

The Solid Waste Committee met on Zoom on Friday, Nov. 18 at 11 a.m.

Cushman, Scherer, Cook and Terry attended.

By consensus, the committee approved a letter to DPW and Selectboard requesting funds for education projects.

The letter follows:

To: Chris Kaufman, Norwich DPW
From: Norwich Solid Waste Committee

November 18, 2022

Dear Chris,

As I have mentioned to you on the phone, the Solid Waste Committee has approved three modest requests for funding from the town to be spent on educational materials for users of the transfer station, especially for recycling our solid waste.

We believe that better education will lead to a cleaner waste flow that will increase town revenues modestly at the transfer station while decreasing costs there, as users do a better job of sorting their waste before bringing it to the transfer station.

We have two requests for small amounts of money to spend in the current fiscal year for a pamphlet and for signs. We have drafted versions of the pamphlet and signs and checked on production costs, and our plan is to complete this work, providing full and final cost elements before printing them. We have submitted these draft graphics previously and can resend them on request.

We also have a request to put money in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 budget request for DPW that would continue small-scale printing of educational materials next year, as well as obtain a town-wide subscription to the Better Bin recycling app for smart phones, which is in use in Lebanon and which we have tested informally.

If there is a way to initiate the smart phone app sooner rather later, we are ready to do so.

The amounts we are hoping to approve in the short term are:

SIGNS: Eight new large color signs for the Transfer Station, less than \$400. (Depending on final sizes, we expect this to cost a little more than \$300 plus costs for simple wooden stands, moveable, to hold some of the signs. Others are to be attached to existing structures at no cost for mounting.

PAMPHLET: \$250, depending on the quantity printed, for several hundred color pamphlets, 8.5 x 11 stock paper, three folds, with elaborate instructions on recycling in Norwich, for handing out (no cost) at the transfer station.

Our understanding from Rod Francis, the previous town manager, and you is that these small expenditures may be approved now without much formal approval process, from existing funds, to be completed this year, subject to our providing written bids for the printing and production work.

Next year, we would like the town budget to allocate \$3,000 to the committee for similar small printing jobs, as well as for a town-wide subscription to the Better Bin smart phone recycling app. The town would pay \$1500 per year for the license to use this app. Residents could download the app for free and install it on their phones. At home, users can scan any common household item such as empty plastic, metal or paper containers and get quick information on

whether they go in single-stream recycling, special recycling containers at the transfer station, or into landfill trash. We would be happy to give more information and demonstrate the use of this app.

Thank you for your help in advancing our committee's agenda. Of course we understand that all our requests are subject to review by the Selectboard.

Jack Cushman
Chair
603 306-7017 cell