

## **MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, December 19, 2022**

**Held at City Hall, Franklin, NH**

George Dzujna called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Members Present: Councilor George Dzujna (Chair); Councilor Ted Starkweather; Councilor Paul Trudel; Councilor Jay Chandler; Councilor Leigh Webb; Councilor Olivia Zink; Councilor Vince Ribas; Mayor Jo Brown; City Manager Judie Milner; MSD Director Justin Hanscom; Members of the public.

Councilor Ted Starkweather led the Committee Members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

George thanked all the members for attending this meeting. George just wanted to note that he has received several public emails about the public attending these meetings. After finishing the Ordinance "re-vamp", he wants to have a Public Hearing, so that any members of the public can attend to get notice of changes.

George informed the Committee that he wanted to move Item #4 up to Item #1. This item is regarding 257-48: wording.

**Item #4 – 257-48 – wording:** Judie told Committee that she had spoken at length with Attorney Paul Fitzgerald and he told her that the language is permissible in the section about emergency situations (where fee changes can be made by the Municipal Services Director in consultations with the City Manager). Attorney Fitzgerald will put this in writing, if needed.

Judie then stated that we all should be on the same page about "base level service". The direction from the MSD Committee four years ago was that we kept the base level service as simple as possible. The "updated" base level service will be: curbside pickup of two (2) 96-gallon containers, for a total of 192 gallons, per household. Commercial units will be three units and over. Anything over the 192 gallons of waste will have to be brought to the Transfer Station and will be payable (brought in purchased specialized bags). Bags will be for above and beyond the normal weeks' worth of waste (which is, again, 192 Gallons).

George informed the Committee that there is a lot of public talk about having concerns with the updated Ordinance. One item of concern is "Roads that trucks cannot reach", which is Item #1 on the Agenda. One example of this is North Road. Justin has looked at this road – there is a cistern here. It may be possible for the Trash Truck to maneuver around this "obstruction" in order to pick up trash on the road.

continued on page 2

**Item #4 (continued):**

One of the Committee members mentioned a concern with Item #2 on the Agenda. This item is regarding Non-profits. The concern is certain "groups" not getting a break on the cost of purchased bags brought to the Transfer Station, such as Churches, Schools, Boy Scouts, Peabody Home, etc. For example: the Boy Scouts pick up trash along the Winnepesaukee Trail three to four times per year. Do they get help with this kind of thing when they bring trash to the Transfer Station? Justin answered: Yes, they do get assistance with this. Crystal, at Rowell Community Center, helps to organize this. Ted asked how many non-profits there are in the City of Franklin. George answered 200 – 215. Another example is Jeff Perkins. He pick up and bags trash then leaves the bags throughout the City. Municipal Services will then pick up the bags and bring them to the Transfer Station for disposal. NOTE: Any of these types of examples should get prior approval from the City Manager's Office. George asked if we should put this in the updated Ordinance. Jo answered that it would be helpful to add in a paragraph, under Base level Service, on non-profits, and/or volunteer groups, who pick up trash on Municipal property.

George mentioned that some of the reference numbers are incorrect. Jo stated that she is working on this and that most of them have been corrected.

George asked if there were any other changes to mention.

Paul suggested that we eliminate fees for Commercial properties. He also suggested that the City come with other ways to pay for trash disposal increases to assist the public in paying for upcoming fee increases (one increase being bag purchasing). He has several suggestions to discuss at a later meeting. Jo answered him that the Committee had discussed this at prior meetings and stated that when increases happen, the public has to pay for some of them. The City should not be responsible for taking away services in order to fund fee increases/changes.

Ted asked who would be responsible for maintaining bag inventory. For example, if we give bags to Hannaford to sell, who will check if they still have bags on the shelves? He mentioned that in Belmont, every unit (2 and 3 apartment buildings and some Commercial) have two (2) cans and everything else must be brought to the Transfer Station and go over the scales (**no purchased bags**). Jo asked what the Committee felt about this way of doing things. Justin stated that we would have to look at flow patterns, pressure on the Transfer Station scale, etc. Justin also mentioned that the point of have colored bags to purchase was to make things easier on Transfer Station employees to see what could be dumped without extra costs.

continued on page 3

George asked what was to stop someone from dumping items in black or white bags vs. someone dumping items in the purchased colored bags. Justin answered that the City runs this risk presently.

Justin made note that the City will purchase the bags and sell them to the public at cost.

Judie asked to go over all changes that still need to be made to make sure we are all on the same page.

Leigh mentioned that all changes / deletions to the current Ordinance must be brought to City Council meeting in order to be approved. The City Council will then have to approve the corrected Ordinance. At the February Council meeting, Judie will set up a Public Hearing to be held sometime in March 2023.

George asked if there was any Other Business.

Resident Scott Clarenbach had several items of note:

- a) He did some research and mentioned that each person generates one ton of waste per year.
- b) He is interested in how illegal dumping will be tracked?
- c) He asked if any funds that are saved by the new Ordinance, could those funds go back to the Transfer Station budget.

Judie asked Scott to email her this list and she will look into it.

Paul stated that at the last Council meeting, an item was not addressed and asked that it be addressed at the next Council meeting. This item is regarding how much money is saved to the City by all drops that are not picked up. Justin did not have an answer at this time.

Resident Desiree McLaughlin had several questions. Jo suggested that herself, Desiree, Paul, George, Justin and Leigh get together in January to discuss these questions.

Ted made a motion to adjourn the meeting. George seconded. Motion was carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.