

*Town of Newfields
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Questions and Answers from the Trash Collection Bid Meeting 8/16/22 at Newfields Town Hall. Attending were representatives from Casella, WMX and ELM Services:

- 1) Given the current Newfields contract to use Turnkey, is an alternative tipping site allowed? **Newfields is contracted to use Turnkey through 2027, but an alternative could be considered if that alternative fully accounted for the costs of Newfields getting out of the current compact.**
- 2) Newfields waived the performance bond under the current contract as it saved on the cost. Is it willing to consider that again? **Yes, the Town will consider this as part of the contract negotiations.**
- 3) Are the current collection fees and tipping fees billed separately? **Yes, the Town receives an invoice from WMX (our current provider) for the cost of collection, and a separate invoice from WMX as the operator of the Turnkey facility for the tipping fees.**
- 4) Is there flexibility on the day of collection? **Over the past several years we have had changes in collection days and currently we collect waste on Friday and recycling on Monday. The Town recognizes that we are a small total amount of collection and that we may need to work with the provider on a new day of collection to optimize their logistics. While there is typically a small amount of confusion when we do so, overall we have had a smooth transition even when we needed to change collection days.**
- 5) Will the Town consider a fuel surcharge? **The Town recognizes that a fuel surcharge may be necessary in the current environment, but the structure of the fuel surcharge is important. The Town doesn't want to take on the operational risks (ie. Fuel costs) which the providers assume, both when there are higher fuel costs and lower costs. We are not in the business of speculating on the price of fuel. We will consider a fuel surcharge, but we will take this into account as we evaluate the overall costs under the providers bids.**
- 6) Would the Town consider Automated collection? **The Town has looked at automated collection in the past and decided against it at that time as it required substantial additional fees by the households or the Town for the preferred containers. If there is no separate container fee then the Town will consider it in the context of the bids, assuming this cost will be embedded in the collection fees. It also will be considered in the context of limiting household collection to what can fit in the container (95 gallon capacity) for that week.**
- 7) How will the Town calculate a per ton cost vs a fixed fee? **The Town is proving the bidders the option to offer a fixed fee for collection vs the variable (per ton) cost. For any fixed fee offer the Town will make an assessment based on the expected tonnage, which currently runs about 600 tons/year for the Town over the past few years (2022 tonnage is only through July). A fixed fee has certainly for Town budgets which is attractive, but carries a risk of over/under estimation for the Town and the service provider.**