

Solid Waste Removal and Recycle Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2022

Members present: Ron Morales, Dan Guilmette, Rob Caron
Attendees: Peter Lachapelle, Waste Management,
Residents: Shelby Stabile, Vicki Brown

Meeting called to order@4:00 by Chair Ron Morales

First order of business was to nominate and elect officers for 2022. Dan nominated the current slate of officers, motion seconded and passed unanimously.

Shelby and Vicki made a presentation on composting and potentially adding composting to the Committee's responsibilities. There are private vendors who have composting as part of their business model. Waste Management does not. There were a number of different models presented and discussed. In order to introduce this concept to EK, the recommendation was to start slowly and then promote it. One model was to have a composting bin located at the Library. This model would allow a beginning to the program and monitor its progress. Shelby is awaiting word to see if the Library is willing to host the container. The cost of supplies and pick up would be \$71.43 a month. This cost would be borne by the Solid Waste Committee budget. Dan made a motion that the Committee accept the cost of this trial for one year and ask the selectmen to appoint Shelby to the Committee as an additional representative, largely responsible for monitoring the progress for the year. Motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

Peter reported that the recycle rate in EK remains at 31%, which is favorable to other communities. The Committee will continue its efforts to emphasize the importance of recycling.

Budget for 2022 was submitted at \$262,500, a 1% increase over the last year. A 7% surplus from last year was returned to the town.

Under new business, Peter indicated that WM is continuing its efforts to battle COVID, inflation, and supply chain issues, and hiring. He did mention that WM would be looking to recover some of the costs due to these issues.

Ron asked Peter about what could be done for pickups on windy days. Peter indicated that not much could be done as they were at the mercy of the weather and can't rearrange for additional pickups without incurring serious costs. Ron did mention that a failed recycle pick up happened at 58 North Road. Peter was not sure why it was missed and that future technology (cameras) would be helpful in determining these types of cases.

The new flyer is being prepared and Peter will have a draft at the next meeting and will likely send a draft as soon as it is available. Peter also extended an invitation to the group for a visit at the WM facility in the spring. The group would likely take him up on the invite. More details to follow.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM

Dan Guilmette
Recording Secretary Pro Tem