

October 15, 2019

The Stonington Resources Recovery Authority held a special meeting on this date at the Stonington Town Hall at 3:00 p.m. Present were First Selectman Rob Simmons, Selectwoman Jocelyn Kepple and Director of Solid Waste John Phetteplace. Selectman John Prue arrived at 3:05 p.m. There were no members of the public or press present.

(1) Call to Order

Mr. Simmons called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

(2) Pledge of Allegiance

(3) Comments from the Public

None

(4) Approval of the Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Kepple, seconded by Mr. Simmons and voted unanimously to approve the March 6, 2019 special meeting minutes.

(5) New Business

Discussion – Amendment to Waste Management Services Agreement

Mr. Phetteplace gave a brief overview of the amendment to the Agreement between Southeastern CT Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRRRA) and the Town of Stonington stating that all refuse will now be brought to Wheelabrator Lisbon, Inc. instead of Preston. Mr. Phetteplace stated that the agreement is for ten (10) years effective January 1, 2021.

A motion was made by Ms. Kepple, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to approve the Amendment NO. 5 to the agreement between Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority and the Town of Stonington.

Discussion –Solid Waste Ordinance

As part of the amended agreement, the Town must update its Solid Waste Ordinance to include a new section stating that all refuse will now be brought to Wheelabrator Lisbon, Inc. This item will need to go before a Town Meeting. The ordinance has been reviewed and updated by the Town Attorney.

A motion was made by Ms. Kepple, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to move the ordinance to a Town Meeting.

Discussion – Review of Fees

Mr. Phetteplace discussed revenues from garbage bags sales and stated that the residential collection cost to the Town has increased by \$100,000. Further issues effecting bag revenues included the loss of a single stream rebate of \$10,000 as well as metal and cardboard rebates being down by \$5,000. He stated that the Town's collection cost is far lower than surrounding towns and added that there has not been an increase in bag costs since implementing the program. He recommended an increase of \$0.25 each for large bags and \$0.10 each for small bags.

A motion was made by Mr. Prue, seconded by Ms. Kepple and voted unanimously to increase the cost per bag at \$0.25 each for large bags and \$0.10 each for small bags effective January 1, 2020.

After some discussion, the motion carried.

Mr. Phetteplace reviewed the charges for commercial brush collection stating that the Town is well below surrounding Towns at \$60.00 per ton. He said that surrounding communities charge anywhere from \$100.00-\$125.00 per ton and/or do not accept commercial brush at all. He recommended an increase of \$20.00 per ton.

A motion was made by Mr. Prue, seconded by Ms. Kepple and voted unanimously to increase the commercial brush fee to \$80.00 per ton effective January 1, 2020.

The current cost of commercial demo disposal is \$100.00 per ton. Mr. Phetteplace is recommending an increase of \$25.00 per ton. This will bring the fee in line with surrounding Towns.

A motion was made by Mr. Prue, seconded by Ms. Kepple and voted unanimously to increase the commercial demo fee to \$125.00 per ton effective January 1, 2020.

Discussion – Clothing Collection

Mr. Phetteplace gave an overview of the clothing collection program stating that Stonington has been working with Simple Recycling to start a pilot curbside collection program. If successful, the intention will be to implement the program region wide. The program would have residents place their used or unwanted clothing and textiles in a special bag which will be picked up by the Town's residential hauler. The hauler will store the special bags which will then be picked up by Simple Recycling who will oversee the recycling and or reuse of the items. Mr. Phetteplace stated that this program, if established regionally, would involve Simple Recycling picking up textile's curbside from residents.

A motion was made by Ms. Kepple, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to approve the pilot textile program.

In discussion, Mr. Phetteplace gave a brief overview of another program that he is hoping will move forward and be available in Stonington in the future which would collect food waste and utilize it for composting.

With no further discussion, the motion carried.

(6) Comments from the Public

None

(7) Comments from the Authority

None

(8) Adjourn

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting adjourned at 3:43 p.m.



Stacey Haskell
Recording Secretary