



**Solid Waste Advisory Council Meeting
June 4, 2015**

Present: Don West, Charlie Hughes, Bruce Holstein, Bob Ernst, Karen Leatherwood, Maria Myers, Sheree Lima, Dusty Hilbert, Jeffrey Topper

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. Minutes from the 4/17/15 meeting were reviewed and adopted. Karen will take notes.

Don reported that the response to the recent presentation to the BoCC was positive, but no vote was taken. He introduced Jeffrey Topper as the new Deputy Director of Public Works.

Dusty reported that the bid for recycling operations has changed and now we are moving in a negative direction, paying to send out our recycling rather than receiving revenue. At this time, there is no indication of how the fee structure will change. Bob suggested they could get a better price if there was sorting at Northern. The new prices are now tied to an index and will fluctuate month to month. We discussed inviting Dwight Amoss to our next meeting.

Our guest speaker for this meeting was Mark Dancy with Waste Zero.

Waste Zero uses the term "metered", but is a version of PAYT. They work in forty states and with 800 cities and towns. The municipalities are pleased with the results as none leave the program once they start. In the first 90 days, it is common to see the waste reduced by 40%-50%. Just education is not enough, as 40 years of education reduced per capita waste from 1100 lbs per year to 900 lbs per year, but PAYT drops the number to 500 lbs per year. This program has been in place in Worcester MA for 20 years. It is successful in a variety of types of communities with various income and education levels as well as differing political climates. Waste Zero's results show that bags work better than tags. The rate varies as well as the bag size.

Waste Zero basically sells the trash bags, but provides a menu of educational and transitional services. They work with a number of grocery chains already and are able to make deliveries so that stock piles of inventory are not required.

Bruce suggested letting people know the options are to raise taxes or implement PAYT. It is important to work with the media and have a political buy in for this to be successful. Karen suggested trying to get one of the towns to take on PAYT first. Bruce will write up a program proposal for the group to analyze.

Don asked, What is our role? Is there a role for this Council in taking PAYT county-wide? Mark emphasized that communication is necessary for success.

In other business, Karen and Bruce were reappointed to the Council. The next meeting is a cookout at Don's house in July. The meeting was adjourned at 7:46.