

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

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

Attendees: Pete Lachapelle, Waste Management (WM)

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

The meeting started with the election of officers for 2018. Dan motioned to keep the same slate. Bud seconded the motion and all were in favor. The officers for 2018 are: Ron as Chair, Dan as Vice Chair and Bud as Recording Secretary.

The Committee reviewed the 2017 recycled and solid waste tonnage activity. Total tonnage was 987 tons, an increase of 57 tons over 2016 tonnage of 930 tons. Recycled tonnage for 2017 was 320 tons, an increase of 10 tons over 2016 tonnage of 310 tons. The recycled tonnage was 32.4% of the total and although down slightly from the 2016 rate of 33.3%, as Ron pointed out, the town profited from the “tip fee”, a form of rebate on recyclables in 7 of the 12 months. This is the first time in several years the town received a rebate on recycled tonnage.

Pete (WM) was asked if he saw any trends from one year to the next. He reported that the figures and overall operations were consistent year to year and that nothing stood out as abnormal.

Pete also reported that the global market for recycled materials is down, mainly due to China limiting imports due to their preference for cleaner waste. As a result other markets are being considered by WM.

Ron asked for an update on the possibility of weekly recycling and Pete said there was no change as it is presently cost prohibitive and unlikely for the near future.

A brief discussion took place on whether the Committee should have a display at the upcoming March election and due to conflicting schedules of Committee members and WM, it was decided that we would not display in March.

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on April 18th at 5:00 PM at the Pound School.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 PM.

William (Bud) Staples

Recording Secretary