

Selectboard Minutes  
July 8, 2025

Present: Paul Kleinman, Chair  
Letty Bedard  
Andy Artimovich  
~~Jon Morgan~~  
Jim Michaud

At 6:00pm, Kleinman called the meeting to order.

The Board signed the payroll and accounts payable summary register.

Tonight is a work session regarding a solid waste policy. Prior to the session, Kleinman consulted with Town Counsel, who advised that adopting a bylaw or ordinance would require a warrant and a special town meeting. Kleinman presented two options: either create a policy and place it on the warrant for the regular March town meeting or draft an ordinance and call a special town meeting. Artimovich expressed support for avoiding the cost of a special town meeting. The board discussed why the process must follow this approach.

The board discussed various components of a potential trash policy, including barrel size, possible exceptions for additional or larger barrels, ownership of the barrels, whether businesses should be included, and how to handle businesses that also contain residential units.

The board expressed support for using 95-gallon carts for both trash and recycling. They also agreed on the need to develop a plan for residents who prefer a 65-gallon trash cart. The board supported sending a mailer to all residents explaining the transition to automated pickup and providing instructions on how to request a smaller trash cart.

Mark Kennedy, Prescott Road, had public comment. Kleinman asked Kennedy to wait for public comment. Bedard asked Kennedy if he had any new comments to add. Kennedy stated that he would decide if his comments were worthy of being said.

It was confirmed that Casella will own the trash and recycling carts provided to residents. The anticipated start date for the automated pickup program is August 15. The Board discussed bulky waste pickup and agreed to offer the service twice per year, with pricing to be determined. It was also noted that residents will continue to have access to the Raymond Transfer Station. In addition, the Board considered placing a dumpster for clean cardboard at the Highway Department, to be available for resident use during regular operating hours.

At 6:34 Kleinman opened public comment.

Mark Kennedy of Prescott Road and Liz Faria of South Road both shared concerns regarding cart size.

Michelle Siudut of Middle Road also commented on cart size and asked whether residents could use their own carts designed for automated pickup. She suggested establishing a process that would allow residents to request a smaller cart prior to delivery day. In response to these concerns, it was clarified that Casella will only collect Casella-issued carts and that residents will not be allowed to use generic automated barrels for curbside pickup. The Board expressed support for creating an exceptions list to identify special circumstances prior to ordering and distributing carts.

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The Board then discussed the possibility of delaying the start date to early September to allow additional time for planning and resident input.

Jim Hajjar of Mohawk Lane inquired about the ability to purchase extra carts and raised questions about the cost savings associated with transitioning to automated pickup. Liz Faria of South Road also had questions regarding the terms of the contract and potential financial benefits. The Board continued discussion on how cart size should relate to household size and usage needs.

Liz Faria of South Road also had questions regarding the contract and potential financial benefits. The Board continued discussion on how cart size should relate to household size and overall usage needs. Artimovich motioned to reconsider the previous cart size vote. Seconded by Michaud. Artimovich, Michaud, Kleinman – aye; Bedard – no. Motion carries, 3-1.

Artimovich motions to approve 95-gallon trash carts and 95-gallon recycling carts. Seconded by Michaud. Artimovich, Michaud, Kleinman – aye; Bedard – no. Motion carries, 3-1.

At 7:03pm Artimovich motioned to go into nonpublic under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) personnel. Seconded by Michaud. Bedard - aye; Artimovich – aye; Michaud – aye; Kleinman – aye. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jillian Benedix