

## Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting January 22, 2019

Members Present: Lynn Sweet, Chairman, Bryant Scott and Scott Young

In attendance: Police Chief Mike Richard, Chris Bane

The Selectmen's Meeting was called to order at 5:24.

Police Chief Richard brought forward an amendment to his budget which received approval from the Board members.

Pete LaChapelle, representing Waste Management, met with Board members to discuss the Town's contract renewal with its associated costs and recycling with its associated costs. He gave quick "snapshot" of the current recycling situation, and how it will impact our budget. China, a major importer of recyclables, is not importing as much and, then, only uncontaminated material. We don't have technology to get it as clean as China wants. Other outlets for recyclables are being explored. Rates paid for recycled materials vary according to the cleanliness of the material and market forces. Strafford has a good track record not only for recycling, but for the cleanliness of the material brought to the Transfer Station. Strafford is also "ahead of the game", because we are accustomed to sorting our recyclables. While single stream recycling is more convenient, processing costs are making it more expensive. Mr. LaChapelle strongly encourages towns to continue with recycling. Recycling is the right thing to do; residents just need to understand what things can be recycled. Some principles to remember are:

- Paper – "Clean, dry and rippable"
- Glass - CLEAN
- Plastics – Currently only numbers 1,2,5 are recyclable....it must be clean! Plastic containers with other numbers are considered trash.
- All recyclables should be uncontaminated by food or liquid....no napkins, paper plates or pizza boxes.
- No plastic bags of any sort.

Mr. LaChapelle believes the market will eventually stabilize, and we will be in good standing if we stay the course. He left some written information about the recycling situation and suggested a website [RORR.com](http://RORR.com) for additional resources. The Town will make this available on our website.

The Board discussed with Mr. LaChapelle some details and the pricing of our new contract with Waste Management. The overall Waste Management expense will be increased by about 12% over last year, partly due to normal increases and partly due to increased recycling costs. There has been some confusion in the past about which compactors are owned by the Town and which are owned by WM. After some research, Mr. LaChapelle determined that the Town owns Compactors 3 and 4, which are used for recycling; the Town is responsible for their maintenance. WM owns the larger Compactors, 1 and 2, which will be upgraded in the near future. After review, the Selectmen signed the renewal contract.

An addendum to the Personnel Plan was discussed. The intent is to provide 24 hours annual vacation leave for part-time hourly employees who work a minimum of 24 hours per week on a regular basis year round. Section 13.b will be drafted and presented for consideration and adoption at the next Selectmen's Meeting to be held on Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>.

At this time a motion was made by Lynn Sweet and seconded by Scott Young to enter into a non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a). Roll call was taken as follows:

Lynn Sweet – Aye, Bryant Scott – Aye, Scott Young - Aye

The Board entered non-public session at 6:07PM.

A motion was made by Lynn Sweet to leave non-public session and seconded by Bryant Scott to return to public session. Roll call was taken as follows:

Lynn Sweet – Aye, Bryant Scott – Aye, Scott Young – Aye

Public session reconvened at 6:20PM.

No votes were taken during the non-public session.

A motion was made by Scott Young and seconded by Lynn Sweet to seal the minutes of the non-public session. Roll call was taken as follows:

Lynn Sweet – Aye, Bryant Scott – Aye, Scott Young - Aye

The Selectmen reviewed the overall budget of the Town and warrant articles, making suggestions for revision and discussing the tax impact of the proposals. The Budget Hearing is February 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00PM.

The Selectmen discussed the need for a "new to us" backhoe at the Recycling Center. A warrant article asking for the establishment of a CRF and funding of \$10,000 to be placed in it for the purpose of a future replacement of the backhoe will be added to the 2019 Town warrant.

Selectmen reviewed and signed a one year contract with KRT for the town's assessing work. They would like to have quarterly reviews with a representative from the firm; KRT will be contacted to arrange this.

The Selectmen discussed the concerns of a resident about 2 areas of Town where he sees hazardous situations. Both involve a State road. Greg Messenger will work with the State to address both situations.

There being no further business to transact, it was moved, seconded and voted in the affirmative to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:27PM.