

Pembroke Solid Waste Committee
Pembroke Public Works Exchange Street
Wednesday February 25, 2009

MINUTES

Present: Jim Boisvert, DPW Director
Gerry Fleury, Committee member
Sally Hyland, Committee Chair
Roland Lemoine, Committee member
Larry Preston, Selectmen's Rep
Reno Nadeau, DPW Staff

Absent: Chris Culberson, Committee member
David Jodoin, Town Administrator

Meeting came to order at 6:45 pm

Approval of past minutes - no quorum at last meeting, therefore only discussion, no minutes.

Discussion: Public Information

Review recent Public Hearings on ordinance: 3 public hearings; after budget committee meeting on Sat. 2/7/09; the last one was after a selectmen's meeting, but no members of the public attended.

LP: concern of Selectman Cindy Lewis - we need something in writing from Casella saying that they would accept recyclables in Allenstown; JB talked with Simon Tripp, who said that Allenstown would take the materials as long as there's a market, and that the current cost is \$30 / ton. He will provide a letter to David Jodoin. <subsequent letter listed price at \$51 / ton> There are at least 6 other places that accept single stream recyclables: Auburn MA & Charlestown MA (Casella); Avon MA (Waste Mgmt); Burlington VT (Chittendon County); South Portland ME; and North Andover MA (IPR).

Cost this year: \$1900 so far to get recyclables taken; BFI is now charging \$25 / ton for dual-stream recyclables (mixed papers and mixed containers).

Commodities markets for recyclables went down with the economy; prices leveled off but are now fluctuating. Proposed Pembroke budget has no money to pay for recyclables.

Trash volume is up from last year. Review of chart on monthly trash generation:

Dec 08: 224 tons; Dec 09: 261 tons. General trend > less trash each year.

Dec 07-Jan 08: 687 tons Dec 08-Jan 09: 734 tons

4600 tons = total in 2008;

Discussion: impact of economy on amount of trash.

* SOH will contact Concord Co-op re: anticipated price / ton next year.

LP: There have been questions raised about program: what if someone doesn't want to buy cart, can they bring trash directly to Transfer Station? Yes, it is still an option, but recycling at Transfer Station will be required after program starts.

JB: concern: Demo at Transfer Station is increasing, which is costing more; fees are not covering cost.

RL: Trends in trash volume will be down for next few years.

* E-mail monthly report to Committee members on volumes from Transfer Station and from curbside collection. Total amount of trash from Pembroke is available at Concord Co-op website.

Discussion: Labor costs: Public Works is now down 1 person; if proposal is adopted, the position will be eliminated.

New program: 3 people on truck > 1 person: 1 person > Highway, & 1 position will be eliminated (now a temp fills this position)

Open: 30-hr maintenance worker; 40-hr Solid Waste person

* Send KEY POINTS to Committee Members

Good questions at public hearing (after Budget meeting) especially about multi-family buildings.

GF: strategy needed for presentation at Town Meeting - brief information: must refurbish one of old trucks (warrant # 11); cart (# 10) & new truck (# 9) must go together; ordinance = # 8
Tax rate is going down this year.

Review: Draft summary for overview presentation at the Town Meeting, to be read before vote on any of the warrant articles.

LP: Suggests use summary as a handout, and have Gerry Fleury present a summary of the program as representative of Committee. Display at meeting will include sample carts.

Discussion: Carts - which size will be given (not much price difference between sizes) > Residents will have a choice in which size cart to purchase. Carts will be on public display so residents can sign up for their preferred size.
Public Works staff will have a lot of work to implement the automated program, including working with residents on appropriate size and proper placement of carts.

Wednesday March 4: Tour of Goffstown by Selectmen, with Carl Quiram, DPW Director.

Thursday March 5: meeting at DES in Concord on Stimulus Package; David Jodoin will represent town. Pembroke submitted:

* Allentown wastewater treatment plant \$ 15 m = primary concern

Broadway project \$2.1 m (Clean Water Act funding)
Salt shed
Garbage Truck

- HANDOUT for distribution at Transfer Station: staff can give it out on Saturdays. SOH will drop off copies at office. Add Sally's and Roland's phone numbers to the flyer for questions.

Discussion on ORDINANCE: JB & RN are concerned that recycling must be mandated at Transfer Station, if the program is to be successful. New section 133-3 (C) covers requirement to recycle at Transfer Station, and will go into effect when automated program is implemented.

Other Publicity:

- Cancel Public Meeting at Library, Monday, March 2, 2009; not enough people at last public meeting.
- Media coverage:
 - . article will be in next Hooksett Banner; Selectman Fred Kline was interviewed.
 - . Letters to Editor:
 - GF has submitted a letter to the editor of the Banner & the Concord Monitor.
 - SOH will write letter
 - . Banner article last week: Hooksett has signed onto the Concord Co-op, and will send single stream recyclables from Transfer Station

Discussion: Strategy for Town Meeting:

- Budget Committee didn't like residents paying for carts, and therefore voted against the cart warrant. There may be a vote to change warrant article so that cost of carts would be paid out of the taxes.
- Focus on refurbishing old truck - it will be needed not only as a backup, but also to pick up school dumpsters and at the Transfer Station on Tuesdays and Saturdays.
- Power Point presentation at the Town Meeting: possibly
- Carts will be on display at School meeting and Town Meeting
- No Contingency Plan - wait for vote
- Truck prices revised; Howard Fairfield on Rt. 106 in Pembroke is the dealer for Labrie. They have split-body trucks.

Meeting adjourned ~ 8:30 pm.