

Recycling and Waste Disposal Committee
Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2014

PRESENT: Pat Bracken; Chairman, Ellen Cabral, Bob Nugent and Chris Kowalski

The meeting opened at 7:30 pm (was rescheduled from December 10th, 2014
Guests: Selectman Lindquist, Penny Williams, (Tri Town News)

MINUTES

The minutes from November 12th, 2014 were reviewed and accepted with clarification regarding smoke detectors by vote.

Mr. Nugent clarified the concern with smoke detectors. There are varying degrees of radio activeness in the smoke detectors. A commercial one may have more than a residential one. There is still no clear answer as to how to dispose of them and if we are told to return them to manufacturer, there is no way to do so.

Old Business

Casella Contract- The contract was reviewed and amended by our town counsel and Casella had their legal department review and make some minor changes. These changes were approved by our counsel. It was noted that it doesn't speak to the terms of the Kent Farm work. Mrs. Harrington will add it to the contract, show it to Casella and send to the committee. The committee will bring the contract forward Monday, December 22nd for the Selectmen to approve.

Resident Concern after Power outage- Mr. Bracken updated the committee on a recent concern from a resident that came from Selectman Hartung. During the power outage in November the resident threw a lot of their food out and were concerned with being over the limit and wanted to know if the rules would be waived for that week. Mrs. Harrington noted to Mr. Bracken that one other time in the past the option was given to bring their trash to the town garage (where there is a dumpster). The name of the person was given to the garage so they knew to expect the person. This process was given to Selectman Hartung to bring forward to the resident for this one time.

New Business

2015 Fee Schedule- The committee reviewed the current fees for the transfer station and the trash bags. With the cost of running the Kent Farm Transfer Station they discussed raising the cost of the permit from \$15 to \$20. Mrs. Harrington will look at the history of when it was last changed, but everyone believed it had been quite a while ago. The current cost for a one day pass was the same as the permit so it was agreed to move that to \$20 as well but to leave the cost of the one day pass for a U-Haul at \$20. The tires are currently at \$3 per day and the committee agreed to move it to \$4. They reviewed the cost of the appliances with freon and televisions and agreed to leave those costs where they were. It has been two years since the curbside allowances changed and the cost for the extra bags were set at \$1.00. After some discussion as to what the increase should be it was agreed to move the cost per sticker to \$2.00 for each additional trash bag. In 2013 there were over 1700 purchased and in 2014 through November only 1088 were purchased. The committee would like to see people continue to recycle more and use the extra bags less. They also discussed the effective date for the changes and agreed that they should all be for January 1, 2015. The committee can only recommend the changes to the Selectmen so they will try to attend the meeting on Monday, December 22nd to present the changes. If they are unable to make it, Selectman Lindquist can bring them forward under liaison reports.

Mr. Kowalski motioned to recommend the following fees changes the Kent Farm Transfer Station Permit from \$15 to \$20, the cost of a one day permit from \$15 to \$20, the cost of a tire from \$3 to \$4, the cost of the additional trash bags from \$1 to \$2 with an effective date of 1/1/15. The motion was seconded by Mr. Nugent and the vote was unanimous 4-0.

Based on current usage it was estimated that this would bring in an additional \$5,578 per year in revenue.

NRRA- There was some prior discussion regarding continuing to pay annual fees to the NRRA. Mr. Nugent emphasized some of the benefits he sees to staying with them. He gave the newsletter as an example along with the new members only portal that allows members to talk with each other. He also emphasized the School Club conference held in June and that a lot of good information is there and we should send some kids to it.

Composting- Mr. Nugent talked about the importance of composting and suggested that if someone wanted to try it out on a trial basis, he had extra bins at the campground that he would be willing to pass out. He said that sometimes people are afraid of animals getting into them and on a trial basis they could see how well it actually works. He emphasized that the committee needs to encourage composting. The Town of Chester has community compost at the transfer station but Mr. Nugent hasn't been able to get a hold of anyone to see how it is working. He said that he didn't see why Hampstead couldn't do one. There was discussion about transporting compost because in Chester there is no curbside trash so the compost would be brought in with ones' trash. There is someone on the Seacoast that is paid to pick up compost from people and then either takes it to a facility or composts it himself (Mr. Nugent was unsure). Mr. Kowalski spoke about San Francisco and that they have curbside composting with containers similar to the trash and recycling one. After some discussion it was agreed that the focus for 2015 would be on composting whereas all the members agree that it is important and helps reduce trash and therefore tipping fees. Ms. Cabral suggested they get out into the community such as at the St. Anne's annual fair.

Household Hazardous Waste- Mrs. Harrington informed the committee that the bill for the Danville fall collection is in and the cost came in at \$4,028.93 for 58 residents. The bill does not include any payment on the grant. According to Danville that will come later after all the paperwork has been submitted to the State of NH for the grant reimbursement. That puts the two collections for 2014 at over \$8,000 whereas only \$5,000 was budgeted. It averages a cost of \$75 per person. In order to keep costs down and to make sure the budget for 2015 will cover the costs for hosting the fall collection to committee decided against participating the Spring collection day in Plaistow.

Ms. Cabral motioned to not participate in the spring 2015 collection of Household Hazardous Waste to be held in the Town of Plaistow due to the costs. Mr. Kowalski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Meeting adjourned by unanimous vote at 9:02 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

January 14, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.

Agenda:

Respectfully Submitted,

Tina Harrington,
Recording Secretary