



David B. Cohen
Mayor

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton Centre, MA 02459-1449

February 22, 2007
Solid Waste Committee
Minutes

In attendance: Sydra Schnipper, Chairman, David Del Porto, Vice Chairman, Ann Dorfman, David Queenan, Steven Ferry, Robert Rooney, Ex-Officio
Advisory: Environmental Affairs Staff, Michael Rourke, David Turocy

Ann Dorfman reviewed the proposed letters written to Waste Management asking them to join us in the negotiations process and clarifying our expectations as well as addressing questions pertaining to how can they better serve Newton's interest in solid waste disposal.

David Del Porto made a motion to approve the concept of the letters which the committee will review before submitting them to the Law Dept. for their final review and opinion.
Unanimously approved

The minutes of the February 8 meeting were not approved as most people did not receive their copies. The minutes will be resent.

The negotiation subcommittee reviewed the results of their last meeting which focused on delineating the differences between negotiation and RFP process.

Robert Rooney bulleted both the pros and cons of negotiations and RFP processes.

The Pros of negotiation with current vendor are:

- free form processes allows for bread look at options
- provides opportunity to merge all contracts
- leverage the desirability of Newton's reputation,
- 20 yrs. of professional relationship is advantageous to understanding the viability in options and credibility and the knowledge of operating in Newton
- flexibility
- generally satisfied with WMI which provided good services
- allows for a better RFP
- doesn't cut off options in the development of the RFP

Negotiation cons with current vendor are:

- The question of would renegotiating with WMI be perceived as not being fair.
- There are fewer options in response to city needs with one vendor
- A chance of negotiation break down
- The negotiation process would be very intense and time consuming.

The strength of the RFP's scope of services and objectives would be the basis to develop into the final contract

RFP and Bidding pros:

- Greater variety of options to the same stated need
- Insures that prices are lowest
- Requires exact specifications
- Provides more structure

RFP and Bidding cons

- Structured, bounded format may result in fewer options included in the RFP
- May end up with an unfavorable vendor

There were no reports from the Strategic subcommittee.

The Consultant, John Merritt, is evaluating what types of cost saving measures other communities are using for their solid waste and recycling options.

Sincerely

Angela Clark
Executive Administrator