

[Approved 5/21/2015]

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

AND

ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

April 2nd, 2015

4:30 PM

Location: Tracy Hall, Norwich, VT

Board members present:

Bob Stacy (*Hartland Rep.*)

Neil Fulton (*Norwich Rep.*)

Stephen Willbanks (*Strafford Rep.*)

Ben Bradley (*Thetford Rep.*)

John Timken (*Bridgewater Rep.*)

Paul Haskell (*Sharon Rep.*)

Board members absent: *Vershire, West Fairlee, Pomfret, Woodstock*

Staff present: Stephen Lambert (*Admin. Assistant.*), Bryan Tibbals (*Recycling Coordinator Intern*)

Staff on phone: Tom Kennedy (*District Manager*)

Chair, Steve Willbanks, opened the meeting of the Board of Supervisors at 4:35 PM.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 2/19/15:

Paul Haskell made a motion to approve the 2/19/15 meeting minutes with one minor change to the meeting minutes. Change Bryan Tibbals’ title to “Recycling Coordinator Intern from “Interim Programs Director”. Motion was seconded by Bob Stacy. Motion carried, all approved.

2. ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING:

Steve Willbanks: Our Charter states that annually on or before the second Monday in April the Board of Supervisors shall hold its organizational meeting.

a. Election of Officers

Paul Haskell moved the following slate of officers: CHAIR – Neil Fulton, VICE CHAIR – Steve Willbanks, TREASURER – Carolyn Trombley, CLERK – Bob Stacy; the motion was seconded by John Timken. Motion carried, all approved. Neil Fulton thanked Steve Willbanks for his many years serving as chair.

b. Reappointment of Officers and of Administrative committee

. Carolyn Trombley was re-appointed as Treasurer to the GUV District for another term. The current slate of officers will continue to serve on the Administrative Committee for another term.

Paul Haskell moved acceptance of the above appointments to the board and Administrative Committee; motion seconded by John Timken. Motion carried; all approved.

3. FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Tom Kennedy summarized the March 2015 financial reports. Starting with the Profit and Loss, Tom indicated that the District was 66% of the way through fiscal year 2015. Income was approximately 78.6% and expenses were 67.1%. Tom explained that the P&L reflected only the current bond payment from the Fall and did not reflect the Spring payment.

The balance sheet was then discussed in some detail, noting no major changes from last month. The Board asked about the bond payments, in particular if the interest and principle were reflected together on the P&L, to which Tom replied yes. The Board asked if the two could be separated in the future, to which Tom replied that they could be separated and shown on future financial statements.

Tom explained the expense side, in particular the Association Memberships, how the rates were higher than anticipated from last year. Also, the Improvements category will exceed the budgeted amount, due to exterior repairs in the office, the chimney and some siding work.

Tom went over with the Board that the box truck was in need of some repair, in particular a stabilizer bar that needed welding. He said that at some point the box truck would need to be replaced.

Paul Haskell asked why the state grants budget line item was zero, and Tom explained that the money hasn't arrived yet from the state. Neil reaffirmed the budgeted line item for HHW at \$16,500, and Tom said yes and that the associated expense would be in the Spring lineup of HHW collections.

Tom discussed More Waste, they are staying current but they have not been paying on their arrears. Tom said they would send another letter to More Waste

A motion was made to receive the financials as presented by Paul Haskell. Steve Willbanks seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried with no abstentions.

4. DISCUSSION/ VOTE FOR THE APPROVAL OF VARIABLE PRICING ORDINANCE:

Tom Kennedy went over the current draft of the Variable Pricing Ordinance with the Board. Phil Swanson and Neil Fulton provided comments which were included in the final draft. Tom Kennedy discussed the public hearing on the Ordinance which took place on March 25th at Damon Hall in Hartland, Vermont. The greatest concern raised by haulers in attendance was their

inability to show the actual cost for recyclables. Once the final draft is approved, there will be a 60-day waiting period after tonight's meeting.

Neil Fulton made a motion to approve the draft as presented and send the finalized version to the state for approval, and that postings would be made to the appropriate newspapers and towns as required by law. Steve Willbanks seconded the motion. Paul Haskell indicated that the word "approved" should be replaced by "adopted" in the motion. Tom noted that copies would go to all relevant parties, including but not limited to town clerks, town managers, and town selectboard members. Steve Willbanks wanted clarification of the number of copies in each town. Tom said that 5 locations were not needed in each town, but 5 postings by the District were necessary. An amendment was added that would permit the Chair to sign on behalf of the District. **All in favor, motion carried with no abstentions.**

5. **UPDATES:**

Solid Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP)

A draft of the SWIP was sent to the Agency of Natural Resources in December and the District received comment a month later, the GUV staff addressed all the comments. The GUV staff warned two public hearings to receive comment on the draft SWIP. The public hearing are on April 2, 2015 at 6:00PM and May 21st at 6:00PM; both are at the GUV office. The District is ahead of most towns in responding to the SWIP, and only 40% of the towns in Vermont has responded at this point. A second draft will be sent to ANR after the public hearing. **A motion was made by Ben Bradley to send the second draft to ANR after the public hearing. Steve Willbanks seconded the motion. All in favor, motion approved with no abstentions.**

HHW Facility

Tom Kennedy updated the Board on the progress of a permanent HHW facility at the Hartford Transfer location. Public Works officials from Hanover, Hartford, Norwich and Lebanon conducted site visit, A fire safety review was conducted by the local fire department, and they noted some concerns about the building. It was estimated to cost at least \$75,000 would be needed to get the facility operational, but the exact cost is unknown at this time.

Hook Property

Tom Kennedy discussed the Clarence Hook property sale which is located at 106 Mill Street. He told the Board the Realtor hired by the District was proposing an initial asking price of \$89,900, with an offer most likely in the low to mid 80K range.

Office Relocation

Tom Kennedy asked the Board to consider moving the office to a place that had better access for trucks and was easier to get to. He suggested two locations: the educational building at the Hartford Transfer Station, or the former North Hartland School. If the Board didn't want to move, he asked the Board to consider using some of the proceeds from the sale of the house be used to rehab the existing office building.

Tom Kennedy said that before any move would be considered, the District would have to make

sure that the “grandfather clause” from the Federal Aviation Agency’s regarding the District having a presence at the 96 Mill Street property wouldn’t be violated. The District’s attorney will review the document in full.

Recycling Markets

Tom Kennedy discussed the decline in revenues for recyclables and the impact it is having on town budgets and haulers. He said the combination of poor prices and the increase in pull charges for moving roll-off to recycling centers was hurting many towns and haulers. Tom Kennedy stated that towns need to consider using compactors so the towns can get more materials in the containers and reduce the number of pulls. Norwich has two compactors, one single phase and one three phase. Neil Fulton said the price for the compactors was approximately \$25,000. Tom said he will be contacting vendors to get further information and pricing. Tom said that marketing information will be sent to interested parties.

Secretary Markowitz’s Visit

Also discussed was a visit from Secretary Markowitz, possibly on the 21st of May. This would take place at Tracy Hall in Norwich, Vermont. Secretary Markowitz is visiting all the Districts to discuss solid waste issues.

6. LEGASLATIVE ISSUES:

Tom Kennedy then began discussion of current legislative issues. Tom said there was no interest in amending the Act 148. He said the \$6.00/ton tariff will be eliminated and replaced with a service fee in the future because the revenue stream will decline as less MSW collected.

7. DISCUSSION OF FEASIBILITY OF A SOLAR PARK AT LANDFILL SITE:

Tom Kennedy said he had a conversation with Dori Wolfe, of Wolfe Energy in Strafford, Vermont about the feasibility of developing solar on GUV property. She said that that GUV could develop up to 5.5 MW which would use between 25-35 acres of land. Tom said that it would be a good time to start bringing folks together to begin talking about this. Paul Haskell mentioned that in Sharon, the solar park generated about 2.2 megs of energy. Ben Bradley asked if an estimate could be made on the dollar figures, to which Tom replied that a cost could not be calculated at this time without more information. Neil Fulton said that it would be best to reach out to both Green Mountain Power and Dori Wolfe for more information.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business to discuss or address.

9. SET NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE:

The next regular meeting date of the GUV Board of Supervisors was set for Thursday, May 21st, at 4:00 p.m. with a tentative location of Tracy Hall in Norwich, Vermont.

A motion was made by Bob Stacey to adjourn the GUV Board of Supervisors meeting at 5:50 p.m. Motion carried, all approved with no abstentions.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen A. Lambert
Administrative Assistant