

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT OPTIONS COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting November 3, 2008

Present: Craig Blake, Nancy Brumback, Carolyn Lee, John Pearson, Thomas Powers

Absent: Peter Harvell, Eric Richard, Thomas Young

The statutory requirements as to notice having been complied with, the meeting was convened at 7:36 p.m. in the Sudbury Library 2nd Floor Conference Room. The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Pearson. In keeping with the agenda, the minutes of the October 22 meeting were accepted as amended by unanimous vote.

The focus of the meeting was on finalizing the article on the survey results to be submitted to the Town Crier. This generated a lengthy and substantive conversation on what we really are in a position to conclude about the citizen perspective on any change to waste hauling and what the financial risks are. The hypothetical proposal in the survey, we agreed is not an ideal solution, but the only apparent type that can meet all the boundary conditions of our mission statement. The key issue is getting sufficient enrollment, since the town becomes contractually bound for a minimum revenue.

We agreed that a single hauler system has several advantages:

- Four haulers is highly inefficient
- There are safety issues with the number of trucks on the road
- There are human and animal health issues due to trash being out almost every day

We also agreed that in this economic climate change will be even harder. Even though the cost savings are very attractive for current curbside users, the haulers will not give up their existing business easily and the town can ill afford any financial risk.

We agreed that our final report will fully address the positive and negative aspects of going to a single hauler system and will also make other recommendations on potential town actions, based on what we have learned through this process.

Action: Nancy to modify the text of the draft article as agreed upon in the meeting and then submit.

Additional residents have inquired to the SWMOC about the proposed contract letters recently received from Allied Waste. The committee can take no position on this, but will continue to suggest that anyone receiving this letter read the fine print carefully and determine whether they are under any obligation to sign such a contract.

The meeting on November 19 at 7:30 pm will be in the DPW conference room. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Attest:

Carolyn Lee Clerk