

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: Conference Room – 271 Mast Road, Dover, NH 03820
Meeting Date: **Thursday, May 20, 2010**
Meeting Time: **6:00 PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dave Dinzeo – Chairman, Gary Gilmore, Doug Kemp, Ed McCabe, Doug DeDe, Bill Garrison – Council Representative

MEMBERS ABSENT: Judy Mettee, Joe Nicolella

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Moore – Solid Waste Coordinator, Meghan Moisan – Secretary

1. Approval of Minutes: The minutes for the April 1, 2010 meeting were reviewed.

Motion: DeDe made a motion to accept the minutes.

Second: Gilmore seconded the motion.

Vote: U/A.

2. Monthly Update: Financial reports were still not available for this meeting. The change over to the new accounting system has significantly slowed things down. The current fund balance stands at approximately \$65,000.

3. Recycling Center:

- This is the first month since the elimination of the Heavy Equipment Operator position at the Recycling Center; this has subsequently resulted in an increase in the amount of overtime logged by employees. There are approximately 3 cans hauled from the Center each day (about 5 hours), which leaves only one employee to staff the center. Because of the reduction in staffing, Mike stated it was sometimes difficult to handle other Solid Waste issues such as responding to work orders. Being able to grind on site has worked out great, especially since the Center has been so busy. Another grind is scheduled for this week for the approximate 275 tons of brush collected over the past 7-8 weeks. Mike said he has received complaints about the reductions of hours at the Center and people are annoyed at having to wait longer.
- The roll-off truck will need to be decommissioned for a couple days for necessary repairs.
- The bid for the next Household Hazardous Waste Collection will go out next month with the towns of Madbury, Lee and Rollinsford also taking part.
- Illegal dumping has continued to be an issue at the Center and members discussed the possibility of setting up cameras as a deterrent.
- The compactor was serviced by Pinard and has been running well since. Mike suggested using the former glass separation bin for paper to reduce congestion. By separating paper into its own bin, the compactor could be used strictly for cardboard.

4. Curbside Collection:

A. RFP Update – Award goes before council 5/26 - Members reviewed the handouts which included minutes from the subcommittee meeting, a breakdown of the bid results (5 year analysis) and the letter of recommendation to the City Manager. Dinzeo stated Pinard was the clear winner of the RFP and the City Manager agreed with the recommendations outlined in the letter. The resolution will be presented to the City Council at the next meeting on May 26th.

Motion: McCabe made a motion to endorse the letter.

Second: Gilmore seconded the motion.

Vote: U/A

5. Old Business: DeDe again expressed his concerns for residents leaving trash bags out several days before their scheduled pick-up day. He would like the Police Department to get involved in helping address these issues since patrol units are on the streets 24-7. DeDe stated he felt strongly about police involvement and asked Moore to bring this issue up to the City Manager again. Members discussed different possibilities, such as having Moore initially respond to concerns and contacting the police for subsequent offenses.

6. New Business:

A. Concerns and questions about current operations - Garrison presented a list of questions from councilors to the commission. One councilor asked about looking into increasing the Bag & Tag fees to generate more revenue. Mike stated the revenue helps to offset the costs associated with the collection and disposal of solid waste and is currently profitable. It was also pointed out that tipping fees will be going down with the next contract which will be all the more reason to maintain the current bags prices. Another asked about increasing the C&D rate as well as charging for LP tanks. The Center currently charges the following for propane tanks: \$5 for 20lb tanks, \$10 for 30lb tanks and \$20 for >30lbs. Members did not think an increase was appropriate at this time. The C&D rates just recently went up and it was argued that another hike could discourage some people from building or renovating. One member cited possible safety concerns that could come along with people not making necessary repairs and noted the City will already be making money from higher assessments once a project is completed. The current minimum charge at the Recycling Center is \$5, whereas the minimum at Waste Management (Turnkey Landfill) is \$140/ton, which works out to be .07/lb for everyone, contractor or not. Garrison asked Mike for data showing the C&D as being currently profitable. The consensus among the members was to keep the current rates where they are. When asked if there was any marketing to get outside contractors to use the Center for C&D Mike stated, as discussed in previous meetings regarding the town of Somersworth having limited use of the Center, it is difficult to monitor what was actually being dropped off. With the recent reduction in personnel, monitoring would be next to impossible, therefore, it would have to be an all-or-nothing deal. One councilor suggested charging residents for the Recycling Center permits. Moore stated they are trying to encourage people to recycle and that might send a bad message. Checking permits has also been difficult since there is often only one person manning the Center. Members thought this could cost more

money in the long run since there are already issues with illegal dumping and this could make it worse. Another proposal was to look into mandatory recycling. The idea would be to use clear or see-through plastic trash bags and if recyclable items are seen in the bag the driver would be instructed to leave the entire bag behind. Members thought this would significantly slow down pick-ups and would generate a large amount of work orders for the Solid Waste Division. It was agreed that the current program is already very successful and making anything "mandatory" would be a hard sell.

In an effort to conserve resources, Garrison suggested all SWAC meeting materials from this point be printed double-sided using black ink. Members unanimously agreed.

7. Adjournment:

Motion: Dinzeo made a motion to adjourn at 7:01 PM.

Second: McCabe seconded the motion.

Vote: U/A.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for July 15, 2010 at 6 PM.