



## Town Council Meeting Minutes



Thursday, December 2, 2021, at 7:00 PM, in the Matthew Thornton Room

Chairman Koenig called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. Present at the meeting were Chairman Koenig, Vice Chair Rothhaus, Councilor Harrington, Councilor Healey, Councilor Murphy, Councilor Woods, and Town Manager Paul Micali. Councilor Hunter was excused.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Koenig led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Announcements**

The Merrimack Town Council would like to express our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Anthony "Tony" Pellegrino, who passed away on November 17<sup>th</sup> at the age of 78 years old. Tony served on the Board of Selectmen, Zoning Board of Adjustment, Sewer Master Plan Site Committee, Solid Waste AdHoc Committee, Charter Commission, Ethics Committee, Cable TV Advisory Committee and the Conservation Commission. Tony was also one of the original members of the Special Officers on the Merrimack Police Department, served as a Commissioner of the Merrimack Village District for over 26 years as well as served as a New Hampshire State Representative for 6 years. Tony selflessly and graciously volunteered countless hours to better the community. He was an unforgettable man with a wonderful sense of humor and will be sorely missed by all. Chairman Koenig requested a moment of silence for Tony and his family.

### **Upcoming Town Council Meetings:**

- Thursday, December 16, 2021, 7:00 PM Regular meeting
- Thursday, January 6, 2021, 6:30 PM Budget meeting
- Wednesday, January 12, 2021, 6:30 PM Budget meeting
- Thursday, January 13, 2021, 7:00 PM Regular meeting

Tax bills were mailed yesterday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, so Merrimack residents should have received them today. If you do not receive your tax bill by Friday, please reach out to the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office at 603-424-3651.

The Merrimack Parks & Recreation Department invites you to join us in kicking off the official Holiday Season by joining us for the 28th Annual Holiday Parade & Tree Lighting Ceremony; which will take place this Sunday, December 5th, 2021. The Annual Holiday Parade will start at 3:00 p.m. in the Commons Shopping Plaza located at 515 Daniel Webster Highway. When the Parade kicks off, it will take a left onto Daniel Webster Highway and will proceed south. It will then take a right onto Baboosic Lake Road and then a left onto McElwain Street, disbanding at the Town Hall Parking Lot.

### **TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY:**

The Annual Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held at Abbie Griffin Park (located behind Merrimack Town Hall) and which will be begin immediately after the parade arrives at Abbie Griffin Park at approximately 3:45 pm. For questions, please contact the Parks & Recreation Department at 603-882-1046.

## **FOOD DRIVE:**

This year more than most; the need is great. The Town-wide Food Drive continues through December 31<sup>st</sup>. Please donate your unexpired canned food and other non-perishable items to benefit the local food pantries at St. John Neumann and St James Churches. Other drop-off locations are located at the Town Hall, Police Department, Fire Department, Highway Maintenance Complex, Transfer Station and the Library. We will have collection boxes available at the tree lighting to drop off your donations at the Tree Lighting Ceremony.

The Single Stream operation at the recycling facility will see a minor change in December – we will no longer be able to accept #3, #6, and #7 plastics in the recycling stream. Please see the Solid Waste website, Public Works Facebook Page, and informational posters at the facility for details in the coming week.

Wreaths Across America will bring its mobile education unit to Merrimack next week. The display is making its way from Maine to Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia on Dec. 18 for the 30th anniversary of the first wreaths laid there. The exhibit arrives Monday, Dec. 13, the birthday of the U.S. National Guard, at the American Legion hall at 43 Baboosic Lake Road in Merrimack at 1:45 p.m. The exhibit will be open to the public at 2 p.m. before moving on to Brattleboro, VT.

## **Comments from the Press and Public**

Bill Fallon of 12 Merrimack Drive approached the Council with a concern. He stated that the town is building 242 apartments across the street from him, and there are more apartments being built down by the Outlets. He wanted to ask if there are plans for another fire department location to offset this growth/ accommodate all the new construction. Chairman Koenig explained that if Mr. Fallon wishes to bring this up as a discussion, this can be added to the agenda for a future meeting. Further, Chairman Koenig shared that this has been under consideration, and they are working on increasing the fire department staff to 11.

## **Recognitions, Resignations and Retirements**

### **1. Recognition of Resignation of Town Employee**

*Submitted by Human Resources Coordinator Sharon Marunicz*

The Town Council will present a plaque to Kristin Wardner in recognition of her service after more than 13 years of full-time service with the Town of Merrimack Finance and General Government: May 27, 2008 – December 2, 2021.

## **Appointments**

None.

## **Public Hearing**

None.

## **Legislative Updates from State Representatives**

Greetings, Town Councilors:

1.) Earlier this year, you may recall [HB 478](#) attempted to ensure that Saint Gobain pay for filtration in wells 4 and 5 beyond the year 2025. The Town Council signed a letter in support of HB 478. An identical bill is being filed in the state Senate for next year. More to come.

2.) Removal of the Exit 10 tolls was included in the budget (HB 2) signed by the Governor earlier this year. As a result, toll collection on Exit 10 will cease on January 1, 2022, and the project to remove the toll mechanisms is advertised for a bid in May 2022.

3.) Merrimack legislators hosted a press conference last Monday (11/29/21) to urge the shutdown of Saint Gobain until it can prove it's no longer emitting PFAS. This comes as a reaction to the recent deficiency letter issued to Saint Gobain by NH DES. The press conference was covered by [WMUR](#), [Union Leader](#), [Manchester Ink](#) and [Indepth NH](#) (links provided).

Thank you for all you do.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rep. Maureen Mooney (R-Merrimack)

### **Town Manager's Report**

- The Alliance for Community Media Northeast has awarded Merrimack TV 2nd place for sports coverage and 1st place for community media promotional videos. The Northeast region includes all of New England and New York state. Thanks to our Media Division and play-by-play volunteers.
- Wastewater Phase III Update: The contractor is in the process of installing the concrete foundations for the new emergency generators, installing electrical manholes and duct banks, and completing field verifications of measurements and grades for the primary and secondary clarifiers. Work remains on-schedule.
- The Woodbury Street sidewalk is complete. Kudos to Town Engineer Dawn Tuomala and Contractor Continental Paving for making this project such a success!

### **Consent Agenda**

None.

### **Old Business**

#### **1. Merrimack Village District (MVD) Requesting Letter of Support to NHDES – Well MVD 6**

*Submitted by Town Manager Paul T. Micali*

The Town Council to receive an update on the Brownfields grant funding through the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to assist in the remediation plan related to the former Merrimack Industrial Metals site, located at 734 Milford Road that caused adverse impacts (contamination) to the former MVD Production Well MVD-6.

Town Manager Paul Micali shared that on November 17<sup>th</sup>, he had a meeting with NHDES and MVD's contracted engineer to discuss the grant in depth. He shared with the Council that this is a competitive grant that the EPA is giving out. The grant is a \$2 million award that covers assessment and remediation plans for up to 10 properties, which equals out to about \$200,000 per property and does not include any cleanup of the area. During the meeting, Mr. Micali asked what needed to be done since the town does not own the land, and it was discovered that the property owners would have to be made aware of the planned project and agree to the process. Further, Mr. Micali stated that he does not believe they need a remediation plan for the property since they have tested the well and know the area is contaminated. He recommends holding off on this project for now and waiting to see what other types of funding or grants come down the pipeline as this project will take more than \$200,000 to fix the area.

Councilor Healey asked if the GAC filters MVD has would help take care of the water, in which Mr. Micali stated that it's different treatment for each contaminant. Councilor Healey then shared that she looked up information on the former Merrimack Industrial Metals site on the EPA website, and it does say that this area needs remediation. Further, she noted that the owners listed for this property are different on the EPA site

from what is listed on the GIS map, and there is reference to a lawyer in Manchester who is taking care of the area.

Councilor Murphy wanted to clarify that the Council not writing a letter of support will not negatively impact MVD and that the opportunity would still be available in the future, in which Mr. Micali stated that the Council does not need to write the letter for MVD, it would be for requesting that the town of Merrimack be part of this project. MVD wanted the letter of support for Well 6. Since it's a wellhead protection area that some of the brownfields property is on.

*Chairman Koenig requested to move agenda item #2 under Old Business to the end of the agenda.*

## **New Business**

### **1. Social Media Discussion**

*Submitted by Media Services Coordinator Nicholas Lavallee*

The Town Council will be presented with and discuss the possibility of a social media presence being created for the Merrimack Town Council.

Media Services Coordinator Nicholas Lavallee was present to discuss the impact of establishing a social media presence for the Council, beginning with a Facebook page and eventually expanding to other platforms. He believes having a social media presence would enhance how residents stay informed on town business events and notices, and act as an opportunity to provide outreach for residents to become involved in town boards and committees. Mr. Lavallee then shared that some town departments already have social media pages, and he believes that the Town Council Facebook page would serve as a "hub" for these departments and also bring a voice to other departments, such as the tax collector's office. He envisions this page to have curated and original content, meaning that there can be shared posts, images, and videos from existing social media pages and the town website, as well as original content created specifically for the town's page. Mr. Lavallee then shared that social media helps keep residents informed and cited how the Merrimack TV Facebook page has grown over the past year from 500 followers to over 2,000. Further, department Facebook pages combined have the potential to reach over 25,000 residents and help share important, up-to-date information. He then shared that the success of this page depends on user engagement and believes that posts should enable reactions and comments as this creates a greater chance of a post being delivered to newsfeeds.

Mr. Lavallee then went over some limitations that would be set for the page, such as visitor's not being able to post their own content to the page's main feed, and incoming direct messages receiving an automated response with a link to the Town department's contact information. He feels that residents would best be served receiving this automatic response as the website cannot be managed 24/7 to answer questions or concerns immediately. Councilor Woods asked in what fashion people can comment on the page, in which Mr. Lavallee shared that people will be able to comment in the comment box or react to the post. Councilor Harrington asked if the page will be able to respond to any questions posted in the comment section of a post, in which Mr. Micali stated they would look into the question, but they would not be responding to questions as the page is more to spread information and less for interacting with questions/comments. Councilor Harrington then asked about inappropriate questions/comments, in which Mr. Micali stated that Facebook has a mechanism where inappropriate comments can be removed, and the user would be reported and suspended for inappropriate content.

Vice Chair Rothhaus asked Mr. Lavallee about negative commentary, particularly the comments regarding the rotary that the DPW has had to deal with on their social media pages. Mr. Lavallee stated that people are allowed to air their concerns or comments regarding community issues, and he sees it as a positive that

1 residents are so involved in the latest community issues. Public Works Director Kyle Fox agreed with Mr.  
2 Lavallee, stating that he believes social media is the best way for residents to be informed in public events,  
3 and the good far outweighs the bad in terms of public commentary. He then shared that in all the years they  
4 have had their social media pages, there has only been one comment he has had to “hide” as it was a  
5 comment about a specific town employee, but besides that all posts and comments are available to view.  
6 Councilor Harrington raised concerns about answering questions in public comments, as she finds it  
7 appropriate to respond to genuine inquiries but wonders where to draw the line between answering every  
8 question vs having office staff manage the comment section and answer inquiries. Mr. Fox stated that for the  
9 DPW social media pages, people will respond to questions left by other residents, so the social media page is  
10 almost “self-sustaining” as individuals will chime in to answer a question or refer the original poster to a  
11 previous post or link by the DPW page.  
12

13 Mr. Micali shared that he and Mr. Lavallee have been working on getting this social media page up and  
14 running since June and have focused on ensuring that the comments will remain on topic and civil. He shared  
15 that the page is not intended to be interactive, but rather focus more on promoting and sharing important  
16 information in Merrimack. Although comments will be allowed, they will establish an administrator that will  
17 be able to monitor and respond to direct messages.  
18

19 Councilor Murphy shared that she thinks this is a great idea, and it’s important to focus on the mission  
20 statement, which will focus on community building. She then asked Mr. Lavallee to clarify the response time  
21 for direct messages/comments, asking if this means that all residents can expect an answer, in which Mr.  
22 Lavallee stated that the purpose of this was to receive a contact list of someone to reach out to, to help find  
23 the answer to a direct message question within a certain time frame.  
24

25 Councilor Healey shared that most people in the town do not know there is a town website to get information  
26 from, so she thinks having a social media page is an excellent idea to help spread the word about important  
27 news and events. She also shared that it will be important to post the rules/terms and conditions clearly on  
28 the page to ensure that everyone is aware of what is acceptable and unacceptable to post, as well as highlight  
29 that the page will not be managed 24/7 so there will be a delay in getting a response to a message.  
30

31 After some further discussion, the Council and Mr. Lavallee agreed to develop a social media presence for  
32 the town, and Mr. Micali suggested giving them until July 1<sup>st</sup> to get this up and running and they will then  
33 provide an update.  
34

35 **MOTION made by Councilor Harrington and seconded by Councilor Murphy to ask the Town**  
36 **Manager to set up and start a social media presence for the Town of Merrimack/Town Council in**  
37 **coordination with Media Services Coordinator Nicholas Lavallee, and report back to the Council**  
38 **sometime in June or July on the progress and activity.**  
39

40 Before voting took place, Councilor Woods expressed concern over including the Council in the motion,  
41 stating that he was under the impression that the page was for the Town of Merrimack. Mr. Micali shared  
42 that this would be a method of communication for all of Merrimack, and that the Council will not be  
43 responsible for monitoring or updating the page, but rather the page will include information from the Town  
44 Council.  
45

46 **MOTION CARRIES 6-0-0**  
47  
48  
49

## 2. Tipping Fees Discussion

*Submitted by Public Works Director Kyle Fox*

The Town Council to be presented with the new tipping rates proposal for the Merrimack Transfer Station as it relates to the new contracts for trash, construction materials and recycling.

Town Manager Paul Micali presented a quick overview, stating that this is the first time in over 17 years where the trash tipping fees have been broken out into three separate contracts. Usually, there would be a recycling contract and trash contract, which includes construction debris, however there are new contracts starting in the next few months with new tipping rates. Public Works Director Kyle Fox then shared that there is a 5-year trash contract with Waste, Inc., in which the trash goes to Pembroke, NH to be burned and turned into energy. This new contract begins in December and is \$78 per ton for the tipping fee, and the final year (Dec 2025) the fee will be \$88.90, which does not include the manpower fees to get the trash to Pembroke. Mr. Fox then shared that the Finance Department calculated an overhead rate for the manpower efforts, which came to \$63 per ton to add on to the total costs. Mr. Fox is proposing charging \$150 per ton for commercial trash disposal, as this is the middle of the 5-year contract plus \$63 overhead costs combined. This is about a \$28 increase per ton over the current fee.

Chairman Koenig questioned the \$150 per ton commercial trash disposal fee, asking for clarification about the \$63 charge for anyone that brings in an additional ton of commercial trash. Mr. Micali stated that they run about \$125,000 into capital reserve funds, so they took the overall total tonnage number, which was around 8,100 tons per year, and they divided it by \$125,000 to come up with the calculation. There was some discussion to clarify residential vs commercial trash and the hauling/disposal of such, in which Mr. Fox shared about 8% of the total trash is commercial. Chairman Koenig asked if the \$125,000 in the capital reserve fund is put in annually, in which Mr. Micali stated that it is, but he expects that amount to drop to \$100,000 in the budget, due to some trucks and trailers having been recently replaced.

Vice Chair Rothhaus questioned if there would be a financial benefit to keeping a lower rate and bringing in more commercial haulers for a financial benefit, and Chairman Koenig added to this by asking if bumping the amount up to \$27 or \$28 would result in losing extra cash. Vice Chair Rothhaus stated he thinks it is reasonable to come in at \$50 handling for the time being and have a further discussion on this to see if it beneficial in one way or another. Councilor Healey asked if the town haulers are handling the trash going to the waste to energy plant and if there is a fee paid to the plant to take the garbage, in which Mr. Fox stated that this is the tipping fee. Councilor Healey followed up by asking where the energy goes, in which Mr. Fox said they create electricity, but he is not sure where it goes. Mr. Micali added that the plant is giving them a break in the fee for tonnage as they are not paying \$95 to have the trash buried. Mr. Fox suggested having the Council elect set rates for each year to help make the transition more palatable. Councilor Harrington asked Mr. Fox if surrounding towns charge extra for commercial trash, in which Mr. Fox stated that 10 of the 15 towns he researched do not accept commercial trash, and the ones that do don't charge residential and have varying rates depending on how close they are to the landfill in Bow. After some discussion, Mr. Micali asked what the Council is comfortable with for an overhead rate. Councilor Harrington suggested setting the overhead rate to \$50 and debating the capital reserve funds at a later time once they receive additional data. Councilor Healey suggested only setting a rate for 2022, as this would give them time to perform a cost analysis and set future rates depending on the information discovered. Chairman Koenig suggested that while he is comfortable with a \$50 overhead rate for commercial waste, perhaps an incremental raise to \$55 would be appropriate for now, pending further re-evaluation. ([See attachment 1](#))

**MOTION made by Vice Chair Rothhaus and seconded by Councilor Harrington to set the overhead costs for a ton of commercial waste to \$55, re-evaluate this more thoroughly within the next year.**

**MOTION CARRIES 6-0-0**

**MOTION made by Councilor Healey and seconded by Vice Chair Rothhaus to set the overhead costs for household trash per ton for commercial haulers to \$133 effective February 1, 2022.**

**MOTION CARRIES 6-0-0**

After voting, the Council moved on to setting the rate for construction materials. Mr. Micali shared that commercial haulers pay from pound zero, whereas residential gets the first thousand pounds free. He is asking the Council if the Town should keep it this way or have residential pay from pound zero as well. Mr. Fox shared that with this new contract, construction materials will not be a part of the trash hauling. Vice Chair Rothhaus believes in keeping the overhead charge of \$55 for construction/demolition materials as well.

**MOTION made by Vice Chair Rothhaus and seconded by Councilor Harrington to set the overhead costs for construction and demolition materials per ton for commercial haulers to \$150 effective February 1, 2022.**

**MOTION CARRIES 6-0-0**

After voting, Mr. Fox shared some data that he has been collecting regarding residential demo, stating that based on the current tipping fee there is going to be \$77,220 of demo materials that they are paying to dispose of. This is about 1,100 tons per year. The Council then discussed how some individuals are claiming their trash is residential, but they really are commercial haulers and are cheating the system to get free waste disposal. Chairman Koenig asked if they should drop the limit from 1,000 pounds to 500 as that seems like a more reasonable amount of demo waste from a resident, in which Mr. Fox suggested charging from pound 1. Mr. Micali stated that setting a pound limit can be difficult as if you lower the limit, people could just make additional trips with smaller amounts to stay under the weight limit. Councilor Harrington suggested making a penalty, such as losing the privilege to use the Transfer Station, if an individual is caught making additional hauls.

Councilor Healey asked what the definition is of construction and demo (c&d) materials, as some materials are heavier than others (such as shingles on a roof, marble countertops, etc.). Mr. Fox stated that everything that is not trash is counted as c&d, and this can vary from plywood to carpets to toilets. Councilor Healey then suggested lowering the weight limit to having the first 800 pounds be free as opposed to the current 1,000. Councilor Murphy stated that part of the issue is that people are taking advantage of a system that is in place for Merrimack residents and thinks something needs to be done to stop these fraudulent activities. She also believes that there needs to be accountability for individuals who choose to partake in this. She does not want to see the residents lose the ability to use the Transfer Station in the way that they have, but she doesn't think we should be paying for people that are abusing the dump. Mr. Micali shared that there is a small number of people who are doing this, and not everybody who brings construction debris is making multiple trips to be fraudulent. After some discussion, Mr. Fox then described how the new processing fees will work for commercial hauling, as the rates were previously fixed but is now a blended rate. Further, there is a cap on this rate, so for the first year the cap per month is \$65, which brings them to about \$117 per ton. However, the cap is only built in for the first year and then it gets adjusted for each year depending on the market. The Council was in agreement with Mr. Fox's suggestions regarding the processing fees and the new blended rate.

**MOTION made by Councilor Woods and seconded by Councilor Harrington to proceed beyond 10pm as there are two more items on the agenda.**

**MOTION CARRIES 6-0-0**



3. **Trustees of Trust Funds – Charter Change Discussion**

*Submitted by Town Manager Paul T. Micali*

The Town Council to discuss the possibility of a Charter amendment related to adding alternate members to the Trustees of Trust Funds, pursuant to Charter Article 6-2.

Chairman Koenig shared that the Trustees of the Trust Funds would like to add an alternate position and if the Council would consider a charter change article to either add in this specific request, or to add in a comment that simply says “consistent with RSA31:22” to the charter as far as members of the Trustees of the Trust Funds as this would allow for up to two alternates to be appointed.

Councilor Woods shared that he is concerned about the appointment of alternates, asking if the would be appointed to an indefinite term, in which Chairman Koenig shared that this would be for a one-year term. Councilor Harrington thinks that this is a good idea, as if there is any illnesses or deaths in the future, the Trustees would not have to wait for the Council to go through the process of recruitment and nominations for a replacement. There was then some discussion on how alternate members work and what the process for this would be like if the motion were to pass.

**MOTION made by Councilor Harrington and seconded by Councilor Murphy to allow the Town Council to follow the proper procedure to begin the process in amending the Town Charter to allow for two alternates for the Trustee of Trust Funds.**

**MOTION CARRIES 6-0-0**

2. **Retreat Goals Update**

*Submitted by Town Manager Paul T. Micali*

The Town Council to receive an update on the June 4, 2021, Retreat / Goal Session.

Town Manager Paul Micali started the discussion by sharing that one of the goals, which was to go back to in person meetings, was completed this past summer, as well as recommending but not mandating masks in Town Hall and reopening the meeting rooms. Councilor Harrington asked if these procedures are anticipated to change due to the new Covid strain, in which Chairman Koenig and Mr. Micali stated that there are no state guideline changes as of yet, so they do not anticipate any changes to this.

The next update Mr. Micali shared was regarding pricing for another electronic message board, which would cost about \$16,000 for one board. Because of the steep price, Mr. Micali does not recommend purchasing at this time.

Up next was the creation of a Facebook page, which was discussed at tonight’s meeting and will be moving forward in the next few months, as well as filming videos to help educate the public on the various committees and boards throughout Merrimack. Additionally, there is also a link on the website with all the boards and committees with vacancies for volunteers to apply if they are interested.

Next, Mr. Micali discussed the agricultural commission, stating that as of October 28<sup>th</sup>, the commission has been disbanded per their request at a previous meeting.

Mr. Micali then shared an update regarding property assessments, stating that the reval has been done and a show talking about tax rates and filing for an abatement was taped today and will be airing within the next month or so.



Regarding the corona virus fiscal recovery, Mr. Micali stated that they came before the Council on the 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss how to spend the money, and the Council awarded using some of that money to Wastewater.

Overall, Mr. Micali shared that about 50% of the goals have been completed so far, which is right on schedule with previous years.

### **Minutes**

Approve the minutes from the following Town Council meeting:

♦ November 4, 2021

**MOTION made by Councilor Woods and seconded by Councilor Murphy to approve the minutes of November 4, 2021, as amended.**

### **MOTION CARRIES 6-0-1**

Amendments:

Pages 7 lines 44, 46, 49, and Page 8 lines 4, 23, 25: Mr. Drouin's name is incorrectly spelled.

Page 3 line 17: delete extra "then"

### **Comments from the Press**

None.

### **Comments from the Public**

None.

### **Comments from the Council**

None.

### **Adjourn**

**MOTION made by Councilor Healey and seconded by Councilor Harrington to adjourn the meeting.**

### **MOTION CARRIES 6-0-0**

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Steagald



## ATTACHMENT 1

# TOWN OF MERRIMACK INTER-DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATION

**DATE:** November 24, 2021  
**AT (OFFICE):** Department of Public Works

**FROM:** Kyle Fox  
Public Works Director

**SUBJECT:** Review of Transfer Station Fees

**TO:** Paul Micali  
Town Manager

The Town of Merrimack recently entered into new contracts for disposal of solid waste, construction and demolition (C&D), and single stream recycling. I would like to recommend the fees for these items be reviewed and updated as appropriate.

### Solid Waste

The Town recently entered into a five (5) year extension of our contract with Waste Management. The contract period runs from December 15, 2021 through December 14, 2026. Rates for the agreement are shown in the table below:

#### **SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL FIVE YEAR RATE SCHEDULE**

Contract Period Extension Offer	Solid Waste Cost Per Ton
December 2021	\$ 78.00 Per Ton
December 2022	\$ 80.50 Per Ton
December 2023	\$ 83.00 Per Ton
December 2024	\$ 86.00 Per Ton
December 2025	\$ 88.90 Per Ton

The overhead cost for processing and transporting the solid waste is \$63.00 per ton. A breakdown of that rate is shown below:

	Overhead Rate for Trash / C&D (8100 Tons)	
CRF Deposits	\$ 15.42	per ton
Fuel	4.88	per ton
Equipment Repairs	3.95	per ton
Wages & Benefits (2 oper III, 1 scale)	27.85	per ton
General Operations and Supervision	10.90	per ton
Subtotal - Overhead	\$ 63.00	per ton

## ATTACHMENT 1

The Public Works Department recommends increasing the rate for commercial disposal of solid waste to \$150.00 per ton (\$0.075 per pound). This rate is just over the average cost for the tipping fee for the duration of the agreement, plus the overhead fee rounded up to the nearest half cent per pound to account for increased overhead costs through the next five years.

### **Construction and Demolition Waste**

The Town recently entered into a three (3) year contract with ReSource Waste Services of Epping, NH for disposal of our construction and demolition waste (C&D). The contract period runs from December 15, 2021 through December 14, 2024. Rates for the agreement are shown in the table below:

12/15/2021 – 12/14/2022	\$95.00 per ton
12/15/2022 – 12/14/2023	\$97.00 per ton
12/15/2023 – 12/14/2024	\$99.00 per ton

The overhead costs are the same for C&D as solid waste. The Public Works Department recommends increasing the rate for commercial disposal of solid waste to \$160.00 per ton (\$0.08 per pound). This rate is the average cost for the tipping fee for the duration of the agreement, plus the overhead fee.

### **Single Stream Recycling**

The Town recently entered into a five (5) year contract with Waste Management of NH for processing of our Single Stream Recycling. The contract period runs from February 1, 2022 through January 31, 2027. The rates for this agreement are based on a combination of market value for the recycled commodities and fixed fees for transportation and rental of the compactor and containers. For the first year of the agreement, the commodity fee is capped at \$65 per ton, but can be less if market conditions are favorable (in October 2021, we would have seen a rebate of \$6.23 per ton). The fixed costs are outlined in the following table:

Contract Period	Single Stream Recycling Equipment	Equipment Ownership	Equipment Rental Fee Per Month	Transportation from Merrimack to Billerica	Processing Fee Per Ton
2/1/22-1/31/23	4yd Compactor and 4 – 40 yd Containers	WM Owned	\$650	\$220.00 Per Haul	See Exhibit D
2/1/23-1/31/24	4yd Compactor and 4 – 40 yd Containers	WM Owned	\$650	\$229.00 Per Haul	See Exhibit D
2/1/2-1/31-25	4yd Compactor and 4 – 40 yd Containers	WM Owned	\$650	\$238.00 Per Haul	See Exhibit D
2/1/25-1/31/26	4yd Compactor and 4 – 40 yd Containers	WM Owned	\$650	\$248.00 Per Haul	See Exhibit D
2/1/26-1/31/27	4yd Compactor and 4 – 40 yd Containers	WM Owned	\$650	\$258.00 Per Haul	See Exhibit D

The rate cap for year one of the agreement guarantees a maximum cost per ton for recyclables at \$117 per ton. With the recent volatility, we recommend the fee for commercial recycling remain at the current rate of \$124/ton.

CC: Kris Perreault, Solid Waste Foreman