

Solid Waste and Recycling Committee (SWRC) Minutes **APPROVED**

Wednesday, February 16, 2022

5:30 to 6:50PM at the Readfield Town Office and via Zoom

Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Present: Committee members: Amy Black, Aaron Chrostowsky, Eric Dyer, Kellie Hess, Karen Peterson, Mark Robinson, Kathryn Mills Woodsum, Brent St. Clair

Public: No others present

Accept Minutes from January 12, 2022

- Motion by: Kathryn Mills Woodsum; Second by: Kellie Hess, **Vote: Unanimous**

Special Meeting to discuss input on Budget

Eric provided overview on all aspects, addressed clarification requests. Review of discussion as follows:

Confirmed hire of a three-quarter FTE new maintenance staff position with focus on providing back up and support to the TS. This will result in higher than previously estimated HR costs.

CAPITAL SUMMARY: CAPITAL INVESTMENT SCHEDULE REVIEW:

As previously discussed, there will be no capital expenditures planned for this year with the current focus on planning and clarifying optimal options for future identified priorities.

Kathryn suggested adapting the Capital Investment Schedule (CIS) to include two additional columns containing the specific installation year as well as the proposed replacement date. Eric clarified that this information was detailed in other locations within budget and agreed to place this information on the CIS.

Aaron discussed having access to what the lease payments are for capital expense items and questioned if installation costs are reflected in the estimates. Eric clarified that these figures are rough costs and serve as a placeholder for future budget discussions.

CUSTOM BUDGET REPORT: EXPENSE TS-23

Personnel – Confirmed hire of a three-quarter FTE new maintenance staff position with focus on providing back up and support to the TS. This will result in higher than previously estimated HR costs. Eric reviewed change in wage classification from full to part time and noted that the \$2.00 /per hour raise for TS employees is budgeted to remain in place to facilitate retention of experienced staff. No disagreement noted.

Insurance costs – Karen/Eric will verify that costs reflected are accurate

Stipends – reflects costs of town Safety Officer whose duties frequently occur in context of TS support

Utilities – small adjustments, discussed the prior need for increase pumping of holding tank due to leak and with this resolved should continue to see a stabilization of costs.

Contract Services – most significant changes in these items. Eric reports expecting Tipping and Hauling costs to increase substantially this year, possibly to 10% increase, planning to issue Hauling RFP.

Kathryn discussed the potential to obtain information related to costs from ecomaine to provide services via burning vs. having waste placed in landfill in attempt to address environmental concerns. Mark provided info. related to these cost comparisons being done in the past, Eric will follow up.

Single Sort Tipping – TS is now being paid again by ecomaine for recycling, prices and demand seem to be stable. Will continue to monitor.

Trash Tipping – revenue increased as well.

Equipment – Tools line-item increase reflects cost of ensuring safety and efficiency for staff by having necessary tools.

Building O&M: Eric noted sizeable increase for maintenance due to plans for electrical work which will improve safety and efficiency including:

Improved lighting for the brush area with utility pole and lighting year-round, estimate \$3,000-\$5,000

Installation of new steel gates for the demolition cans area to meet OSHA requirements, estimate \$4,000 - \$6,000

Run underground power and install utility pole in the white goods area to improve safety by increased lighting.

Run underground power from the main building to the Attendant Booth to increase safety to all.

Public Ways – Crack Sealing planned for this year.

Back Hoe - Budgeted to cover potential expenses as all repairs, parts, maintenance are expensive.

CUSTOM BUDGET REPORT: REVENUE TS-23

Transfer fees: Flat: Discussed:

Noted decrease from demolition and construction revenues related to pandemic effects

Recycling – metal prices increasing

Single Sort Recycling - as noted have had ecomaine revenue for a few months, will monitor

Town Shares - discussed increase in property values based on state property evaluations, noted variability in member towns with Readfield at 43.044%, Wayne @31.669% and Fayette @ 25.286%. responsible % of the total formula.

Old Business:

Kathryn identified plans to move forward with Swap Shop support to reopen with desired date of May 1st. Kellie to help with this effort.

New Business:

Aaron reviewed the document related to three various Bulky Waste models. Discussion included estimated costs, pros and cons of Roadside Trash/Green Up Day, Bulky Waste Item Day and Bulky Waste Punch Card System. Each town manager will work with individual town to implement method to achieve desired goals.

Next Meeting

Wednesday April 13, 2022 at Readfield Town Office 5:30pm

Reminders

Reminder that we meet on the second Wednesday of a month now.

Future Meetings

Next Agenda Items

Wednesday April 13, 2022 at Readfield Town Office

- Composting update
- Electronic Payments update
- Carry over to a future date a discussion on holding composting events and school visit arrangements with Liza Bitterman from ecomaine, due to Covid-19 pandemic.
- Other

Wednesday July 13, 2022 at Readfield Town Office

- Composting update
- Other

Adjourned at 6:30PM.

Respectfully submitted by Kellie Hess