

Solid Waste Removal and Recycle Committee Meeting Minutes – April 21, 2021

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

Attendees: Pete Lachapelle, Waste Management (WM)

Meeting called to order @ 4:10 PM by Chair Ron Morales

The Committee reviewed the 1st quarter results. Total tonnage was on par with 2020 and the recycled percentage improved to 34%, an improvement of 2% over the prior year. The blended value of the recycled waste that reduces the Town's overall cost has improved greatly since last year. The processing fee per ton of \$151.53 was reduced by \$33.54 in Jan, \$38.09 in Feb and \$42.45 in March. So this is trending in the right direction.

Discussion took place to reconfirm the procedure for issuing new solid waste and recycling carts. Ron asked if WM could count the number of carts emptied as the collection process takes place for audit purposes. Pete said there are no automatic counters on the WM trucks, so the billing process is based on carts issued and replaced. Pete committed to sending the committee the WM monthly report that had the recycle and trash bucket totals.

A review of dumpster usage vs. capacity was also discussed. Cornerstone utilizes a 6 yard dumpster for their 11 homes and the unit is rarely half full. Rather than reduce the dumpster size and continue to pick up weekly, the committee and WM agreed that pickups would be biweekly going forward. The savings to the town would be \$51/week for 26 weeks or an annual savings of \$1,326. The 30 yard Roll-Off container at Maplevale is picked up twice per month and is always nearly full. The 10 yard dumpster at Country Hills and the two 10 yard dumpsters at Holly Lane and Cricket Hill are usually near capacity with weekly pickups. So no change for these communities. The Town Office eliminated the dumpster and replaced it with a cart. This significantly reduces the cost by approx. \$2,200 annually.

Ron has been reviewing and approving WM bills for payment and he asked Pete to provide unit pricing in the future. Invoices currently show quantity and total price without the unit cost, making it difficult to check the accuracy of bills. Pete understood the issue and said he would see if this could be done.

Rob reviewed the status of acquiring additional stickers for the Bulk Waste and White Goods/eWaste pickups. After going through 5 other label providers, Rob found that Lightning Labels of Denver, CO could provide what is needed in color, quantity, and in roll form. Cost for 5,000 stickers of one type and color in numerical sequence was quoted at \$561.15 plus \$15 for shipping. This equates to \$.1122/ unit. If a larger order for both colors used is placed, savings would be approx. 20% of the cost for the 2nd color. Ron Motioned to approve the purchase from Lightning Labels and Dan seconded the motion. All were in favor.

The Committee discussed how we could help with distribution of labels while the Town Offices remain closed and the employees are preparing for the Town's election. The recommendation was that a member of the Committee be on site at the Town Offices to assist Grace with the distribution for a 3 or 4 hour period each day the week of May 10 – 14. Discussion also took place whether or not it would be appropriate to have a table at the election site on May 11th. This will be coordinated with Grace.

The next regular Committee meeting is scheduled for July 21st at 4:00 PM at the Pound School. Ron motioned to adjourn and Dan seconded. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM.

William (Bud) Staples
Recording Secretary