

Solid Waste Removal and Recycle Committee Meeting Minutes – April 27, 2016

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

Attendees: Pete Lachapelle (WM)

Meeting called to order @ 6:00 PM by Chair Ron Morales

The Committee unanimously approved the slate of officers for 2016:

Ron Morales – Chair	Bud Staples - Secretary
Dan Guilmette – Vice Chair	Rob Caron – Member At Large

Before this meeting, on March 28th, a vote was taken by Committee members to raise the white goods and e-cycle pickup fee to \$15 per item for the October 17th collection. This was done to allow inclusion in the WM brochure that was printed and mailed to local residents in April. The justification for the increase is that this is what the big box retailers are charging.

Committee members discussed the effectiveness of the WM presentation at the February Presidential Primary and March Town Election. All were satisfied with the results and participation by voters. We thanked Waste Management for taking part in this exercise to improve voter awareness to the importance of recycling.

The Committee decided not to participate in the upcoming Congressional Primary in September, but will have a table presentation with Waste Management at the November Presidential Election on Nov. 8th. Coverage of the booth is scheduled as follows:

Peter	8:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Bud	12:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Dan	4:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Rob & Ron	Fill in as needed

The YTD collection of solid waste tonnage and recycling tonnage was reviewed. Ron asked for suggestions to improve the recycling percentage from the current 32% to 40%. Bud mentioned that some senior communities that use dumpsters do not fully participate in the towns recycling efforts. The example given was that some residents do not utilize the recycle bin and they take the path of least resistance in discarding solid and recyclable waste into the larger solid waste dumpster. As a result the town pays tonnage costs for discarded recyclable material. It may be time to allow the senior communities that utilize curbside recycling to have curbside solid waste pick up as well. The higher cost of bin emptying would be partially offset by the reduced solid waste tonnage. The path of least resistance would then be the larger recycling bin. Ron suggested that a 2/3 vote in favor within these senior communities should take place before the committee makes a recommendation for change to the town. Also a cost analysis of any change should be completed before being presented for consideration by the town's Selectmen.

The next committee meeting will be on July 20th at 6:00PM.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM.

William (Bud) Staples

Secretary