. A Resolution in favor of that passed in Committee and was adopted by the full board last night.

If you still have \$1 tags you can use them while they last- and those are for bags up to 13 gallons. Starting in the near future however, 7 gallon bags will be available for \$1.00. This is a smaller bag than the tag allowed. On the other hand you do not have to buy plastic bags at the supermarket.

This is not the end of the discussion. Recycling and disposal of garbage is expensive for the County and has gotten more expensive. So I do not know where this will all end. But for the time being- you can buy a \$1 bag.