



To: Mayor and City Council
From: Dylan Mulfinger, City Administrator
Subject: Garbage Hauler Discussion
Date: 3/9/2026

Two council members requested the city council discuss the code that requires garbage haulers to be registered with the city.

Oelwein has the following haulers:

- Black Hawk Waste Disposal
- Kluesner Sanitation
- Waste Management

In 2016 when a new City Administrator was hired, the practice of licensing was no longer being followed. No official vote was taken by the city council to discontinue this practice. Only one year did the city reboot the program due to illegal hauling by a now defunct hauling company. Even in the one year, the city had to use significant staff time in retrieving the needed documents from the haulers. Ultimately several haulers were unable to provide the documents.

If the city council is interested in pursuing this practice, the city council should direct the city attorney to provide an opinion on the ability for the city to stop a company from hauling waste in Oelwein.

Council members have also raised questions about the transfer station raising fees. City staff is working on this and will provide a plan to determine the increased need on solid waste and recycling. Both charges are on the utility bill.