



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 April 26, 2007

In attendance: Sydra Schnipper, Robert Rooney, Ann Dorfman, Nunzio Piselli, Barbara Herson, Michael Rourke, David Queenan, Elaine Gentile

Minutes of April 12, 2007 were approved

- A report from Jim Nocella of surrounding communities' recycling/yard waste and trash collection costs as compared to Newton was reviewed. The opinion was that the numbers reflected from the report were not accurate as it was based on tonnage costs not household rates. Automation costs will be provided from Mr. Nocella.
- Elaine stated that yard waste collection down and leaf composting figures are down. The reasons are unknown at this time.
- WMI has presented an 11% increase over the current base for conventional hauling for a 5 year contract. This increase would be difficult to justify to the residents without proving that we have done everything that we could to prevent this increase. Justifying trash fees at a time when we have no cuts in the budget may be a hard sell. If WMI's proposal remain conventional, it will be critical to have a breakdown of itemized costs.
- There was a discussion of the possibility of tying in the trash collection fees in the event of an over ride.
- The Pay as you Throw program may be prohibitive for the elderly and people on limited income. Determine the cost of the pay as you throw bags.
- In considering tonnage costs, barrel size a factor. It will become a critical issue on how this fee will be presented to the residents. The larger the barrel the less incentive there is to recycle with a flat fee. What kind of incentive would make recycling more attractive and easier for residents was discussed.

The following are collection model types for consideration:

- A. fee for trash
 - B. No annual fee
 - C. Annual Fee,
 - D No fee for first container. Fee for additional container
 - E Automation
- An end date for Negotiations is May 30. If negotiations cannot be agreed upon, putting it back to RFP will be considered.

- Weekly negotiation meetings will be held with Jim Nocella. If he cannot attend, then a representative should attend on his behalf. A motion was taken and vote accepted
- The next scheduled negotiation meeting with WMI is for Wed. May 2, 2007