



SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

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CHRISTOPHER P. ST. LAWRENCE
Chairman

MINUTES

RCSWMA Meeting
Thursday March 27, 2008 5:00 p.m.
Legislative Chambers

Present

C. St. Lawrence
V. Altieri
H. Cornell
E. Devine
M. Grant
A. Gromack

Present

D. Jobson
T. Kleiner
P. Marino
P. Moroney
P. Soskin

Absent

G. Bierker
C. Coker
D. Kay
H. Phillips
I. Schoenberger

Others

H. Benado
K. Braunfotel
B. Gobiuff
B. Gauntlett
S. Haggerty
J. Klos

Others

R. Lauria
J. Layne
D. O'Donnell
T. Pytlar
A. Roppolo
T. West

1. Welcome to the Rockland County Solid Waste Management Authority meeting for Thursday, March 27, 2008.
2. Roll call by Clerk. There is a quorum.

St. Lawrence: The first resolution is establishing the position of Principal Account Clerk Typist.

3. **Introduced by: Gromack/Soskin Unan. March 27, 2008**

Resolution No. 14 of 2008

Establishing the Position of Principal Account Clerk Typist P/T

WHEREAS, the Authority is in the process of acquiring additional facilities and operations and needs an additional staff position of Principal Account Clerk Typist P/T, as more specifically defined in the attached job description; and

WHEREAS, the position must comply with the classification and description of services to be rendered in conformity with the procedures established by the Rockland County Department of Personnel; and

WHEREAS, the position of Principal Account Clerk Typist P/T to the Rockland County Solid Waste Management Authority has been established by the Rockland County Department of Personnel; and

WHEREAS, the position of Principal Account Clerk Typist P/T to the Rockland County Solid Waste Management Authority also must be established by the Authority Board; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the position of Principal Account Clerk Typist P/T to the Rockland County Solid Waste Management Authority be and it is hereby established; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Chairman or his designee is authorized and directed to sign any and all documents and to do and cause to be done any and all acts necessary or proper to effectuate the purposes of this resolution.

St. Lawrence: The next item is appointing Ms. Bracha Gobioff to the position of Principal Account Clerk Typist.

4. Introduced By: Jobson/Altieri Unan. March 27, 2008

**Resolution No. 15 of 2008
Appoint Principal Account Clerk Typist to the
Rockland County Solid Waste Management Authority**

WHEREAS, the position of Principal Account Clerk Typist P/T was established by the Rockland County Department of Personnel and by Authority Board Resolution No. 14 of 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Authority Board desires to fill that position with the provisional appointment of Bracha Gobioff, beginning May 1, 2008, at an annual salary of \$29,680.00, and all other benefits of such employment; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Authority Board hereby provisionally appoints Bracha Gobioff, as Principal Account Clerk Typist P/T to the Rockland County Solid Waste Management Authority, effective May 1, 2008, at an annual salary of \$29,680.00, and all other benefits of such employment.

St. Lawrence: The next resolution is authorizing reimbursement to the Town of Clarkstown for the removal of leaves and grass from the Clarkstown Yard Waste Facility. The Authority will retain the revenue from the material we will be taking off site. This material is about 14,000 cubic yards of leaves and grass that is overloading the facility. We will have more room now to work the piles and use some of our techniques we use at the Ramapo Landfill and reduce some of the odor.

5. Introduced By: Moroney/Marino Unan. March 27, 2008

**Resolution No. 16 OF 2008
Authorizing Reimbursement To The Town Of Clarkstown For The Removal
Of Leaves and Grass From The Clarkstown Yard Waste Facility**

WHEREAS, the Authority has become aware that there is an odor problem and a capacity issue at the Clarkstown Yard Waste Facility ("Facility"), which is operated by the Town of

Clarkstown ("Town") for the Authority under the Host Community Agreement between the Town and the Authority; and

WHEREAS, to reduce the level of odors generated from the Facility and create greater capacity at the Facility for improved composting of the yard waste remaining on site, the Town has submitted a proposal for the removal of approximately 11,000 cubic yards of leaves and 3,000 cubic yards of grass by Organic Recycling, Inc. to its facility in Goshen, New York, in the not-to-exceed amount of \$85,330.00; and

WHEREAS, the Authority will retain the revenue credit from any compost produced from the processing of such yard waste; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has determined that the Town of Clarkstown should be reimbursed for this cost associated with the Clarkstown Yard Waste Facility; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Authority agrees to reimburse the Town of Clarkstown for the removal of approximately 11,000 cubic yards of leaves and 3,000 cubic yards of grass by Organic Recycling, Inc. in the not-to-exceed amount of \$85,330.00 to reduce the odors generated, and create greater processing capacity, at the Clarkstown Yard Waste Facility.

Kleiner: With 14,000 cubic yards being removed, what is the percentage remaining?

Lauria: Approximately 25% left on site.

St. Lawrence: I would like to address something about the Authority. The Solid Waste Authority I believe is an Authority that is in the forefront in New York State. The great thing about this Authority is that everything is done out in the open at our meetings. We have a great record of working and doing our due diligence for anything we do at this Authority.

I was a little dismayed by a letter I received out of the blue from Mr. Altieri. I am open to speak to everybody on this Authority Board. The letter was reiterating what the DEC had already informed us. We already had numerous discussions with the DEC, the staff at the Authority and Clarkstown and our attorney from Holland & Knight. Mr. Altieri mentioned in his letter about a tear in the liner that was brought to the DEC's attention when it was discovered by the Authority. The language of the letter is such as if we didn't know about these issues. I just ask that if people have questions, they always have the ability to speak with me if they have concerns. There is so much value in our ability to take over the Clarkstown Transfer Station. As we go forward I would appreciate anybody bringing up concerns. But I don't appreciate it when it's something that many people have been working on for a long time. I was concerned about the tone and that this letter came out of thin air like we haven't been working on these issues. It's important that we move forward and we have flow control and we work to lower the costs for the people of Rockland County. Every member of this Authority Board should be very proud of the fact this Authority doesn't just talk about things, we put ideas into action and we accomplish things.

Gromack: We were somewhat dismayed by this letter and would have appreciated a call. Some of these issues were corrected within 24 hours. With flow control and with what the Chairman and the Authority are doing benefits the entire County of Rockland. I have to say on behalf of the

Town of Clarkstown and the dedicated workers at the Transfer Station and Composting Facility, we were somewhat taken aback by the accusations that we don't know what we're doing.

Altieri: I share all the positive comments you have both made regarding the intentions of the Authority, the intention of flow control and Clarkstown being a part of that. There was no evil intention in sending the letter. It was just a business letter stating some issues I became aware of. I was just raising it and asking for more involvement with this Board and the business process as we move forward. This is a huge step for the Authority and it's a very positive one. I look forward to helping things move along as much as I can in my role with more insight with the facility and the contracts. It wasn't meant in a negative way. I just want to learn more about what's happening.

St. Lawrence: I appreciate your response. It's hard to know everything that's going on with all the responsibilities everyone has. When we do the final contract with Clarkstown it will be before the Board for everyone to vote on. All members have just as much voting capacity and vision as everyone else on this Authority.

Kleiner: I also received the letter and there's one question in the letter that would be helpful to have answered now. As Mr. Altieri questioned, it was observed that there were breaks in the liner and may be expensive to repair.

St. Lawrence: The way that the DEC had the landfill capped, was to bring it up to the floor of the transfer station. The transfer station floor was considered part of the cap. The tear was noticed by our personnel and not so much that it's costly, but there are only specific companies that will fix the liners and we have to bring them in.

Lauria: The tears that were identified were discovered by the Town's consultant while doing a structural analysis of the building, and then discovered again by the Authority's consultants. The tears are just along the side of the tipping floor where the trucks enter and the liner pulled away from the building. It's going to be a matter of excavating next to the building, cutting a clean seam, re-seaming it back together with a longer flap which would provide for settlement in the future.

Gromack: I just want it to be clear that Clarkstown views this as a valuable asset. When the discussions were started about the possible sale of this facility and flow control, it was not unanimous that we should divest ourselves of this valuable asset. We had a lot of discussion if we wanted to give up something that we managed well and was a revenue producer for the Town of Clarkstown. We understand that we are a part of a bigger community and that we have a responsibility to work with the Authority and the other towns and do what's good for the general public and we recognized that flow control is bigger than one town. There were certain things that required capital improvements but we discussed this with the Authority. We could have escalated some of these improvements but that would only have been put into the price. So we made a decision with the consent of the Authority to hold off on some of the improvements because it made more sense if the Authority was going to be taking it over and let them decide how they wanted to handle it. It wasn't anything we said we wouldn't do, it just made more sense from a business point of view to wait. Let's also remember the Town of Clarkstown is a part of the Authority and will be picking up some of the costs.

St. Lawrence: I do want to make the point again that nobody wanted to have this type of facility. Clarkstown stepped up to the plate and did it for the whole County. Clarkstown has done the right thing for everyone in the County.

Marino: I appreciate the work the Solid Waste Authority has done especially in Clarkstown. Not being able to be on site and seeing everything, but knowing Ralph Lauria is in charge down there and knowing his level of professionalism and zeal for his work I know that while I'm not there he's doing an excellent job watching it for us and I commend and thank him for that.

Pytlar: I just want to point out under your direction, we asked the DEC to sit down with us and work on the final details on everything that has to be done. But instead they chose to issue a notice of violation letter. We could have been working on the solution. We are just waiting for them to draft a consent order which is further slowing us down. Under your direction we've been trying to work this out for a while and as Mr. Gromack alluded to the cost of all the improvements we've committed to, could add up to quite a bit of money. We need to sit down with the DEC to work things out.

St. Lawrence: Thank you Mr. Pytlar for your help with Cosulich on this. I know the attorneys from the DEC and from Holland and Knight are working to move this along.

Next we have the adoption of the minutes.

6. Introduced by: Marino/Kleiner Unan. March 27, 2008

**Resolution No. 17 of 2008
Adoption of Minutes, Meeting of March 6, 2008**

RESOLVED, that the transcribed Minutes of the Rockland County Solid Waste Management Authority are approved for the meeting of March 6, 2008, as recorded by the Clerk, and are hereby adopted.

St. Lawrence: Do we have a motion to adjourn?

Jobson: Moved

Marino: Seconded

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Haggerty

