

Solid Waste Removal and Recycle Committee Meeting Minutes – October 17, 2018

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

Attendees: Pete Lachapelle, Waste Management (WM)

Meeting called to order @ 5:00 PM by Chair Ron Morales

Pete started the meeting by providing a graphic summary of East Kingston's Bulk pickup amounts since 2005. The data showed 2017 tonnage of 70.71 tons to be double the 2013 tonnage of 35.17 tons with 2018 tonnage at 80.5 tons, an increase of 16.7% over last year. Pete reported that leakage from surrounding areas continues and he highly recommended that a cost per unit program be implemented similar to what the town has implemented for the white goods/e-Waste pickup.

After much discussion regarding alternatives and reviewing the letter that the Board of Selectmen (BOS) had previously sent to the residents on this issue, the committee was unanimous in recommending to the BOS that a \$15 per item cost sharing program be implemented next year for bulk pickup items. Ron will present this recommendation to the BOS. Stickers used for the white goods/e-Waste program could be used for this program as well.

The committee also wanted to clarify how to handle bulk waste building materials. The recommendation was to charge \$15 per bundle, a bundle being defined as no larger than 3ft X 3ft X 1.5ft. These materials would be required to be bundled.

Residents need to be reminded that WM has a Bagster® bag program that allows for bulk pickup of whatever the bag will hold, up to 3,000 lbs. The bag cost is \$29.95 and there is a \$10 coupon in WM's East Kingston flyer. The pickup cost is approx. \$200. Additional information can be found at thebagster.com. Another alternative is to use the Newton Transfer Station to dump bulk waste at fees charged by the Transfer Station.

The results of the white goods/e-waste pickup yielded 53 items at a cost to the town of \$1598. This was offset by \$720 collected for 48 items, plus 6 non-revenue town items from the EK Library and our Town Offices. It appears that one sold sticker was not used.

The cost to the town for recycled goods in September and October was and will be \$105/ton. This is a \$27 premium to regular waste. Pete suggested this to be a temporary situation while WM searches for new markets for recycled materials. This was caused by China's new import policies banning some materials and limiting contamination which made China an unviable export market for recyclables.

The committee scheduled its 2019 quarterly meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of January, April, July and October. Meetings will be held at 4:00 PM on 1/16, 4/17, 7/17 and 10/16.

Our contract with WM carries through 2019. WM will begin contract discussions for 2020 at either the January or April SWR & RC meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled to take place January 16, 2019 at 4:00 PM at the Pound School. Our meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM.

William (Bud) Staples, Recording Secretary