



Solid Waste and Recycling Committee Meeting December 3, 2020 – Via Zoom

The meeting was called to order by Chairman James Goldstein at 9:03 am.

Those attending were Chairman James Goldstein, Solid Waste Committee Members Yvonne Nirelli, T.J. Stokes and Jim Cunningham, Solid Waste Director Amy Miller, County Attorney Tina Wayland-Smith, County Administrator Mark Scimone, Public Information Officer Samantha Field, and Hancock Estabrook Partner Tom Fucillo.

Approve Minutes

Motion by T.J. Stokes to approve the October 28, 2020 Solid Waste & Recycling Committee meeting minutes as presented, seconded by J. Cunningham and carried.

Executive Session

Motion by T.J. Stokes to enter into executive session at 9:05 am for advice of counsel, seconded by J. Cunningham and passed.

Motion by Y. Nirelli to come out of executive session at 9:30 am, seconded by T.J. Stokes and passed.

Resolution

Motion by Y. Nirelli to approve the Leachate Hauling Services Agreement with Eggan Excavating & Equipment Co., Inc., seconded by T.J. Stokes and carried.

Motion by T.J. Stokes to approve the One Year Extension Agreement on the Sale of Recycled Paper with Casella Recycling, LLC, seconded by Y. Nirelli and carried.

Motion by Y. Nirelli to approve the One Year Extension Agreement for the Transportation of Biosolids from the City of Oneonta with Mr. Bult's, Inc., seconded by T.J. Stokes and carried.

Motion by Y. Nirelli to approve the 2021 Municipal Community Clean-Up Program, seconded by J. Cunningham and carried.

Motion by Y. Nirelli to approve the Solid Waste Disposal Agreements for the term 2021 - 2023, seconded by T.J. Stokes and carried.

Motion by T.J. Stokes to approve the Reclassification of the Landfill Operations Supervisor Position to an Environmental Compliance Coordinator Position, seconded by J. Cunningham and carried.

Transfer Station Cost Analysis

A. Miller provided the committee with an in-depth look at the revenues and expenses associated with the four transfer stations. Revenue for each transfer station is determined by the number of punch cards redeemed at each location along with the sale of scrap metal collected at each site. Expenses included material tipping fees, equipment costs and attendant labor costs. After reviewing the four transfer stations, A. Miller noted that all four transfer stations have a net loss, with the Cazenovia Transfer Station the closest to breaking

even. It was noted that the Buyea Road Residential Station has more operating costs than the other three transfer stations because it is the only transfer station open five days a week.

The committee recognizes that while the transfer stations cost more to run than they bring in, they are popular in certain areas of the community and provide a necessary function. The committee recommended reviewing the potential costs of the punch cards needed in order to break even. A. Miller will compile that information to pass along to further review the efficiency of the transfer stations.

Residential Waste Oil Collection Programs

A. Miller reviewed the current waste oil collection program at each of the transfer stations. This is a special recycling program that requires Petroleum Bulk Storage Certification from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, maintenance activities and general oversight. A. Miller recommends moving away from the collection of waste oil at the transfer stations as the State already requires vehicle service and retail businesses to accept used motor oil from the public for free recycling. The committee agreed that based on the State requirements, this service is redundant and can be removed as a way to increase efficiency and lower any potential costs or liabilities. The Solid Waste Department will generate a list of local businesses accepting used motor oil and will provide them to the transfer station attendants to hand out to the public for a one month warning period. The collection of waste oil will stop at the end of January 2021. Antifreeze, which is also collected, is not as widely accepted at local businesses because it can be classified as a household hazardous waste product. Therefore, the Solid Waste Department will continue its collection of antifreeze at the transfer stations.

Sharps Container Distribution

Traditionally, the State provided the Solid Waste Department with free sharps containers, which were then supplied to local pharmacies and transfer stations for distribution at no cost to the public. In previous years, around 7,000 sharps containers were handed out annually. Due to recent challenges on the State level, it has become more difficult to obtain these sharps containers. A. Miller said that the department still had a few boxes of containers left which were being reserved for the transfer stations. A. Miller suggested that pharmacies may need to supply their own containers moving forward and that the Solid Waste Department will have to possibly look at buying their own sharps containers to distribute. A. Miller also mentioned that other programs tell residents to place sharps in hard plastic containers, such as laundry detergent bottles, label them as 'sharps' and then dispose of them in the trash. However, this poses a risk of accidentally being placed in the recycling bins. A well-rounded education campaign will be needed to advise residents moving forward.

Next Meeting Date

9:00 am Tuesday, January 26, 2021 via Zoom.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by Y. Nirelli, seconded by T.J. Stokes and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 am.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Miller, Director of Solid Waste Management.