

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting of 21 January 2009. The meeting took place in the Conference Room, Town and County Building, 16 Broad Street, Nantucket, MA 02554. Members of the Board present were Rick Atherton, Brian Chadwick, Michael Kopko, Allen Reinhard, and Patricia Roggeveen. Chairman Kopko called the meeting to order at 1:07 PM.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION

Solid waste consultant George Aronson gave an update on solid waste issues. Mr. Aronson reviewed an aerial photograph of the landfill which outlined the potential lined landfill cells and different mining scenarios. He reviewed the base case scenario – what would happen if no mining occurred or stayed at the current rate of mining of 5,000 cubic yards per year– as well as an accelerated mining scenario, which would be mining at a rate of 50,000-100,000 cubic yards per year. Mr. Aronson said that if the landfill is mined at an accelerated rate, the DEP might be flexible about the cap and closure date of cell 1C. He said that mining reduces the environmental impact of the landfill while creating new space. Mr. Aronson said the settlement agreement with Waste Options (WON) states that the Town is responsible for the closing costs of the various cells and that it is estimated to cost \$2.8 million to close cell 1C alone. A discussion ensued about the long term goals of mining, possible capping of some of the cells, and shipping solid waste materials off-island.

The Solid Waste Enterprise Fund (SWEF) budget was discussed and Mr. Aronson handed out a budget analysis summary. Mr. Aronson said there is a \$1.9 million shortfall in the SWEF budget that is above and beyond the transfer from the General Fund which has already been incorporated into the budget. Ms. Roggeveen commented that this shortfall is a municipal cost and could be dealt with by raising fees or taxes. Mr. Aronson reviewed the budget summary with the Board and explained that tip fees for asphalt, brick, and concrete (ABC), brush, scrap, and clean wood were raised in 2008, and that the volume in the past six months has declined by 40-60%. He said that residential construction and demolition (C&D) waste and mixed bulky waste is being disposed of at no cost to residents, while costing the Town \$330 per ton to handle and ship it off-island for processing. A discussion took place concerning commercial and residential C&D and mixed bulky waste disposal, and the Board's policy of that waste disposal. Mr. Aronson said putting a fee on residential C&D and mixed bulky waste would help the budget.

Mr. Aronson discussed the WON contract. Until the end of FY 08 there had been an arrangement for recycling that deviated from the contract, which was that the Town received recycling revenues directly and did not give a recyclables credit back to WON. Mr. Aronson said that the contract is clear: WON should receive recycling revenues then give recycling credit back to the Town after expenses. Mr. Aronson noted that within the last three months recycling has "tanked" not just locally but worldwide. Mr. Aronson said the Town would be prudent to put in zero for the FY 10 budget for recycling revenues and hope that the markets recover and that revenue exceeds costs. He said there are still outstanding issues with WON with net recycling credits that the Town retained in 2007 and 2008 and it is not clear in the contract if the money should have been kept; he said this is an open issue that should be discussed with WON. Mr. Aronson discussed restructuring the C&D portion of the agreement and said open issues include the volume of C&D and noted that in the past six months the volume of C&D has dropped tremendously. A discussion ensued concerning fees and costs for C&D, mixed solid waste (MSW), and the materials recycling facility (MRF). Assistant Town Manager Malachy Rice brought up the subject of legacy costs and said part

of the general fund contribution goes toward cleaning up the landfill and noted that that cost is over and above the operations of the landfill. Ms. Roggeveen said the Town recognizes that the municipal subsidy covers MSW and not much else. Mr. Aronson said that they are trying to schedule a meeting with WON next week to discuss the mining plan. Charlie O'Neil from Reis Trucking mentioned the "ever-increasing piles of compost and mulch" and said that in his opinion the quality is not good and the process for consumers is not convenient or efficient.

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 2:37 PM.

Approved the 8th day of July, 2009.