



CITY OF NEWTON
SOLID WASTE COMMISSION
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton Centre, MA 02459-1449
David B. Cohen, Mayor

Sydra Schnipper, Chairman, David DelPorto, Vice Chairman, Ann Dorfman, Steven Ferrey, Elaine Gentile, Barbara Herson, Nunzio Piselli, David Queenan, Robert Rooney, Ex-Officio
Advisory: Environmental Affairs Staff, Michael Rourke, David Turocy

Minutes
January 11, 2007

Presentations by Strategic Planning and Contracts Sub-Committees.

Strategic Planning, through its Chair, has submitted notes from several meetings to all and sub-committee will meet again when a consultant is hired. They want to add to scope of services for Merritt. They were asked to submit the specifics. Also need scope for written bid for strategy component.

Contracts, through its Chair, made an oral presentation about several meetings, including a meeting with WMI on January 9. The WMI meeting was a general discussion of what both parties may expect with a new contract and the future of solid waste technologies, i.e. single stream recycling, automation.

Major items: extend the terms and conditions of the current contract for two years; willing to renegotiate recycling contract to align both contracts, single stream, automation

- WMI will not offer a twenty year contract due to length and changing conditions
- Would prefer 5, could go 10 depending on the terms and conditions
- New contract would have opt out by mutual agreement
- Could extend for 2 years if 5 year contract behind it
- Length of Newton contract is disadvantageous for WMI
- Could automate with a longer contract, suggesting a 50/50 split in cost savings
- Would like to “partner” with Newton

- Newton stated that present cost are out of line in the current market
- Longer term contract better for Newton for budget purposes

Commission Discussion:

- Possible longer term contract with 3 year reviews
- Problem with 3 year reviews in the past due to contract negotiations, always seem to be negotiating
- 10 year contract with “flexible” clause sound appropriate
- Lexington opened RFP yesterday: lowest bid \$60/t disposal for trash and \$66/t for recyclables
- In current market, 5 year contract is comfortable for both sides
- With single stream recycling would get less revenue than current due to labor intensive separation
- Newton has great contract with FCR
- If Newton decides on toters, would need separate bulk pick up

- Could we save money by picking up yard waste certain times of the year as opposed to current 39 weeks
- Could save tremendously in disposal and collections if yw was brought to Rumford vs Norton, thereby increasing compost sales
- Lexington takes yw from contractors as well as residents and makes \$250,000/year
- Need to optimize revenue at Rumford Ave
- Newton should prepare for an RFP and Commission voted 6-1 in favor
- RFP should look at all options and synchronize recycle with trash
- Consider condos in RFP for recycling but no trash
- WMI would consider a reduced rate to businesses in Newton
- City to review mandatory business recycling in Cambridge, Solid Waste Manager will prepare presentation
- Could Newton consider bringing only recycling in-house, what are the cost/benefits
- Commission will meet with consultant at second meeting of each month

Next meeting: January 25, 2007, Room 202 at 7:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Gentile
Director of Environmental Affairs

