

## ARSWC May 20, 2019 Meeting Minutes

**Began: 5:56**

**Present:** Jon Biehler, Katie Smith, Paul Schlein, Bill Nickerson, John Hinds

**Approve April minutes-** Approved

### **Hazardous Waste event**

Roughly \$630.00 cost and 15 units.

### **Roadside Cleanup event**

On Steen Road, Craig found a bunch of bulky waste, including three bags of scrap metal, a battery box and a few other things. Craig took care of these things. There appeared to be less trash and less 'nips' than last year.

Overall opinion was that it went well. Morse Interact and Green Club are welcomed to join us again next year.

### **Plastic bag recycling description**

Katie will ask Paul K to post on website. Possibly a town notice also.

### **Final budget requests**

Recycling- \$18,000

Trash- \$30,000- Due to increase from \$70-\$83.50/ton

### **Conversation with Erica Bailey at Casella-Paul**

Wet cardboard-Craig takes it and would only change his procedure if told to by Casella. Lee Leiner (Bath-Deputy) has never had a problem w/wet cardboard being rejected either. Casella says moisture is a huge contaminate, in general. It is not being pulled out or trashed from our loads. Erica suggested head's up to town to keep our recycling as dry as possible. Erica was going to check with plant manager to get more details.

Cost discrepancies-Brought about by various news articles. Brunswick \$40/ton, why are we at \$95? Erica explained low prices could be explained by extended contracts at low prices, or towns were quoting from the start of the calendar year, not fiscal year.

Certification question-Casella has a huge commitment to recycling, and would be foolish to ruin that reputation by trashing recyclables. Down the line, Casella's customers would not benefit from trashing the recyclables that they paid top dollar for.

Erica mentioned providing a paper trail from Casella to vendors as a bit of a 'road map' for town residents.

Erica added that if/when the market comes back we would/will benefit from that. If the ACR goes up to \$60, this would offset our base rate significantly in a positive way.

Paul will ask Erica: What happens to glass? What happens to bottles that are redeemed?

Juniper Ridge, if it stops taking residential trash, will cause skyrocketing trash costs. There is legislation afoot to do so; Casella is against this. Ash from incineration needs to be disposed of in the landfill, so those companies are against this legislation as well.

### **Why would we consider making a waste management change?**

Trust in Casella is not concern. Who is doing a better job and is more committed to recycling?

### **What are the other options for trash and recycling?**

Ecomaine-# of years in contract impacts rate. Economically, the price was so high it may not have been worth it back when Jon talked with Ecomaine. Charges include penalty for contamination. Is Ecomaine recycling glass? They recycle other items that we can not through Casella. Jon was very impressed with this green company. Transportation can be provided by Riverside. Lissa Bitterman. Waste to energy plant-redistributes to the grid.

Coastal Resources of Maine-new plant in Hampden, just opened (Fiberite). Paul spoke with Shelby Wright. They take trash and recycling/can be co-mingled. Their machinery separates it and processes it as pulp, valuable recyclables get pulled out and sold. Plastics become fuel, bio-bricks or bio-fuel. Recycling or trash (MSW) can be sent up separately. Pricing \$85/ton or around there (\$78 for single stream recycling) for a five year contract. Would the quality of the recycling drop with the co-mingled process? Other towns using Coastal Resources: Edgecomb, Boothbay, Wiscasset-towns share the transportation. Could we do a tour in the fall? Shelby was willing to come to a meeting.

Action steps= Wait until Fall to consider any change. Companies could come and talk with us.

Jon-Ecomaine glass?

Paul-Casella glass?

### **Town Meeting**

Addressing the important issues honestly and optimistically

Zero Waste topic- not yet.

Use brochure and website, reduce waste

Katie-Black and white copies of brochure for town meeting

Paul-B/W copies of plastic bag recycling

### **Arrow article or town notice**

Arrow will go out in July.

Notice to include: Contamination/dry recycling reminder, commitment to continued recycling AND summer schedule change

**Zero-Waste program**-Third week in September-Talk about dates at our next meeting. Location and inviting other towns.

**Posting of Green Club video on website**-Yes. Paul will work on this.

**Shed report-** Ordered new Big Green Box. Scrap run in June.

**Electronics plan-**John has a new resource for this. Computer related items can go to Goodwill, according to John White.

**Resident calls-**Most questions come to Jon in the Town Hall. He directs people to website.

**Adjourned: 7:40**

**Next meeting:** June 17

Respectfully Submitted,  
Katie Smith