

Building and Facilities Committee

Minutes of 5-27-21; Zoom

Members Present: Bowers, Cross, Sherman, Cardillo, Hoglund, Beasley, Bianchi, Cannon

Guests: John Manaras, Chair, and Gerry Gold, member, Solid Waste Management Committee; Bob Harrington, Director, DPW

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. The roll was called, and each member present stated that no one else was in the room with that member.

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting of May 20, 2021, were reviewed by the Committee and were then approved unanimously. Phil Sherman noted a couple of items that were technically incorrect as stated in those minutes; and that there was a clarification needed as to where recycling baling takes place. It was moved, seconded and voted to amend the Minutes of 5-20-21 to reflect that baling of recyclables takes place at the transfer station, not the DPW site. The corrections noted are reflected as follows in these minutes of 5-27-21: (1) there are three proposals set forth in the Sanborn Head Report, not four, as stated in the Minutes of May 20, 2021; and (2) all three proposals reflect the inclusion of a scale, while it was stated at the May 20 meeting that only one of those proposals contained a scale.

2. Old Business

Transfer Station

The Chair introduced the topic of establishing priorities for the transfer station. He asked Colin Beasley to lead the discussion as he has been developing the report on priorities.

There ensued a discussion of the needs at the transfer station in which Bob Harrington and John Manaras fully participated. It was suggested that it was not for this Committee to offer planning for future population growth, but, rather, for the Selectmen to make any determination which might be warranted related to population projections and how it might affect waste disposal and recycling. The Selectmen could then advise this Committee and the Solid Waste Management Committee of its wishes on any further examination of needs. The current assessment should be based on current needs, and those projected needs arising out of the current situation and use of the transfer station. Peter Bianchi noted that he had prepared a chart and graphs of usage of the transfer station for waste and recycling, and that it showed a decline in usage over the years. Those documents were earlier sent to the Committee, and the

Chair then sent the chart to the Committee again, and to Bob Harrington and John Manaras. See attached. Mr. Bianchi also noted that the population projections which have been used in the past are notoriously inconsistent with actual growth of the Town, and it was noted that the projections used by Sanborn Head for what is now the current population are way off.

Bob Harrington stated that the three main concerns he had at the present were (1) additional trailers at the transfer station; (2) expanding the size of the current recyclables building; (3) removing recyclables from the WPD site and storing them as needed at the transfer station. Another issue he is concerned about which would be important to resolve is that of storage issues at the sewer department property for the sewer pump, the sewer department truck and various other needs of the WPD. He also stated that the traffic use at the transfer station should be addressed in the near future as it is only getting worse, but that it should be addressed by an engineer hired by the Town as Bob is not an engineer. The problem needs to be addressed as a safety issue and to prevent collisions between residents' vehicles, pedestrians, and the equipment used at the site. All these issues should be addressed and resolved within the next five years.

He noted that other storage at the sewer property should be separate from and not interfere with WPD storage and use. He suggested that a multi-bay garage-type building which could have additional bays added over time as needed might be a good approach. He felt that the Town shouldn't do too much too soon. Rather, the Town should address the specific current needs, but be sure to do so in a way that would allow further expansion of storage as needed and also ensure that whatever was done did not interfere with future access and use of the property for other purposes.

Mr. Beasley will incorporate these discussions into the report he is working on and the Committee will discuss the full analysis at its meeting on Thursday, June 17, 2021.

3. Reports

Mr. Cannon reported that he had raised the issue of the records retention policy at the Selectmen's meeting on Monday, May 17, 2021.

4. Other items to come before the Committee.

The Committee discussed the question of who would speak on behalf of the Committee at Town Meeting regarding the petitioned article to bond the purchase of the Stahlman building. After discussion it was decided that the Chair and Colin Beasley would discuss the issue and make a determination as to which of them would make any official presentation, and would inform the Town Moderator. The Chair will also inquire

of the Town Moderator as to the contemplated order of presentation and the ground rules at that Meeting.

The next meeting will be on June 17, 2021, and will be a discussion of all priorities to include those most recently discussed.

5. *Action Items*

(from 4-1-21)

A. Peter Hoglund to discuss with Bob Harrington his thoughts on needs and solutions related to the DPW/transfer station, and to gather the relevant information and facts for future discussions with Mr. Harrington and the Committee. **Ongoing.**

(4-15-21)

B. Peter Hoglund to confer with Bob Harrington, Mike Williams, and Phil Sherman to establish meetings and discussions to analyze facilities software issues. **Ongoing.**

(5-6-21)

C. Colin Beasley to add the conclusions of the Committee regarding the Academy Building/EMC space to the draft priorities report. **In process.**

(5-20-21)

D. Peter Hoglund to meet with Bob Harrington, John Manaras, and Bob Brown to review possible changes at the transfer station to accommodate current needs. **In process.**

The next meeting will be on Thursday, June 17, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Bowers, Chair

ATTACHMENT

<u>FISCAL YEAR</u>	<u>TRASH (TONS)</u>	<u>RECYCLING MATERIAL (TONS)</u>
2000	2964	872
2001	2949	693
2002	2934	873
2003	3150	660
2004	3049	782
2005	3181	788

2006	3122	799
2007	2799	812
2008	2595	763
2009	2455	743
2010	2317	742
2011	2229	707
2012	2179	670
2013	2185	661
2014	2140	627
2015	2160	596
2016	2138	608
2017	2180	650
2018	2208	653
2019	2205	649