

Pownal Solid Waste and Recycling Committee

January 31, 2022 Meeting Minutes Approved

Members present: Theresa Lofgren; Heidi Richards; Andy Wyatt
Absent: Zac Cote; Will Johnston; Lesley Taisey;

1. A quorum was established. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM with Ms. Richards in the role of Chair. Mr. Wyatt will record minutes.
2. Mr. Wyatt provided draft minutes for the April 1, 2021 meeting. These were reviewed and approved as written, with all voting in favor.
3. Ms. Richards initiated a discussion on the need to consider a Remote Meeting Participation Policy. A sample policy document taken from the Maine Municipal Association website was discussed. Ms. Lofgren moved that this committee adopt that sample policy as written except to edit the page header to identify this committee name. Mr. Wyatt seconded. The motion passed with all voting in favor. Ms. Richards will notify Town Administrator Becky Chase to arrange a public hearing.
4. Ms. Richards provided updates from the January 20 ecomaine board meeting that she had attended.
 - a. Casella Waste Systems (the Town's waste hauler) is telling towns that they will be moving away from manual curbside pickup of trash and recyclables and shift toward automated dumping, requiring special trash bins.
 - b. Casella is also urging towns to 'regionalize' their waste disposal programs. This would enable Casella to optimize the pickup routes for greater efficiency. Ms. Richards also reported that Kevin Roche, ecomaine CEO, is eager for this change.
 - c. Ms. Richards will contact the North Yarmouth ecomaine representative to share knowledge and discuss ideas.
 - d. Ms. Richards will contact Town Administrator Becky Chase to get this matter onto the agenda for an upcoming Select Board meeting.

Other implications of this change were discussed:

- a. Will this require the existing pay-as-you-throw bag system to be retired?
 - b. The current model for funding waste tipping is based on the tonnages from our Town. How will we fund a solid waste program that is shared across several towns?
5. The committee briefly discussed plans for this year's Pownal Pride Day. Ms. Lofgren will contact the Pownal Elementary School regarding having the students create artwork relevant to Pownal Pride Day and waste reduction. The plan is to have the entries judged and the winners will get a ride to school in a Town dump truck.
 6. Ms. Richards will call another meeting to be held next week. She will poll committee members via email to determine the date and time. The main agenda item will be to start on budget preparation.
 7. Ms. Richards made a motion for adjournment. Ms. Lofgren seconded. The motion passed with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

* Zac Cote * Will Johnston * Theresa Lofgren *
* Heidi Richards * Lesley Taisey * Andy Wyatt *

Andy Wyatt