

**MEETING
Somerville Town Office
April 25, 2019**

The following directors were present: John Shepard, Dana Philippi, Henry Hall, Elaine Porter, Jim Bailey, Peter Beckett, Don Thebeau, Heather Wyman, Charlotte Henderson and Norman Casas. Also present were David Stanley, Facility Manager, and Gail Philippi, Administrative Assistant.

John Shepard, President opened the meeting at 7:05 pm.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: A motion was made by Norman Casas and seconded by Charlotte Henderson to accept the minutes of the January 24, 2019 meeting. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The checking account balance as of today is \$130,692.53. The Reserve Account balance is \$65,504.52 and the new 13-month CD is \$50,000.00. Jim Bailey made a motion and Norman Casas seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. We opened the account with \$15,000 transferred from the Checking account and \$35,000 from the Reserve account. The CD is earning 2.3% with an APY of 2.33%. Motion carried.

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: Norman Casas asked about the woodlot management. David has forester Mark Vannah from Robbins lined up. We must wait for things to dry out. Several Board members would like to attend their meeting. Norman suggested that maybe David should get two bids pro forma though he also feels Eddie Blake is the best and is next door. Using a forester is to show good faith. David is flexible in meeting with Vannah and if other Board members can attend, depending on timing and scheduling, then that is fine. There are portions we can't harvest as there is wetland, etc. David doesn't have a financial amount in mind and feels that anything we make is found money. Jim Bailey says David's working on it and Robbins is reputable.

John Shepard reported that the officers John, Norman, Peter and Jim, met with the auditor William Brewer and David and Gail at the Union Town Office. We are doing everything acceptably and we clarified a few procedures about transferring funds. David and Gail created spreadsheets showing our Reserve Accounts and Carryover accounts.

John spoke with Roger Therriault twice. They discussed the fact that according to the Interlocal Agreement, Board members should be Selectboard members. Washington and Somerville do not have Selectboard Board members. Roger feels that we need to rectify this and to try to get Selectboard members if possible. If not, we may have to amend the Interlocal Agreement. The Board discussed whether to change the Agreement or to instead change Town requirements. It was suggested that the Board member be elected at each Town Meeting. Gail stated that Washington still needs to appoint an alternate Board member.

Roger is also updating the Interlocal Agreement to show the loss of Palermo and clean it up.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Don Thebeau has a note from a resident who would like to have a liquid hazmat day on a different day as the HHW Day is usually a conflict with Somerville's Town Meeting. David stated that the **Annual Household Hazardous Waste Day** will be held Sat. June 15th from 8:30 – 11 am. It is always the third Saturday in June. We subsidize it and the fee for users is still \$10/unit.

NEW BUSINESS:

FACILITY MANAGER'S REPORT: David has ordered 100,000 rolled **green bags** for \$23,115, delivered. We order bags about every 14 months.

There were a rough couple of weeks at the Station with very sick employees, two with pneumonia. Jeff and Bruce filled in for absent employees.

David checks every quarter to see that each type of **recycling** is paying for itself.

Trash is paying its way; **demo** is not, and we had a deficit in the first quarter. David is looking at increasing our **mattress fee** from \$10 – 12. Mattresses get wet and heavy and they are hard to pack in the trailer. David is also looking at a slight **increase for demo**; raising it from \$6.00 to \$7.00 per 100 lbs. David doesn't want to lose money on this and is letting the Board know ahead of time. David said he doesn't get pushback on demo as they are using the scales far more than they ever did. The scale was open all winter as they had done some winterizing and heated the scale house. Contractors, who bring in the biggest loads, rarely complain as they pass the cost onto their customer.

Trailer - David has a concern about the longevity of the older trailer. There are some rotted cross members. He has yet to find someone who is interested in doing the repairs though he is waiting to hear from Gordon Libby who has someone in mind. We spent a lot on the old trailer getting it to pass inspection and it is coming up for inspection again this fall. David would like to know before then if it will pass. We had new landing gear put on by Donny Bowman. David doesn't want to paint it until we know its status and he also needs to have some welding done.

If we must buy a new trailer David doesn't want to buy a used one and we would have to borrow if we did buy a trailer. We operated with one trailer for a long time, but DEP was unhappy with trash on the floor and the mess. We are cleaner now and we have needed the second one. We use both regularly, swapping back and forth. David feels the trailer can be repaired satisfactorily.

Trailer shed – David stated that we put \$20,000 away and he got some good estimates. Glen Curtis who built the shed said it needs a floor or we will have issues with the door. Gordon Libby the hauler is also in favor of putting in a floor. The quote for a 20x60 slab with 3000-pound concrete and rebar throughout comes in at \$7,500. David thinks we should do it, or the project will be fundamentally flawed. David was asked to review the reason for the project, and he explained that the shed is to keep snow and rain out of the trailer, but we are still ending up with frozen loads of trash that can't be unloaded. Ahlholm could thaw them but we no longer have that option. Even unheated, it stays warm longer if out of the wind. The shed wouldn't take a lot to heat if closed in. There will be a service door but no windows. There was some discussion about doing the slab and the sides this year and the doors next year. The two (12x14) **doors** are \$1200 each and the openers are \$600 each. Jim Bailey feels we should figure out where to get the money for the trailer, do the floor, finish the building and get it done. David expects this to be done by the beginning of the summer.

Norman Casas made a motion to budget an extra \$10,000 from checking to go into the Reserve Account as Infrastructure to be used for the completion of the trailer shed: slab, walls, and doors. Jim Bailey seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

A post was damaged on the loading dock behind the recycling shed. Lincoln County backed into it and their insurance company has already paid.

One recent Saturday morning the crew arrived to find that someone had run into the front gate hard enough to do a lot of damage. David says it looked intentional and there were auto parts scattered about. They've straightened the gate with the backhoe and David reported it to the Knox County Sheriff's Office. Our deductible is high enough that he won't file a claim.

Recycling Reports – David was quoted out of context in an article in Maine Town & City. It was not the constructive article he expected.

The large **plastic** area is open for the season. Manufacturers of mixed plastic aren't interested in recycling

as it is cheaper to make more.

The Natural Resources Council of ME is putting forth a bill; LD 1341 “A Resolve to Support Municipal Recycling Programs”. DEP is looking into it and David will be giving written testimony. There has been talk of tacking disposal fees onto plastic items, but David doesn’t know where the money will go. It sounds great but has got to work. The Paint Care program is successful.

Lincoln County is a small part of our recycling. Only 19% of our total volume ends up in a landfill. A lot of recycling we can’t influence, like the weather.

TCSWMO shipped a total of 2,044 tons out of station last year. David read off a list of recycling numbers for all the items we do recycle and what they are. David will get this list to Peter for the website. David will make a poster which Gail will send out to all the Town Offices and Board members. Norman says it will cheer everyone up!

We returned to the subject of **mattresses**. They are expensive to get rid of and a safety hazard for employees when loading them as they are big and get heavy when wet. They need to be loaded on either the top or bottom of the trailer. David says they are shipped as demo to Grimmel’s in Topsham and they go into a landfill.

Minutes – John has mixed feelings about a third person reviewing the minutes and that it is cumbersome. He stated that we have voted and agreed to finish the minutes sooner and Gail is working towards that.

Gail asked to explain her proposal that she will finish the minutes and David will review them as soon as we can within that three-week window. She will email them to everyone and mail paper copies to those Board members without email (currently Elaine and Jason). She requested that everyone print out and review the minutes when received (and while everyone still remembers the meeting!), make notes and bring it all to the next meeting to be discussed by all Board members present.

David said he reviews the minutes and makes minimal changes, usually to do with names, numbers and occasionally getting the meaning of his comments correct. We usually do it over the phone.

At the July meeting we will have the election of officers. John asked everyone to be thinking about this.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Quarterly Financial reports were emailed to all members who have email and copies brought to the meeting for those without email. The April Warrant was handed out to board members at the meeting.

The next meeting is on July 25th at the Union Town Office.

Norman Casas made a motion and Jim Bailey seconded to adjourn at 9:10 pm.

Submitted by, Gail Philippi, Administrative Assistant