

Solid Waste Removal and Recycle Committee Meeting Minutes – January 19, 2017

Members present: Ron Morales, Dan Guilmette and Bud Staples, Absent: Rob Caron

Attendees: Pete Lachapelle (WM)

Meeting called to order @ 3:30 PM by Chair Ron Morales

The Committee reviewed the recycling and solid waste tonnage for 2016. Total tonnage was 930 tons compared to 969 tons in 2015. The recycled tonnage grew to 33.3% compared to 32.9% in 2015. Although short of our 40% goal, the reduction in total tonnage combined with the slight increase in the recycled percentage provided an overall savings to the town.

We then continued our discussion from the October meeting where Waste Management had proposed the possibility of changing the bulk goods pick-up to a Saturday due to the high volume with a limitation on available trucks. Since there were a number of resident complaints that the town had reduced the number of bulk pick-ups to one per year, compared to previous years, the Committee agreed that going back to two pick-ups per year would be better, but not on Saturdays. Pete thought this would be acceptable to WM and dates proposed were two Mondays, May 22nd and September 25th. (Following the meeting an email from Pete was received that confirmed these dates for bulk waste pick-up.)

The white goods/e-waste pick-up will remain a single event and will be held October 16, 2017.

Waste Management will have proofs of the new 2017/18 Trash and recycling Collection Services schedule to Committee members for review and approval within the next two weeks. Printing will take place so that a mailing to occupants of residences can occur by the second week of April.

Dan made the motion to keep the same slate of Committee officers for 2017. Bud seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Ron remains Chair, Dan remains Vice Chair and Bud remains as Recording Secretary.

Bud brought up the fact that dumpsters, at least the one in his neighborhood, are collecting waste that can be recycled, some from residents and some from outsiders that occasionally visit to dump their solid waste. Ron said he heard the same regarding the Maplevale dumpsters. Bud mentioned the additional cost to the town to change from dumpster to curbside pick-up at Country Hills would be approx. \$1500 per year and that it may be time to allow the 55+ Associations to have curbside trash pick-up since environmentally it is the right thing to do. Ron made the motion to have Country Hills take an Association vote to change from dumpster to curbside pick-up at a future meeting and if approved by 2/3rds of the community, the SWR&RC would recommend to the town to consider doing so at the start of the town's next budget year. Dan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on April 19th at 6:00 PM at the Pound School.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 PM.

William (Bud) Staples

Secretary