

Solid Waste Commission
Regular Meeting
Monday, March 25, 2019 – 5:30 PM
Lebanon Town Hall Conference Room

MINUTES

Members Present: Chair Carol Morris-Scata, Ryk Nelson, Dennis Greci (Alternate)

Members Absent: Harry Anderson

Others Present: Recording Secretary Linda McDonald

1. Call to Order: C. Morris-Scata called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Discuss and Act Upon:

2a. March 25, 2019 minutes of regular meeting: R. Nelson MOVED to approve the March 25, 2019 regular meeting minutes as presented. D. Greci SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:0.

3. Correspondence

3a. Fuss and O'Neill quarterly report: The members reviewed the monitoring report performed in January 2019. C. Morris-Scata reported two locations could not be sampled due to frozen surface water. The concentration of Nitrate at one sampling location and the dissolved iron concentration at another location were higher than the historical range concentrations. All other reported concentrations were generally consistent with historical results.

3b. Selectman's Office regarding Williwaste (DeVivo's) contract: Discussion followed on the increase in recycling fees charged by Willimantic Waste Paper Company. C. Morris-Scata said the First Selectman has inquired whether the Commission would be reviewing, and possibly modifying, their Transfer Station rates because of this fee increase. Consensus of the Commission was to not raise rates at this time.

R. Nelson complimented Transfer Station Supervisor Doug Blakeslee on the uniformity and consistency in prices charged at the Transfer Station. C. Morris-Scata said the fee schedule should be posted at the Transfer Station. Doug Blakeslee will be notified to post the current fee schedule for customers. The fee schedule is also on the Town's website.

3c. Household Hazardous Waste Collection: C. Morris-Scata said she has sent the information on the dates and locations for the Joint Household Hazardous Waste Collection days to be published in the upcoming issue of Lebanon Life. The flyers are being distributed to customers at the Transfer Station as well as areas around town.

4. Transfer Station Supervisor's Report: No report.

5. Old Business

5a. Location for Returnables: D. Greci reported there is not a formal collection location for returnables. Discussion was tabled to a future meeting.

5b. Combination Locks for Gates: Discussion was tabled to next meeting so the members can get an update from the Transfer Station Supervisor. D. Greci said he noticed several vehicles parked at the Transfer Station from Eversource and Asplundh.

5c. Budget decrease: C. Morris-Scata reported the Board of Finance cut the Solid Waste Commission budget by \$4,000.00. Discussion followed on areas to cut the budget. No action was taken.

6. New Business

4a. Discuss current Transfer Station fees: C. Morris-Scata said she reviewed fee schedules in other towns. She does not see a need to increase fees at this time. The members concurred.

4b. Review Trial Balance Sheets: C. Morris-Scata said she requested, but did not receive, a copy of the trial balance sheet from Bob Sirpanski, who has been filling in at the Finance Department since the departure of the Finance Director. The members agreed that the primary job of the commission is to keep track of their money. The commission is supposed to be overseeing the operations of the Transfer Station and it is difficult to do that, or to have a logical discussion, if the commission doesn't even know what is being spent.

4c. Discuss and Act Upon: Williwaste contract (DeVivo's): C. Morris-Scata questioned why the commission is being asked by the First Selectman to act on modifying fees as the commission has no say or input on the contract. She said the commission has no choice but to support this contract, but suggested, prior to the next contract being executed, the First Selectman appear before the commission with details of the contract.

R. Nelson MOVED that the Solid Waste Commission send a letter to the First Selectman to let the Board of Selectmen know that the members of the Solid Waste Commission ask to be part of any contract discussions related to the charge of the commission regarding the operation of the Transfer Station prior to any contract approval. D. Greci SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:0.

4d. Discuss and Act Upon: Budget Revisions: C. Morris-Scata recommended not taking any funds from solid waste disposal, so funds remain to cover recycling fee increases, or to the salaries line item. The members reviewed several areas in the budget to subtract money from. Consensus of the members was to continue to monitor situation to see if any serious revision has to happen, but the commission feels confident, even with the \$4,000.00 reduction, that they have covered their responsibilities well.

R. Nelson MOVED that the Solid Waste Commission continue to monitor the budget. D. Greci SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:0.

C. Morris-Scata stated she would be stepping down as SWC Chair in December but would remain as a member of the commission. She suggested that, as the commission currently has three vacancies, solicitation for new members be advertised on the

website. The SWC discussed the importance of student involvement in recycling and waste management issues as well as having students participate more in community affairs. The SWC discussed whether the addition of a student member from the high school would be something to approach with the Superintendent of Schools at an upcoming meeting.

7. Adjournment: The regular meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted Linda H. McDonald

Please see the minutes of subsequent meetings for the approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.