

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES


BRANFORD TOWN CLERK

WEDNESDAY, Oct 9, 2024

Present: Chairman Muniz; Commissioners R Aitro, K Galambos, T Muhlbauer, H Heyman, H Plunkett; Sustainability & Compliance Manager T Bowne,

1. Chairman Muniz called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm
2. H Heyman made a motion to approve the minutes of the June Special Meeting, seconded by T Muhlbauer, 5 members approved, K Galambos abstained. The Commission will review the September minutes at next month's meeting.
3. Program Operations:
 - a. Recycling Material Costs and Metrics
 - i. Manager Bowne reviewed the September Transfer Station report (attached).
 - ii. MSW trends are the same, ie higher in summer, lower in winter, but both MSW and recycling have been trending up. C&D also trends higher in summer, but C&D volume is lower this year, possibly because of the new pricing schedule. We remain below both threshold prices for trash and recycling per ton.
 - b. Curbside Collection Performance Update
 - i. There have been fewer complaints than with last vendor, and when occasional streets are missed, they respond quickly.
 - ii. Chairman Muniz inquired about the need for a second side-loader. Manager Bowne will address this after completing the invoice to Bozzuto for the letter that was mailed to residents at the beginning of the new contract.
 - c. Transfer Station Performance and Practices Update
 - i. Manager Bowne is working on improved signage to make access to the Transfer Station more understandable and efficient
 - ii. The bay that holds an unused compactor could be used for another purpose such as food waste
4. Old Business
 - a. none
5. New Business
 - a. Food waste:
 1. Chairman Muniz stated that in the future, the Commission will brainstorm ideas for increased food waste collection at the Transfer Station.
 2. Manager Bowne plans to attend a conference on food waste.
 - b. Beacon Award: The Commissioners congratulated Chairman Muniz for winning the Beacon Award, recognition from a local newspaper to an outstanding community volunteer

6. K Galambos made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:28 pm, seconded by H Plunkett, approved unanimously. The next meeting of the SWMC will be Wednesday, November 13, at 6:00 pm via Zoom.