

# **SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**July 12, 2023**

Present: Chairman Muniz, Commissioners Aitro, Heyman, Plunkett, Galambos, and Sustainability and Compliance Manager Bowne

1. Chairman Muniz called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
2. Commissioner Heyman made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 10 meeting, seconded by Galambos, approved by unanimous vote. Commissioner Heyman made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 5 Special Meeting, seconded by Galambos, approved by unanimous vote.
3. Chairman Muniz made a motion to add an item to the agenda, seconded by Heyman, approved unanimously.
4. Program Operations
  - a. Report on rollout of new trash and recycling program: Manager Bowne reported that the distribution company completed the deliveries of new carts and now the Department of Public Works is performing daily drop-offs of carts to approximately 100 remaining addresses to make sure no houses are missed. Customer issues are now being reported directly to Shelley at Bozutto Brothers. Manager Bowne will conduct a 30-day review with the vendor to evaluate the strengths & weaknesses of the new program and to finalize which type of truck will be used for each address. Commissioner Heyman thanked Manager Bowne and Chairman Muniz for a successful rollout.
  - b. Recycling Material Costs and Metrics – see attached report
  - c. Curbside Collection Performance Update – see attached report
  - d. Transfer Station Performance and Practices Update
    - i. Because we expect to have more recycling delivered daily to the Transfer Station, there is a need for more space. Demolition debris is currently accepted 2 bays so this could be reduced to make room for recycling. Both commercial and residential demolition debris is accepted. Our price for demolition debris is not covering our cost to recycling it. There is a commercial demolition debris facility in North Branford. Chairman Muniz made a motion to authorize Manager Bowne to evaluate the existing contract for demolition debris disposal and make a recommendation to the SWMC, including possible options: modifying the price/ton; allowing for semi-annual price revision; changing the pricing to one-ton measurements; and considering tiered pricing for residents. Commissioner Heyman seconded, after discussion the motion was passed unanimously.
    - ii. There is a pure cardboard compactor operation at the Transfer Station. With our new single-stream program, cardboard can be mingled with recycling. To continue with pure cardboard recycling, we would need to rent packer boxes. The cost of renting packer boxes and continuing to operate the cardboard compactor is no longer warranted. Therefore, we will temporarily mothball the pure cardboard compactor operation.

**5. Old Business**

- a. The Transfer Station is collecting used residential trash and recycling containers which will be recycled by a company in Rhode Island. Chairman Muniz asked Manager Bowne to investigate options for communicating this information to residents. Chairman Muniz made a motion to authorize Manager Bowne \$1,500.00 to be used for this purpose. Commissioner Heyman seconded the motion, and after discussion, the motion passed unanimously. Chairman Muniz also asked Manager Bowne to confirm that the Transfer Station has the capacity to accept the used containers and the vendor has the capacity to serve the need.
- b. Manager Bowne and Chairman Muniz will work together to establish a system for tracking the fuel surcharge rates for relevant contracts.

**6. New Business**

- a. The Commission will consider a possible ordinance revision for how Transfer Station resident stickers can be provided for people with out-of-state vehicle registrations but who still pay Town property taxes.

**7. The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 pm. The next regular meeting of the SWMC is scheduled for August 9 at 6:00 pm.**