

**Recycling and Waste Disposal Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Nov. 8, 2023**

**PRESENT;** R. Davis, P. Wentworth, and C. Kowalski

The meeting started at 7:00 pm.

**MINUTES**

The committee reviewed the minutes of October 11, 2023 (the minutes reflect Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> and will be corrected)

*Minutes from Oct. 11, 2023, were read and approved with a motion by P. Wentworth and a second by R. Davis. The motion passed 3-0-0*

**New Business**

**Old Business**

*New Packer*-There was information provided by the Director of Public Works, J. Lavacchia regarding three quotes for the packer and then three quotes for the work on the site to set it up. All of the quotes were sent to the committee members prior to the meeting except for Brantley Corporation, which came in later in the day.

*Packer Proposals:*

The three quotes were from:

Wastequip at a cost of \$23,976.00

Maguire/Marathon at a cost of \$29,917.00

PTR at a cost of \$30,564.00

J. Lavacchia noted that looking at all three, the Wastequip had a smaller opening, which may create an issue by having to put things in the roll off instead of the packer, which is the opposite of what they are trying to do. The Marathon is very similar to the one there now, and it has a lower cost over the lifecycle of the equipment. The current one has been at the transfer station for over twenty years with minimal issues. The third one, PTR, was higher than the Marathon. He recommended that the committee consider the Marathon unit.

***C. Kowalski motioned to accept the quote for the Maguire/Marathon unit at a cost of \$29,917.00. The funds are coming from the ARPA funds approved by the Board of Selectmen. The motion was seconded by P. Wentworth. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.***

*Cement Pad Proposals*

J. Lavacchia created a set of specifications for the sitework to be done to accommodate the new packer. He received three estimates for the work.

Ne San Inc. for \$14,850.00

Dependable Construction for \$16,487.50

Brantley Corporation for \$12,500.00

The committee members discussed the work to be done and the three estimates. The quotes do not include the supply and pulling of the electrical wire, a disconnect box at the new pad, breaker in the existing box, and the final connections to power up the new compactor. J. Lavacchia estimated that to complete that work it would be about \$3,000 to \$3,500.

P. Wentworth noted that he would abstain from voting on the contractor for the site work, due to his son being one of the contractors, but that he would recommend him as the low bidder.

Whereas without P. Wentworth voting, there was no quorum left. T. Harrington suggested allowing J. Lavacchia to make the decision on the site work, especially whereas he drew up the specifications and knew what needed to be done. The committee members all agreed to allow J. Lavacchia to move forward with the decision and that they were okay with the first two bidders. Ne San has done the site work for the shed.

T. Harrington will pass along the information.

*Painting of Trailer:* R. Davis reported that she reached out to the painter recently but hadn't heard back. The committee wants to make sure he will be able to do the work in early 2024 and would need to know if he isn't holding to the estimate. R. Davis will try to get in touch and pin down an estimated time frame for the job to be completed and cost.

#### *Household Hazardous Waste Day*

The most recent event was held in Atkinson and the statistics haven't come in yet. R. Davis reported that she went, and the line was moving along. P. Wentworth said he spoke with J. Talarico, who went for Hampstead, and reported that it may have been under 100 cars total.

#### *2024 Budget:*

C. Kowalski reported that he met with members of the budget committee over the proposed 2024 budget. He was asked by one of the members if the committee had negotiated to get some of the prices down and C. Kowalski responded that they did not, they went through the RFP process and thoroughly went over the proposals received. C. Kowalski noted that B. Weimar of the Budget Committee stated that the RWD committee would need to sell the increases to the public. It was noted that the cost per household if there are 3300 households would be \$280 per year. C. Kowalski reported that the cost to hire a contractor to take one's curbside trash runs about \$360 per year, based on one he is aware of. The other piece of the increases is when we took the contract five years ago, other than the tipping and hauling costs, the rest was level funded. The collection fee was the same for the 5 years of the contract. Overall they felt that they had done their due diligence on the proposed budget.

The committee members discussed that if there is a need to cut some costs, maybe eliminating the brush days (4 a year) would be a place to look. People currently bring in brush all year long and it hasn't interfered with the operations.

T. Harrington reported that Call 2 Recycle handles the batteries that get recycled, and they recently announced an increase in their costs of \$68 per box. Currently we do about two boxes a year, so it was determined to not worry about it right now, but monitor if the activity increases.

There was a question about if they are still collecting lights and if so how often are they picked up. T. Harrington will check into it.

T. Harrington asked if there would be any discussion on changing the fees for the transfer station to help offset the increased costs. This will be discussed at the December or January meeting.

#### **Member Update**

R. Davis reported that she attended a compost class as part of a gardening event she went to, which was more of a refresher.

She also reported that she was not able to take the bus trip with the NRRA. The trip was popular, and she was asked to step aside so that those that needed the credit for their certifications could go.

C. Kowalski said that the library has an email list and program that could help the committee get information out, such as educational components.

P. Wentworth asked when the tires would be emptied at the transfer station. He hasn't been able to get in and look at the floor to see what needs to be done in there. T. Harrington responded that she believes they are emptied after the last bulk day.

### **Upcoming Events**

Curbside Bulk pick up – December 16, 2023

### **NEXT MEETING**

December 13, 2023

Motion to adjourn at 8:30 pm was made by R. Davis and seconded by P. Wentworth.

*The motion passed 3-0.*

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tina Harrington, Secretary