

Southern Windsor/Windham Counties Solid Waste Management District



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Board of Supervisors Annual District Meeting Thursday, April 26, 2018 Springfield Select Board Hall, 3rd Floor, Springfield, Vermont

Public Hearing on Increase of the Tipping Fee Surcharge to \$9.00

At 6:00 p.m., Forrest Randall, Board Chair, opened the public hearing and asked if there were any question. Joe Fromberger asked Tom Kennedy to explain the reason for the increase in the tipping fee surcharge from \$7.00/ton to \$9.00/ton. T. Kennedy noted that the District's expenses had increased and that since the District distributed funds last year to the towns, cash flow had been an issue. The increase will help ease the cash flow.

Tom Kenyon asked if there would be another increase in the tip fee surcharge next year. T. Kennedy replied that there would not be. Roughly every five years there is an increase. At 6:04 p.m., F. Randall closed the public hearing.

Public Hearing on FY19 Work Plan and Budget

At 6:04 p.m., F. Randall opened the public hearing on the FY19 Work Plan and Budget. T. Kennedy discusses various items on the proposed Work Plan. Bob Forguites, District Treasurer, went through the most notable items on the proposed FY19 Budget. No questions were asked about either proposal. F. Randall closed the public hearing at 6:10 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

At 6:10 p.m., F. Randall called the meeting to order.

1. Additions to the Agenda – none J. Fromberger made a motion to approve the agenda. T. Kenyon seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

F. Randall spoke about Frank Heald's long and dedicated service to the District and the Board's recognition and appreciation of that service. F. Heald is retiring as the town manager of Ludlow. The new town manager, Scott Murphy, will be appointed to take his place as Ludlow's representative to the District.

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2. Roll Call

Board supervisors present included: Forrest Randall, Springfield; Tom Yennerell (alternate), Springfield; David Bemis, Athens; Derek Suursoo, Chester; Cynthia Gibbs, Grafton; Wayne Wheelock, Baltimore; Becky Lomachinsky (alternate) Baltimore; Frank Heald, Ludlow; John Denner (alternate), Ludlow; Art Lynds, Plymouth; Bruce McEnaney, Cavendish; Joe Fromberger, Andover; Gary DeRosia, Rockingham; Tom Kenyon, West Windsor; and Ed Morris, Weathersfield

Others present included: Tom Kennedy, District Manager; Mary T. O'Brien, District Clerk and Recycling Coordinator; Bob Forguites, District Treasurer; Matt Priestly, Alva Waste; Jim Toher, Casella; Scott Murphy, new town manager for Ludlow

A quorum was achieved with twelve of fourteen towns represented.

3. Discussion and Approval of Increase in Tipping Fee Surcharge to \$9.00/ton

T. Kenyon made a motion to approve the increase in the District's tipping fee surcharge to \$9.00/ton. B. McEnaney seconded the motion. A. Lynd's stated that Plymouth does not approve the fee increase because it does not benefit the town. All voted in favor of the motion with one nay vote. The motion carried.

4. Discussion and Approval of FY19 Budget and Work Program

D. Suursoo made a motion to accept the FY19 budget and work program as presented. G. DeRosia seconded the motion. No discussion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

5. Discussion and Approval of FY19 Contract with Regional Planning Commission

T. Kenyon made a motion to approve the contract as proposed. J. Fromberger seconded the motion. No discussion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

6. Discussion and Approval of FY19 Waste Disposal Contract

T. Kennedy stated that there were three responses to the request-for-proposals (RFP): Alva, Casella, and Triple T. The Executive Committee reviewed all three and agreed that Triple T's response should not be considered because it only addressed Rockingham and Springfield which was not the scope of the RFP. So, only two responses, those from Alva and Casella, were considered. T. Kennedy explained the chart which was created to compare the two responses.

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F. Randall asked for a representative from Casella to speak about their proposal. J. Toher spoke about the company's response in the area when Tropical Storm Irene caused widespread devastation. Casella has the staff and equipment to service the area. He spoke about the good relationship Casella has had with the District over the years and through many changes. Casella is a competitive bidder. F. Randall asked for a representative from Alva to speak. M. Priestly, owner of Alva, noted that he has been servicing the towns for thirteen years and has been growing. His company also stepped up when Irene happened. When his fully permitted transfer station at 1080 Charlestown Road in Springfield is operational, travel will be cut by 50%. Last year, Alva was the low bidder but the District decided to wait another year. M. Priestley noted that this is a hauling contract and a disposal contract.

J. Fromberger asked if the Executive Committee had a recommendation for the rest of the Board. F. Randall replied that it had – it was Casella. J. Fromberger made a motion to accept the bid by Casella for a three-year contract with two potential one-year extensions at the discretion of the District. B. McEnaney seconded the motion. T. Kenyon asked what would happen if the motion were defeated – would Alva get the contract? F. Randall replied that no, another motion would have to be made. J. Fromberger explained that a tie vote would mean the motion would die. B. McEnaney asked about Zero-Sort recycling. T. Kennedy said that the towns have different contracts with Casella. A. Lynds asked about recycling. T. Kennedy stated that the contract is strictly for municipal solid waste (MSW) and construction and demolition debris (C&D). This is not a contract for recycling.

T. Yennerell stated that Springfield would benefit the most with a contract with Alva because the town would save about \$6,000/year, so he's in favor of Alva getting the contract. B. Forguites asked for and was given permission to speak by F. Randall. He asked M. Priestley if he would be able to collect the District surcharge. M. Priestley responded in the affirmative and that he would report tonnages to the District. T. Kenyon asked what the difference is in percentage between the two bids. After three years, there would be a \$10,000 difference between Alva and Casella, a 1.6% difference in price. A. Lynds noted that Alva's transfer station is in Vermont and Casella's is in New Hampshire. He recommends the Vermont-based transfer station because a non-apportioned license plate on a truck cannot go into New Hampshire. Neither Alva nor ABLE have apportioned plates on their trucks. B. McEnaney stated that Casella is cheaper for Cavendish.

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The vote was called went as follows: Andover, "Yes"; Athens, "No"; Baltimore, "Abstain"; Cavendish, "Yes"; Chester, "Yes"; Grafton, "No"; Ludlow, "Yes"; Plymouth, "No"; Rockingham, "Yes"; Springfield, "No"; Weathersfield, "Yes"; West Windsor, "No." (Reading and Windsor representatives were not present.) The weighted count was 18 "Yes," 15 "No," and 1 abstention. The motion passed.

7. Approve Minutes of January 25, 2018 Meeting

T. Kenyon made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 25, 2018 meeting as presented. D. Suursoo seconded the motion. No discussion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

8. Acceptance of Treasurer's Report

B. Forguites discussed the Report. He said that he thinks the District will break even at the end of the year and may not have to dip into the Fund Balance. D. Suursoo made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. G. DeRosia seconded the motion. No discussion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

9. Election of Officers and Executive Committee Representatives

- Chair F. Randall asked B. Forguites to moderate the meeting during the election of Chair. B. Forguites stated that he would accept nominations for Chair. J. Fromberger nominated Forrest Randall as Chair for the coming year. There were no other nominations. J. Fromberger made a motion to close the nomination and instruct the Clerk to cast one ballot. All voted in favor. F. Randall thanked the Board for the honor and resumed presiding over the meeting.
- Vice-Chair D. Suursoo nominated Joe Fromberger as Vice-Chair. There were no other nominations. D. Suursoo made a motion to close the nomination and instruct the Clerk to cast one ballot. All voted in favor.
- Three (3) Executive Committee Representatives J. Fromberger nominated Gary DeRosia, Derek Suursoo, and Ed Morris as the three representatives to the Executive Committee. There were no other nominations. G. DeRosia made a motion to close the nominations and to instruct the Clerk to cast one ballot for the three nominees. T. Kenyon seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

T. Kenyon thanked Frank Heald for doing the job of Board representative from Ludlow and serving as an Executive Committee member.

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Appointment of:

- Clerk D. Suursoo made a motion to appoint Mary T. O'Brien as Clerk. B. McEnaney seconded the motion. All voted in favor.
- Treasurer G. DeRosia made a motion to appoint Robert Forguites as Treasurer. J. Fromberger seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

10. Recycling Coordinator's Report

M. O'Brien stated that the household hazardous waste A-frame signs were being distributed throughout the District in anticipation of the two upcoming HHW collections on May 12 and May 19. The first backyard composting workshop (first of four) will be held on May 3 in Chester and the response has been enthusiastic. All of the towns sent in letters naming their District representatives (and alternates when available) for the coming year.

11. Old Business

F. Heald gave a short speech. He noted that he's been impressed with the attendance and dedication of the Executive Committee and the thoughtful approach with the many issues that have confronted them and that they've made considered decisions. F. Heald introduced Scott Murphy as the new town manager in Ludlow. He will be appointed as the new supervisor from Ludlow.

F. Forguites wanted to point out that when the NH/VT Solid Waste Project split up years ago, F. Heald stepped up and rallied the other town managers to work together to keep the towns together and keep the District united. J. Fromberger echoed that observation and expressed his appreciation for Frank's efforts to keep the Vermont towns together.

12. New Business

M. Priestley suggested that the haulers have a say in the District's decisions because the

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haulers are very important to the District. F. Randall noted that the towns appoint the supervisors so it would be up to a town to appoint a hauler as its representative. M. Priestley asked about the possibility of having a hauler be ex officio.

13. At 7:14 p.m., J. Fromberger made a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary T. O'Brien
Clerk