



TOWN OF CHARLTON
Minutes of Special Selectmen's Meeting
September 4, 2007

Submitted by _____

Date _____

Received by _____

Date _____

Present from the Board of Selectmen: Chairman – Peter J. Boria, Vice-Chairman – Scott D. Brown, Clerk – Kathleen W. Walker, members Frederick C. Swensen and John R. Bacon, Town Administrator - Robin L. Craver and Town Attorney Richard Cox from Bowditch and Dewey.

Present from the Board of Health: Barbara Dean

Present from Casella: John Finese, Doug Casella, Joe Utke

Also present: Richard Cox - Cox Engineering, Peter Cooper, Cindy Cooper, Barbara Delano and Sally Lormon from the Recycling Committee.

Discussion: Members from Casella gave the Board a proposal for review. Possible transfer station. Doug Casella noted that he went down with one of the Highway Workers to the town's landfill and stated that there is plenty of room there should the town wish to put a transfer station there. Mr. Swensen thought that this would be just a possible drop off for items and not a full transfer station. Casella indicates that homeowners would be given totes, one for trash and one for recycling. There are three options to be given to the homeowners: 1 – drop out of the program and hire their own hauler, 2 – bring their own recyclables to the drop off area or 3 – have Casella do the work. Chairman Boria asked if people would get credit if they went to the drop off center and the answer was no. He then asked if they would be able to get rid of their single stream for free and for MSW would they pay per bag? Single stream is free and as far as the MSW, the fee would be set by the town. Chairman Boria asked if Casella would consider doing this instead of the town. They stated they would look at it. It was noted that Charlton right now has no access to the landfill. They will also offer the town 4 household hazardous waste days which would be held at their facility in Southbridge. Casella noted that the cost for these services would cost each homeowner about \$240.00 / year but with coupons worth \$300 - \$350, you could actually earn \$100 back. Mr. Swensen mentioned that some seniors feel that the 96 gal is to big. Casella noted that they have smaller ones, there is a 64 gal, a 32 gal and an 18gal. toter. Also included in the proposal is all the town hall buildings. Chairman Boria asked what percentage of homes need to sign up in order for this to work for Casella? Casella noted that this is like a two part program. It's what works for the town. Ms. Walker had asked that on Household Hazardous Waste Day, any resident can go they just need to have proof of residency. Casella noted that yes, someone from Charlton would have to be there to check their residency. The Household Hazardous Waste days are part of the program. Mr. Bacon asked if we paid for this service out of the tax money, would we save any money? Casella noted that it will not change the amount that they would charge.

Chairman Boria asked that before we consider this proposal, what steps do we have to take? Answer was none. Casella will be going in front of the Southbridge Board of Health soon where they have asked to amend their site assignment to include Charlton. To calculate the amount in their proposal, they estimated 3800 homes in Charlton. A question had been asked of Casella if they would take street sweeping and storm drain cleaning materials. They said they would and the cost would be \$10.00/ton. The contract term

that Casella used was for 5 years. If you use more years, the cost would go down. Mrs. Craver asked what the variable would be since the Town of Charlton is approaching them with these discussions. Casella noted that they have provided the numbers that they feel would work. There are different variables to use to come up with a cost. If the town does not want the possible drop off center, then that would change the numbers because Casella would have to pay for it. Mrs. Craver had asked if we could work with Casella on a per person cost because we would be doing the administration on this. They said they could. Chairman Boria asked how many homes do we need to get to participate in order to be eligible for the recycle bank program? How do we structure it to get the word out? He also asked how we could make it work to advertise for Casella and let the homeowners know how much they can save if they get more citizens to sign up. Our goal is to get a good cheap service for the residents of our town. If they gave a number of like \$20 and it's based on 3,000 homes, will the town take the risk. If the amount of residents comes in under 3,000 then the town wins, if it goes over, then Casella wins. It's just something to think about. Mrs. Craver brought up the language between the Town of Charlton and the Town of Southbridge that would allow the residents of Charlton to use the landfill. A question was asked that once Southbridge allows Charlton to bring their trash, would there be an automatic savings to the Town as they won't be bringing it to Auburn. Casella's answer was not necessarily.

Chairman Boria brought up the issue of the truck traffic to be re-assigned in the site assignment when they talk to Southbridge.

Mrs. Cooper from the audience had asked if this would be the only proposal or would it be an open process. Attorney Cox stated that part of what recognized this is a previous agreement that's been on hold and now we are bringing it to light.

Mr. Cooper thanked Casella for dealing with the smell. He noted this was the first year they could go outside and enjoy it. He has a great amount of concern of the amount of truck traffic that will be going by their house every day once they open the landfill.

Mrs. Craver advised taking all of this under advisement and let the two attorneys work on the discussion of the Site Assignment. Bob Kirsch is the attorney for Casella.

Casella would like to meet with the Highway Superintendent prior to our next meeting.

Next meeting set for October 2, 2007 at 6:30 in the Senior Center.

Meeting ended at 8:25 pm

Respectfully submitted by:

Mary C. Devlin

Administrative Assistant

Accepted by:

Peter J. Boria, Chairperson

Scott D. Brown, Vice-Chairman

Kathleen W. Walker, Clerk

John R. Bacon, Member

Frederick C. Swensen, Member