

Final Meeting Minutes – Recycling and Solid Waste Committee (RSWC) – 3/29/2022

Attendees (live plus virtual Zoom access) – Meryl Mandell (Chair), Gary Bernhard (Recycling Coordinator), Gail Fleischaker, Tim Logan (note taker), Marla Killough, Steve Rice. (these members attended in person at Town Hall)

Guest - Becky Torres, Town Administrator

- 1 - The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm.
- 2 - Minutes from 3/29/2022 meeting were approved.

3 – Status of Prior Action items:

A – Becky Torres would like the RSWC to take charge of RSWC purchasing but needs to first resolve some issues regarding use of the Town Master Charge card. **DONE:** This idea will be abandoned as it is actually not saving Becky any time. Becky will ask the RSWC if she needs any help.

Gail Fleischaker will talk with Gail Weiss (Town Accountant) to clarify what revenue goes into the revolving account. **DONE**

B - Gary will continue to explore mattress recycle options and the possibility of getting 3-4 towns to work together on mattress and textile disposal/recycle options. **ON GOING**

C - Meeting with the school principal about recycling education is on hold until after a new hauler contract is signed. **ON HOLD**

D – Gary will purchase a vendor tent for the shed. **DONE**

E - Gary will follow up with Amy Donovan at Franklin County on residential and school food composting. **ON HOLD.**

F – Meryl will setup a Google pole to confirm date for discussing received proposals. **DONE**

G – Gary will contact the Select Board regarding setting up a bin for CMARK textile collection and discuss the idea of the optional book bin with Mary Anne. **ON GOING:** The SB asked Gary to meet with them, possibly on April 12th, to discuss.

H – Gary will let Mary Anne know that the RSWC will provide bags for the roadside cleanup on April 23. **DONE:** Tim will be available to hand out bags from Town Hall on the 23rd.

4 – New Business: review of responses to the RFP:

Casella and USA Waste & Recycling were the only respondents to the RFP. The technical proposals were read and discussed before the pricing proposals - so that price would not influence the committee's thoughts. Pricing proposals were then reviewed. The RFP responses are attached to these minutes.

Final Meeting Minutes – Recycling and Solid Waste Committee (RSWC) – 3/29/2022

USA Waste & Recycling proposed an automated system. The committee agreed that this was not suitable for Shutesbury. Casella proposed a manual system which sounded quite suitable albeit considerably more expensive than the rather fortunate contract Shutesbury had for the last five years. Gary noted that the town of Gill used Casella and were quite pleased with the quality of service. Gill has a rural environment similar to Shutesbury. The following items will be discussed with Casella:

- 1 – Verify that there will be one individual operating the truck.
- 2 – Are backup trucks available?
- 3 – How does truck size compare to what we now have from USA?
- 4 – Clarify fuel surcharge exemption – differs from what was in original RFP?
- 5 – Can we negotiate annual rate increase down.

Members voted to pursue the Casella contract: 5 in favor and 1 abstain. The abstaining member, Marla, felt she was too new to the committee to offer an opinion.

Members voted to pursue the USA proposal: 5 not in favor and 1 abstain

Becky Torres again raised the idea of Shutesbury buying a truck, hiring a driver, and doing its own hauling. After some discussion both Becky and the committee agreed this is not currently a beneficial approach.

Members decided that Becky, Gail, Meryl, or possibly Gary would seek the Select Board's permission to negotiate a contract with Casella.

A motion was made and passed unanimously to have Becky, Meryl and Gary negotiate a short term disposal contract with USA until July 1.

5 - Future action items:

A - Gary will continue to explore mattress recycle options and the possibility of getting 3-4 towns to work together on mattress and textile disposal/recycle options.

B - Meeting with the school principal about recycling education is on hold until after a new hauler contract is signed. **ON HOLD**

C- Gary will follow up with Amy Donovan at Franklin County on residential and school food composting. **ON HOLD**.

D– Gary will contact the Select Board regarding setting up a bin for CMARK textile collection and discuss the idea of the optional book bin with Mary Anne. Gary will meet with the SB, possible on the 12th, to discuss.

Final Meeting Minutes – Recycling and Solid Waste Committee (RSWC) – 3/29/2022

E - Becky, Gail, Meryl, or possibly Gary will seek the Select Board's permission to negotiate a contract with Casella.

F - Becky and Meryl will negotiate a short term disposal contract with USA until July 1.

7 - Meeting adjourned at 4:03pm.