

Draft Minutes of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee
Wednesday, April 13, 2016
General Services Conference Room – 311 N. State Street

Attending: Councilors: Keith Nyhan (Chair); Mark Coen; Gail Matson; Rob Werner; Steve Shurtleff.
Committee Member(s): Arthur Aznive; Mike Russell.

Absent: Councilor Amanda Grady Sexton Committee Members: Matt Cashman; Melanie Dorion.

Staff: City Manager Tom Aspell; City Solicitor Jim Kennedy; Director of General Services Chip Chesley; General Services Business Manager Jeff Hoadley; Deputy City Manager-Finance Brian LeBrun; and Scribe Lucie Muhlfelder.

The meeting was called to order at 4:20 PM by Chair Keith Nyhan. With 7 members in attendance, it was determined there was a quorum to receive motions.

First on the agenda was approval of meeting minutes from the 3/31/15 meeting.

Councilor Gail Matson moved approval of 3/31/15 meeting minutes; Rob Werner seconded the approval; all were in favor. Minutes of 3/31/15 meeting were approved.

Mr. Chip Chesley passed around Code of Ordinances, Title I, General Code, Chapter 5, Public Works, Article 5-7, Solid Waste and Article 5-8, Solid Waste Flow Control. He provided a brief overview of each.

Casella has offered a 2nd dumping site in Belmont. They will assess a \$2 per load surcharge vs. the Allenstown site. City Solicitor Jim Kennedy suggested that the bulk of the dumping at the Belmont site will be Casella and that would shorten any lines or wait time at Allenstown, should there be any.

Mark Coen said he may be unwittingly in violation of the Ordinance due to his collecting of garbage bags for a fee with his truck and bringing them to Boscawen.

An Appeal Board was established to hear Solid Waste disputes. City Solicitor Jim Kennedy offered examples of the types of appeals that would be heard. Possible appeals would include denial or revocation of a SW license.

Mark Coen asked whether licensing was per hauler or per driver. It is per hauler.

Mr. Chesley said the goal is to have fiscal year licensing with an August 2016 target date.

Keith Nyhan opined that the SWAC doesn't have the legal expertise to offer suggestions on the legal aspects. The Committee will defer to the City Solicitor.

Steve Shurtleff said to add a pre-amble to the Ordinances saying something to the effect that the SWAC approves the changes. The SWAC seemed to have a consensus that the suggested changes were acceptable. SWAC members should email City Solicitor Jim Kennedy with any questions or concerns.

Next on the agenda was review of the Solid Waste Proforma and consideration of recommending a rate increase on the PAYT bags.

Mr. Chesley went over the current Proforma and the Proforma with a projected 25% increase.

The Solid Waste Fund took a hit the initial year. It was speculated that people had less to throw away due to the recession and there was a higher than expected rate of recycling.

Mike Russell questioned what the increase to property taxes would be if they decided to not have a PAYT rate increase, and a discussion ensued.

City Manager Tom Aspell explained that the PAYT cost is passed on to the users vs. the taxpayers. Keith Nyhan spoke about how to market the cost increase and touting the success of the program.

City Manager Tom Aspell also suggested revenue ideas such as selling ad space on the PAYT bags.

As discussion continued, it was unanimously decided that the Solid Waste Advisory Committee recommend to the City Manager that he should include the request for a price increase of 25% into the regular budget process.

Mark Coen moved for approval of the rate increase; Gail Matson seconded. The recommendation passed unanimously.

The SWAC would like to meet again before May 21, 2016. The Solid Waste Department staff needs to pull a presentation together prior to the meeting. Tentative dates of Wednesday, April 27th or Wednesday, May 4th were suggested.

Keith thanked everyone for their participation.
Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM.