

**NORTHEAST KINGDOM WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

October 12, 2021

Meeting held remotely via ZOOM and

The District Office at 224 Church Street, Lyndonville, VT 05851

The meeting was called to order @ 6:30 p.m. by Nick Rivers, Chair

Present: Nick Rivers (Albany); Paulette Routhier (Bloomfield, Brunswick); Bruce Rumball-Petre (Brighton); Bob Sanberg (Corinth); Walter McNeil Jr. (Danville); Irene Dagesse (Derby); Kirwin Flanders (East Haven); Jack Sumberg (Glover); Ken Johnston (Greensboro); Timothy Dailey, Sr. (Groton); Joe Noble (Holland & Morgan); Dustin Sanville (Irasburg); Dave Sanders (Jay); Steve Gray (Lyndon); Steve Barrup, (Newport Town); John Narowski (Newbury); Gina Vigneault (Norton & UTGs); Gene Perkins, (Ryegate); Jack Smith (Sheffield & Wheelock); Emily Cayer (Stannard); Megan Clark (Topsham), Gaston Bathalon (Troy); Richard Stodola (Waterford): and Jake Couture (Westfield).

Absent: Barnet, Brownington, Charleston, Concord, Cabot, Granby, Guildhall, Kirby, Lunenburg, Maidstone, Marshfield, Newark, Peacham, Victory, Sutton, and Westmore.

Staff present- Paul Tomasi, Executive Director

Visitors – Amy Ash-Nixon (Caledonian Record – press)

Paul welcomed Jake Couture (Westfield) to the Board of Supervisors.

Updates to the Agenda – none.

Approval of Minutes- Moved to approve minutes of September 14, 2021, 2nd, approved.

NEKWMD 2022 Draft Budget – Moved to approve the NEKWMD 2022 draft budget in the amount of \$846,615.50. 2nd. Steve Gray had several questions regarding specific line items in the budget - #10, #55, #20, #21, #39, #48, & #50. These line items deal with due/permits/fees; gross wages, overtime wages, equipment repairs; and maintenance. Ken Johnston inquired about fuel costs. Most of these items were smaller line items. Paul explained he wished to keep them in tact in case recycling markets shifted dramatically down. There was a suggestion to delay the budget approval by the Board until we had a better idea of what tire prices and compost fees would be. Motion approved.

Line of Credit Repayment – Paul recommended the District pay \$14,000 towards the line of credit now, and see what we have in reserve/surplus at the end of the year. Motion to put \$14,000 towards the line of credit. 2nd, Approved

Updates –

Ordinance – Paul informed the Board that due to the timing of the Ordinance amendment; it might make sense to get the facilities registered as part of the 2022 process since we are so close to the end of the year, and not push them to register for the last 2 months of 2021. No one from the Board objected to this or had any concerns.

Financial – Paul informed the Board the District is running a surplus of approximately \$74,000 even with a deficit in September of approximately \$9,300. The per capita assessment has been remitted by every town except one (Corinth). The next payment on the baler is due November 16th, 2021. There was a question regarding the electricity in the office compared to the electricity in the warehouse. They are running pretty close to one another this year. The office expense for electricity is close to the budgeted figure while the warehouse electricity costs are below projections, so this is actually a favorable situation. Paul will look into the historical costs and report back to the Board. There was a question regarding the baler loan and whether or not it made sense to pay it down. Paul suggested the Board consider doing so in January 2022 once our 2021 year-end situation is clearer. The equipment replacement schedule will be updated before the end of the year, so the Board has a better idea of how to allocate any potential 2021 surplus. The per capita fee has been reduced from \$0.94/person in 2021 to \$0.84/person in 2022. This reduction is possible because of the refinancing of the baler, which occurred when we switched banks.

Lyndon Property Tax – The District just received a proposed court stipulation from our legal counsel prior to the meeting. The court stipulation is expected to clarify our tax-exempt status and allow us to move forward with the host town agreement. Paul believes we should have a document for the Board to consider at the November 9, 2021 meeting. Nick Rivers, Chair (Albany) and Walter McNeil, Vice Chair (Danville) have agreed to continue participating in the negotiations with the Town of Lyndon.

Compost RFP/Contract – Proposals to provide this eservice are due November 1, 2021. Paul expects to receive multiple proposals because there are several more service providers than the last time the service was put out to bid. Hopefully the additional competition will keep the costs down. There was a question regarding the value of the contract. Paul did not know the exact amount, but thought it was 100s of tons per year. He will have a better estimate for the next meeting.

Other Business – There was some discussion of the tree planting in honor of Ives Daigle. The Town of Westfield felt there was room for the tree at the Westfield Town office. The District will coordinate the planting of a tree (and possibly a plaque) with the Town of Westfield. The timing of the tree planting shall be in the spring of 2022.

Motion to adjourn, 2nd, approved @ 7:17pm
Respectfully submitted, Paul Tomasi

Note: There is an audio/video recording of the October 12, 2021 meeting. It is available upon request.