



CITY OF DOVER

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMISSION - MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: 271 Mast Road, Dover, NH
Meeting Date: **Thursday, March 17, 2022**
Meeting Time: **6:00 pm**

Members Present: Michelle Muffett-Lipinski, Doug Kemp, Kate Surman, Lynn Peterson, Timothy Casey

Unexcused Members Absent: Chairman Gary Gilmore, Vice Chairman Dave Dinzeo

Alternate Members Present: Timothy Casey

Unexcused Alternate Members Absent: Chris Sleys

Staff Present: John Storer, Community Services Director, Jennifer Bretz, Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm.

Motion: Casey made the motion to appoint Doug Kemp as acting Chairperson, Peterson seconded.

Vote: U/a

2. Citizens Forum

Bill Stafford, 217 Washington Street, stated that at the previous meeting there was discussion regarding the lack of process of collecting recycling materials. He proceeded to pass out a handout. He stated that he's lived in Dover for 17 years and thought that there was a lot of trash around town. The bulk of what he sees is trash that blows out of the numerous different recycling containers. He believes that the city needs to really address the different recycling containers that residents utilize. He proceeded to go over numerous recycling container pictures that he provided. He stated that he wants to work with SWAC to find a solution.

Monique Cain, 27B Cushing Street, stated that she has lived at her residence for 40 years. She is a member of "Don't Trash Dover" with Deb Clough. She and her husband have been picking up trash since the beginning of covid because it was something that they could do every morning. She stated that they have picked up so much trash. She's hoping a solution can be found.

Motion: Muffett-Lipinski made the motion to allow Deb Clough to speak as she is a non-resident, Peterson seconded.

Vote: U/a

Deb Clough stated that she is a resident of Barrington and a former resident of Dover. She is the found of the group "Don't Trash Dover". They've been conducting monthly cleanups in Dover for 3+ years. She is present to speak about something that she recently read on social media. Someone had posted a question asking if they could use a certain type of container for recycling. Whether we like it or not, people go to social media for information. We would like to think that they would go to the City of Dover website to find this information. If they had, they would have found that they are supposed to place their recycling in an 18-gallon container or less which the City of Dover sells for \$8.00. On this particular thread, a Waste Management driver is not only telling people that the 18-gallon bins are terrible and break all of the time but he is advising people that they can use large totes and they will use the truck tipper to pick them up and tip them into the recycling truck. When she was a Dover resident she saw other people placing different types of totes full of recycling at the curb. She was sick of watching her recycling blowing around on windy days and decided to purchase a 32-gallon bin to place her recycling in. Week after week, Waste Management emptied it. She believes that the city needs to get their story straight on what can be used for recycling containers and what cannot be.

Motion: Muffett-Lipinski made the motion to move item 6A to the current discussion, Surman seconded.

Vote: U/a



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Storer stated that when the city started the new recycling contract on July 1, 2020 there was a price increase of almost one million dollars. The city went out to bid for the automatic toters with the mechanical arm. The upfront cost to make a switch to that type of pickup was cost prohibitive. Another thing to point out is when the city switched to the new contract, the city went from paying zero dollars for single stream recycling to paying \$125 per ton. Waste Management advised the city that if they were to switch to the mechanical arm/toter system there would be a higher rate of recycling contamination.

Peterson asked how many contamination tags Waste Management has left behind on items. She stated that she understands that the contamination rate would be high but there has to be some sort of mass advertising for it. She wants to understand what the committee's role is. She understands that this is an advisory committee but wants landlords to post trash/recycling rules for their tenants in order for the tenants to understand the rules more clearly. People put items at the curb then the wind comes and blows items around.

Stafford asked if Councilor Muffett-Lipinski could make a recommendation to the rest of the Council for toters. He agrees with Peterson. Someone needs to educate the residents to place the correct items in the recycling bins.

Muffett Lipinski stated she will ask council about forming a subcommittee regarding recycling containers.

Discussion ensued on forming a subcommittee.

Motion: Kemp made the motion to direct Councilor Muffett-Lipinski to form a subcommittee to study recycling containers, Surman seconded.

Vote: U/a

3. Approval of Minutes of December 16, 2021

Motion: Casey made the motion to approve the minutes, Kemp seconded.

Vote: U/a

4. Monthly Update

A. Financials

Monthly financials were reviewed.

5. Recycling Center

A. Waste Oil Grant

Moore is not present to discuss this topic. Moore is trying to find a grant to put in a waste oil heater

B. Solid Waste Asst. Medical Leave

Moore's assistant is out on medical leave due to covid-19.

6. Curbside Collection

A. Exploring Improved Options for Recycling Containers

See Citizens Forum

B. PAYT Bag Supplies



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Storer stated that he wanted to keep the committee updated. Out of necessity, Moore and Storer had to appear before City Council due to the trash bag contractor. They've been unable to fulfill trash bag orders. City Council has approved a new vendor that is located in Maine. The previous contractor was located in North Carolina.

7. New Business

A. Downtown Trash Receptacles

Storer stated that he wanted to share an email that he received regarding trash in the downtown.

B. Waste Management Request for Price Increase

Storer stated that WM sent a letter to Storer requesting a 7% increase due to the cost of fuel.

Motion: Kemp made the motion to deny WM price increase, Casey seconded.

Vote: U/a

C. Possible Ordinance Amendment

i. Trash for private collection must remain on private property and screened

Storer stated there's a family on First Street who contacts the city time and time again. There is a property across the street from them that is constantly putting trash out earlier than their designated pick up day. He's sent three certified letters and had the police contact them. There's a growing number of people that are not utilizing the green trash bags. There are a number of citizens that have hired private contractors to pick up their trash. They are trying to make an ordinance amendment that if residents have a private contractor, their bags should not be able to be placed in the public right of way.

Casey stated that he opposes an ordinance change.

Muffett-Lipinski stated that it's confusing for people coming in that see other trash bags at the curb.

Storer stated that he will provide a write up of what the ordinance would look like at the next meeting.

8. Old Business

9. Next Meeting Date

June 16, 2022

10. Adjournment

Motion: Casey made the motion to adjourn at 7:23 pm, Surman seconded.

Vote: U/a