

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2023

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Present: Chairman Muniz, K Galambos, R Aitro, H Heyman, J Rollo

1. The meeting took place by Zoom. Chairman Muniz called the meeting to order at 5:59 pm.
2. RFP for Curbside Collection and Recyclable Material Processing Contract Contracting Status: Identification of Bids Received
 - a. Recycling is blended into MSW so the scope includes both services. In the current fiscal year those services total around \$1.79 million.
 - b. The Commission's efforts over the past two years resulted in an increase in the bid pool to five bids, of which three are comprehensive. The results are on the Town website.
 - c. The comprehensive bids include BRS "Johns Refuse"; Sweitzer "Hometown Waste"; and Country Transportation "Earth Loop".
 - d. The bids range from \$1.67M to \$2.38M.
 - e. Over a 5 year maximum term of contract, the apparent low bid averages \$1.77M/yr, the next is \$1.9M/yr, and the third averages \$218M/yr. The lowest bid apparently is 21% higher than the Town's current rate.
 - f. Our effort was to avoid a large increase. The goal is to attain a 21% increase with 3% annual increase after Year One.
 - g. Next week Commissioners Aitro and Brown, Chairman Muniz, and First Selectman Cosgrove will meet to review the bid packages, joined by two non-voting participants, Tyler Bowne (Sustainability and Compliance Officer), and the SWMC's outside consultant. They will interview all three applicants and then make a recommendation to the SWMC for approval. Some items to be considered include some options that were offered and cost caps that were requested by the applicants. These will be described in the review committee statement.
 - h. Chairman Muniz reported there is a nonprofit recycling partnership that would grant the Town \$16 toward each recycling cart and \$1/cart for public education and outreach, if the Town could administer the program to meet certain metrics. This remains in discussion at Town Hall.
3. RFP for MSW Hauling Contract Contracting Status
 - a. Trash that is picked up at curbside is loaded into tractor-trailers and hauled to the trash-to-energy vendor. The RFP specifies the need for a hauler to provide the trailers to drive to the incinerator three times/day, with the price per trailer load.
 - b. We received three responses to the RFP, of which two contained bids. One bid was for the price/trailer load and one bid was by weight. One trailer weighs about 20 tons. Right now we pay \$20 per ton to Preston, \$18/ton to Bristol
 - i. Cherry Hill bid \$474 per 20 ton load to Preston (equivalent to \$23.70 per ton), \$454 (equivalent to \$22.70 per ton) to Bristol.
 - ii. Enviro Express bid \$540/load.

- iii. This contract will have a fuel price adjustment so there will be pricing variations in the upcoming months based on negotiations re: fuel prices.

4. 5. Program Operations

- a. A new Sustainability and Compliance Manager has been hired, Tyler Bowne, who was unable to attend tonight's meeting but will be attending on a regular basis in the future.
 - b. A new Commissioner, Harvey Heyman, was introduced
 - c. At the next meeting, the SWMC will begin planning the rollout of the new curbside contract: discussing plans for public education and outreach, and identifying terminology to be used for single stream recycling
 - d. Also on the agenda will be budget preparation.
 - e. Revision of Transfer Station Sticker Eligibility
 - i. Commercially registered vehicles that are infrequently used for residential trash/debris/recycling can purchase a contractor day pass is but there is a tax issue and an ordinance modification may be required.
 - f. Modification of Transfer Station Acceptance of Contractor Debris
 - i. There is an issue regarding demolition debris disposal and/or contractor disposal of material at the Transfer Station. Two bays are assigned for demolition debris, and a local contractor can buy a permit. However, Branford's fee is less expensive than other locations nearby. Branford may need to modify that condition, or possibly even eliminate outside contractors' use of the facility. Branford residents could dispose of waste wood & sheetrock but large contractors would go elsewhere.
5. J Rollo moved to adjourn, R Aitro seconded, passed unanimously. Chairman Muniz adjourned the meeting at 6:48 pm. The next meeting of the SWMC is scheduled for February 8 at 6:00 pm via Zoom.