

**APPROVED 08/07/2008**

At 6:06 pm Don Gates called the meeting to order. Present were Selectmen Donald Gates Jr, Brett Hunter; Town Administrator Heidi Carlson; and Waste Management Representatives Steve Cates and Thom DiMambro. Selectman Gene Cordes arrived at 6:15 pm.

Cates said that from Waste Management's perspective, rollout of the cart program went very well. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> community where they have done it, behind the City of Rochester and the Towns of Danville and East Kingston. Overall, he and DiMambro agreed, it went very well in Fremont. Cates also said that recycling has increased and totals from April through July are up from 14% to 21%.

Cates indicated that the overall tonnage for Fremont was 158.5 tons in April and was down to 120 tons in July. MSW was 137 tons in April and 95.4 tons in July. He said that realistically, the recycling number that we could reach (considering we started at 15%) could be as much as 35%.

Cates said the goal to reduce costs is to continue to minimize what people can throw away. He said towns see even greater gains in a PAYT program. He said that 65 gallons for the average household is more than reasonable in terms of MSW.

He said some of the things where they see it going from here includes continued growth of the recycling program, and get into a single-stream recycling mentality. He said that something the Town could consider in a year or so it to put a second cart out for recycling. He said this would be a separate recycling cart, maybe a 96 gallon cart, which would have a yellow lid to designate it as recycling. He said currently they have a facility in Avon MA that is single-stream recycling.

At 6:15 pm Gene Cordes arrived.

The next area of discussion was a second cart for approved in-home small businesses. One request has come in thus far, from Fluid Transfer Products on North Road. Cates offered that Waste Management could consider perhaps six or eight additional carts for an approved list of in-home small businesses which are approved by the Town.

Cates said that the proposal indicated Fremont had 1450 stops as of 2007 and that they actually have delivered 1575 carts, so he said they are already behind by the cost of those additional carts, or approximately \$8,000. He said they would be willing to consider negotiation on this to include perhaps a five year deal on the bulky day cans for a rental rate comparable to what we have now, looking at a longer term arrangement on our bulky day setup.

There was discussion about businesses and that in some towns, a four unit building is considered a commercial enterprise and requires a private dumpster, not eligible for pickup. In Fremont, we have always only provided residential trash pickup, but many of the small businesses have always had residential-type trash collected by the Town's contractor.

There was a request this week from the People's United Methodist Church, which was discussed and decided that it can be allowed as non-profit, for residential-type trash. DiMambro will get a cart to the Church.

There was discussion about how the Town handles the twice per year bulky collections and whether a white good cleanup would work. After lengthy discussion, it was decided that there is no way to control where such things are coming from, and that the Board wanted to stay with the bulky drop-off instead.

There was discussion about no more going into the landfill than is absolutely necessary.

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DiMambro said he ran the entire route last week and that Fremont is doing an awesome job in the collection. He said that there were only about 7 stops last week that were over the amount of trash. The toter was taken and all other material is tagged. The drivers also call in to report each stop that has any problems with the location.

Cordes said that the timing of this conversion is good in that people are paying attention to green efforts, reducing and reusing, how things are packaged, etc.

The Selectmen's Office had initially taken a lot of complaints about the conversion, but that has slowed considerably. New recycling bins have been received this week and at least 100 more have gone out just this week.

With regard to changes involving single-stream recycling, Cates said the Town could wait until the end of the contract to further consider it. He added that in addition to a second toter for that purpose, Waste Management needed some capital outlay in trucks that had a different automated body style. He said that single-stream will be the wave of the future. They are implementing this perhaps in 2009 in York Maine.

Selectmen reviewed an email from Darren Parillo, who lives at 48 Whitman Drive regarding a party he is having on Labor Day. There was lengthy discussion on how to deal with issues of one-time overages, and it was decided that residents could make other arrangements for any overage. This could include working with neighbors who have not filled their toter for the week; or going to the Best Way Facility, or some other location, or getting a dumpster. The Best Way Facility in Raymond charges only seven cents a pound, and would likely be an inexpensive alternative for the type of trash Parillo's letter mentions. Many other items can be disposed of at the facility for free. The Town does carry this information on the website as well.

Selectmen and Waste Management representatives also reviewed a letter from Sue Miller, who has a small in-home business. This matter is still pending, depending on what can be negotiated around cans for bulky day. Cates will forward some pricing information to Carlson on a longer-term contract for bulky day dumpsters.

Trash must be out at Route 107 for the homes at 378, 380, 382, and 384 Main Street. Carlson said that the new homeowners at 380 Main Street were advised to have their trash out at Main Street. The only reason the trash company formerly backed in was that there were handicapped persons formerly living at 380 and 382 Main street. This is a private driveway and a liability and safety issue for the trucks. WM said they would tag the trash next week to advise homeowners to have it out by Main Street.

There was discussion about the options for recycling 5,6 and 7 plastics. Cates said that it may come, but that the volume/percentage of those types of plastics is so low that there is little market for them. He said he would look into it further.

The Town and WM agreed that no second toters would be given out unless there is a specific medical issue documented by a doctor.

Cates will get some more information back to Carlson on the bulky day matters. Cates said WM was glad to be back in Fremont, and thanked the Board for their business.

Selectmen thanked Cates and DiMambro for their time. They left the meeting at 7:20 pm. A brief recess was taken to 7:30 pm.

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At 7:30 pm Acting Fire Chief Richard Butler came into the meeting. He shared with the Board the newest updates to the Fire Rescue Department application. Some additional updates were made to the application form this evening.

At 7:40 pm motion was made by Gates to enter non-public session pursuant to NH RSA 91-A:3 II (c) to discuss a personnel matter. Cordes seconded and the vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

At 7:55 pm motion was made by Hunter and seconded by Gates to return to public session. The vote was unanimously approved. The Selectmen deferred to the Chief's position on acceptance of Departmental applications.

Butler did not have a copy of his 2009 budget with him this evening, but had some issues he wanted to review with the Board. There was some discussion about the Chief not being eligible for points, which is due to the fact that there is a stipend in place. There was also discussion about LOSAP, which Butler did want to participate in.

Members of the Fire Association at that time, were responsible for drawing up the Points and LOSAP programs, and Selectmen indicated if it was time to revisit them, that the same group (believed to be Association Officers) should get together and review them as a whole and propose changes, which would ultimately be signed off on by the Selectmen. It was discussed moving the age up from 60 to 65. There is currently no mandatory retirement age for firefighters.

Butler said that he does not have a problem with going to the calls, but that he is attending more calls, trainings, and officer meetings than Chief Heselton did. He felt he was losing \$5,000 in LOSAP and points, not being in either system. This is compensated for in the \$10,000+ salary, but Butler felt that he was also doing some different things in addition.

He wanted to know the Board's thought on the salary, leading to discussion about the administrative tasks involved in leading the Department.

Butler then talked about the "Chief" Maintenance budget line item, which really previously covered more building maintenance than fire department matters, but that Chief Heselton had done a lot of in-house maintenance on vehicles and equipment. It was discussed as to whether this should be part of the Chief's job description. Selectmen did not think it should. They felt that the Chief's job was an administrative person and was about leadership and department management. not about maintenance and the daily chores.

Butler talked about line items for ladder and hose testing, and there was discussion about the difficulty in managing those as in-house payroll matters versus a points matter. It is better liability-wise, and for payment purposes, to have those done by private vendors, but the hose testing could be done in house for less money (and has been done that way in the past).

Butler indicated that one could spend 30 to 40 hours a week to keep up with all of the administrative and maintenance items. There was further discussion about preventive maintenance on vehicles, and Butler will talk to some people about the options, including finding a place to have that type of work done.

With regard to building maintenance, Butler asked about having the air handling system cleaned in the building. Carlson will look for some duct cleaning companies and see if this can be scheduled.

Cordes said that at the Energy Committee meeting on Tuesday, they talked about applying for a grassroots grant for solar panels. There was discussion about motion light sensors in some of the rooms

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at the Complex, such as bathrooms. This may cut down on some electrical costs as well. Butler said he was going to talk with Eastport Electrical about these sensors, which were estimated at approximately \$60 each plus labor costs.

Butler left the meeting at approximately 8:45 pm. He indicated he will not be in next week.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Selectmen reviewed the minutes for 24 July 2008. Motion was made by Gates and seconded by Hunter to approve them as printed. The vote was unanimously approved 2-0-1 with Cordes abstaining.

2. Selectmen reviewed the final copy of the Discretionary Preservation Easement Deed for the McRae barn property at 245 Beede Hill Road. Motion was made to accept it by Gates and seconded by Hunter. The vote was unanimously approved 3-0 and the document was signed by Selectmen, then witnessed and notarized by Carlson.

3. Selectmen discussed a meeting date with Barry Cox of NH LGC. It will be set up for August 14<sup>th</sup>, with an employee and supervisor meeting the following week to review the information.

4. Selectmen discussed several of the legislative policy matters presented by NH LGC. The conference is in September, and the Board will have an opportunity to send a delegate to that meeting to express the Board's position.

5. NH LCG indicated today that they have changed their position and will cover the claim on the damage at the Highway Shed. Gary Dzioba was contacted after the meeting last week, and it is hoped repairs may begin next week. He needed 10 days to get the materials and get the work scheduled.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Selectmen reviewed the accounts payable manifest \$522,990.00 dated 01 August 2008. Of this amount, \$500,000 was in support of the Fremont School District. Motion was made to approve the manifest by Gates and seconded by Hunter. The vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

2. Selectmen discussed the ballfield engineering drainage swale project and what it entailed. The Board would like Carlson to ask Dick Rand to start cutting down (and/or using a Round-up type product on them) on the growth areas of rip rap at the end of the ballfields near Route 107. It is felt that if growth gets too large in that area, it will disturb the rip rap placement.

3. Selectmen reviewed the abatement for 2007 from NH Electric Cooperative as recommended by George Sansoucy. NHEC did not file the follow-up information requested by Sansoucy's office to evaluation their application for abatement. The Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of George Sansoucy and deny the abatement on a motion from Cordes and second from Hunter.

4. Selectmen reviewed the folder of incoming correspondence.

5. Selectmen reviewed a contract extension for the Comcast Cable Contract for a three month period from July 13, 2008 to October 13, 2008, which was received in the office on July 28, 2008. This extension format had also been sent to Peter Epstein. Motion was made by Cordes to renew the extension for the specified period. Gates seconded and the vote was unanimously approved 3-0. Selectmen then reviewed an email from Peter Epstein to Jay Somers that contained the draft of the cable contract for Somers' review.

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6. Selectmen reviewed a Land Use Change Tax bill for the balance of parcel 06-004 (2.24 acres) with a letter to the responsible party, Penny Lewis, with an explanation of the bill. Motion was made to sign both documents by Hunter and was seconded by Gates. The vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

7. Copies of information for review on the Summary of 2008 changes to the Right-To-Know Law were distributed to Board members.

8. Carlson advised that the Town Treasurer was requesting reimbursement for internet service at her home. In response to the request, Carlson had asked Treasurer Kimberly Dunbar to submit her request to the Board as it would necessitate a policy decision being made. The Board reviewed an email from Dunbar requesting reimbursement of 2/3 of internet costs to her home and her rationale for the request.

Selectmen discussed the fact that data connections are available at the Town Hall, and that it would be precedent-setting to start paying for internet service, that had been established by individuals, unrelated to their positions as Town employees/officials.

Dunbar stated in her letter that the Budget Committee had supported her being reimbursed for the full cost of her internet, but she had never met with the Selectmen last year during budget review time to discuss her full budget presentation.

The Board felt that if she wanted the convenience of doing work at home, that was her choice. The Board decided that they would not pay this portion of the reimbursement request, and instructed Carlson to send her a return email.

At 9:30 pm motion was made by Gates and seconded by Cordes to enter non-public session pursuant to NH RSA 91-A 3 II (c) to discuss the part-time cemetery position. The vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

At 9:45 pm motion was made to return to public session by Hunter. Gates seconded and the vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

Selectmen signed outgoing correspondence to Jesse Hamel.

**NEXT WEEK**

The next regular Board meeting will be held on Thursday August 7, 2008 at 6:00 pm.

With no further business to come before the Board, motion was made by Gates and seconded by Hunter to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 pm. The vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Carlson  
Town Administrator