



## **City Council Meeting Minutes Monday, March 28, 2022 - 6:00 p.m. Council Chambers, City Hall**

**Council in attendance:** Mayor Jo Brown, Councilor April Bunker, Councilor Jay Chandler, Councilor George Dzujna, Councilor Paul Trudel, Councilor Olivia Zink, Councilor Vincent Ribas and Councilor Valerie Blake.

**Absent:** Councilor Ted Starkweather and Councilor Bob Desrochers.

**Others in attendance:** City Manager Judie Milner, Municipal Services Director Justin Hanscom, and members of the public.

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order in Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m.

Salute to the Flag was led by Councilor Blake.

### **Agenda Item I: Solid Waste Discussion**

MSD Director Hanscom shared a PowerPoint presentation on solid waste costs and options with the council and public, which is included at the end of these minutes.

There was a discussion about current tipping costs for residential, light commercial and commercial and how much this will continue to go up going forward.

MSD Director Hanscom discussed the three options that he is looking to the Council for direction on:

Option 1: Take no action, leave the transfer station as is and continue to pay the increasing tipping costs.

Option 2: Discontinue commercial property subsidy. This would include rental properties that have 3+ units. The city would continue to do curbside pickup for residents, implementing yellow top bins so that Pinard knows which to empty, but the transfer station would need some extra work with the layout and staffing so that it could be open more than three days a week. Colored bags that need to be purchased could be an option to this as well, to offset the amount of time it takes business owners to use the scale.

Option 3: Discontinue curbside collection all together. This would save \$228,000 a year as this is the amount paid to Pinard for their service. There would need to be more work done on the transfer station and residents would need to opt for private curbside collection or bringing their trash and recycling to the transfer station.

Councilors did agree that option 1 was not an option. There was a discussion about the City of Franklin currently paying to do curbside pickup of commercial properties since this is normally a business expense. This made option 2 seem to be the most popular option to go forward with now and that discontinuing curbside collection all together would be the next step later on. This would need to be phased.

MSD Director Hanscom did confirm that there is a lot more land at the transfer station to be able to reconfigure the layout and add on to it. The flow would need to be much better and more convenient for business owners and residents. There was talk about adding a composting area at the transfer station since 1/3 of trash is wet/compostable trash.

He added that there are already some things needed at the transfer station either way. They need a new scale, which would be about \$72,000, and to get a baler would be roughly \$90,000. A baler would be necessary for better recycling sorting. These could be things that happen while changing the layout and redesigning to make for a much more convenient experience for residents.

Councilor Zink asked where the city was at with their contract with Pinard.

MSD Director Hanscom answered saying that they are going into year 3 of a 5-year contract, but there is a 3 or 4 year opt out option with them. He also added that Pinard had the cheapest cost for private curbside collection, if option 3 is to happen. It would cost residents and businesses roughly \$300/year per trash bin. There would be other companies to choose from as well.

Mayor Brown asked how long it would take to implement the yellow top program.

MSD Director Hanscom answered that it would only take about 4-6 months for Pinard to do this.

Mayor Brown suggested that instead of scheduling another workshop meeting, that she meets with City Manager Judie, MSD Director Hanscom and MSD Committee Chair Dzujna to come up with an outline on the changes discussed and send out to the council to critique. This would also include a time line for the next 3-5 years. Once finalized this would be presented at a public hearing. The council agreed to this.

#### **Agenda Item II: Other Business**

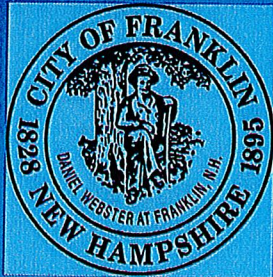
No other business was discussed.

**Motion to adjourn was made by Councilor Chandler and seconded by Councilor Ribas. All in favor. Motion PASSED.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Jones

# The Future of Solid Waste Disposal



City of Franklin, NH  
March 2022

## Opening Remarks

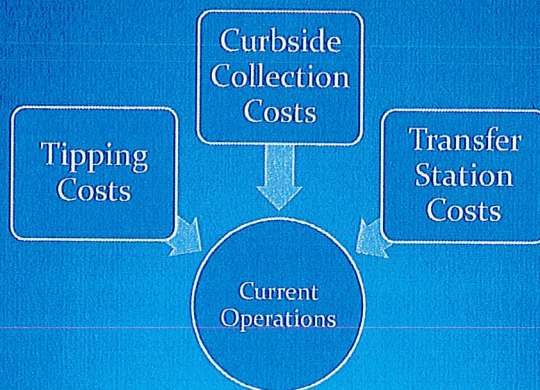




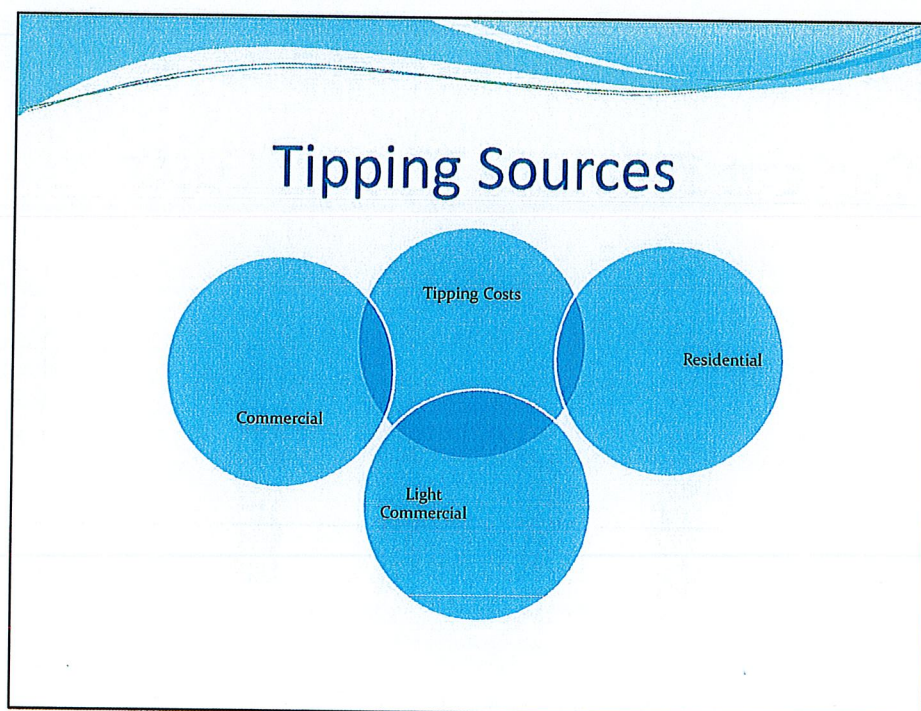
## What Will Be Covered Today

- Background Information
- Council Guidance
- Solutions
  - Pro/Cons
- Next Steps

## Background Information





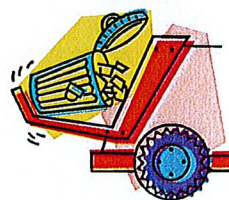


## Tipping Costs Calculation

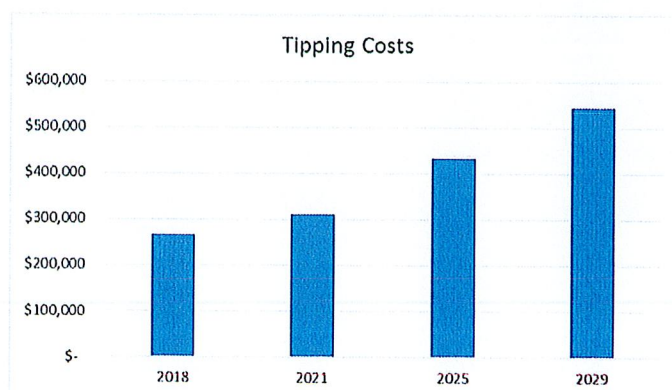
Gross Annual Tonnage (GAT) X

Tipping Fee per Ton =

Total Annual Costs



## Current & Future Tipping Costs





## Total Tipping Increases

Annual INCREASE in tipping to taxpayer:

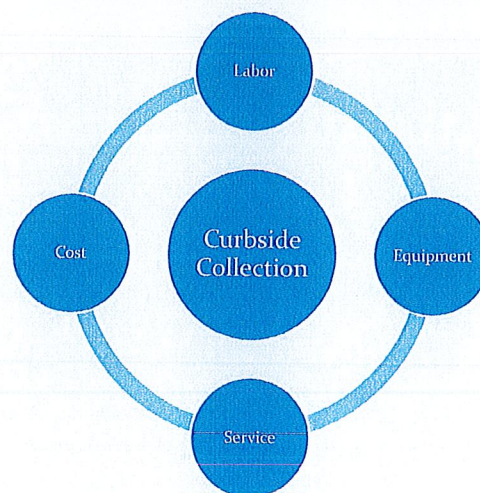
FY09-FY21 **\$125,185**

FY21-FY29 **\$191,712**

FY09-FY29 **\$316,898**

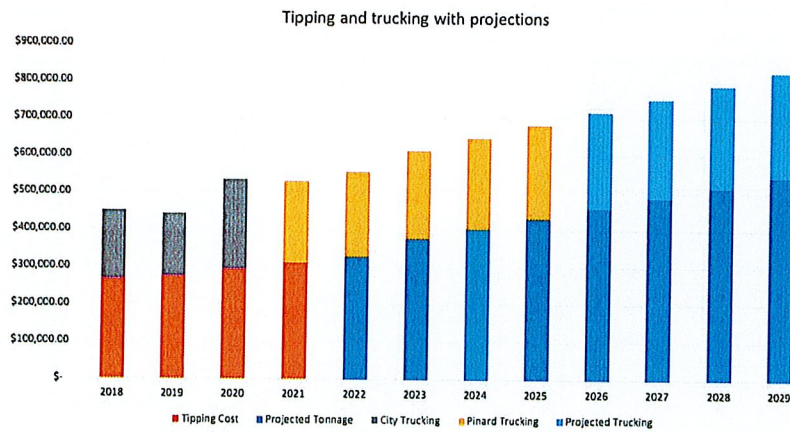


## Curbside Collection





## Tipping and Trucking



## Transfer Station

Labor

Service

Cost

## Transfer Station

- Labor
  - 3 FTE's
- Service
  - Residential Trash Drop Off
  - Commercial Trash
    - <250 lbs. per week FREE
    - >250 lbs. per week Charged
  - Limited Recycling
    - 5% reduction in MSW
  - Mostly Fee Based for other items



## Solid Waste Expenditure History

Year	Actual 2009	Actual 2019	Projected 2029
Solid Waste Expenditures	\$ 511,924	\$ 761,865	\$ 1,057,719





## Council Guidance



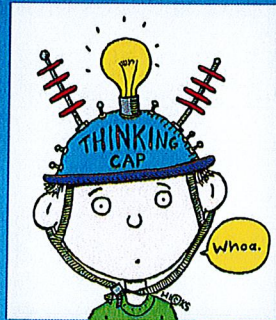
## Staff Direction from Council

- Cost Avoidance
  - Decrease Tonnage (Tipping Costs)
  - Eliminate Taxpayer Subsidy For Commercial Operations
  - Increase Revenues Through Targeted Recycling
  - Mandatory Recycling
- Increase Enforcement
  - Property Maintenance
  - Transfer Station
- Efficient Utilization of Transfer Station
- Increase Education
- Seek Alternative Programs



Solid Waste

## Solutions



## Alternatives – Take No Action

- Absorb astronomical tipping costs into the budget
- Tipping costs out pacing CPIU increases so increased costs will likely need to reduce other city services/needs
- Continue using privatized collection services at increased costs
- No funding plan to replace older equipment at transfer station
- Underutilized/Inefficient transfer station



## Alternatives – Take No Action

- No personnel for trash audits/efficient use of transfer station/implement alternative programs
- No opportunity for increased code enforcement
- Hard to regulate mandatory recycling
- No future revenue to offset disposal costs
- Commercial still subsidized
- No citizen pushback
- No education needed



## Alternatives – Turn Over All Solid Waste Functions

- Privatization of all solid waste including the transfer station
- City choice:
  - Contract with private firm for curbside pick up
  - Get out of solid waste all together
    - Citizens utilize the privately run transfer station
    - Citizens subscribe to a private service
    - Cost savings for code enforcement
    - No ability to control costs to citizens
    - Citizen outcry
    - Taxpayer would pay for city and school trash removal



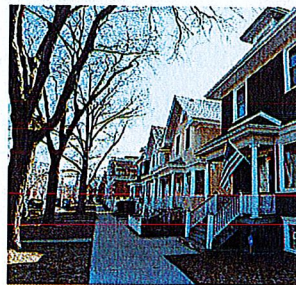


## Alternatives – Discontinue Commercial Property Subsidy

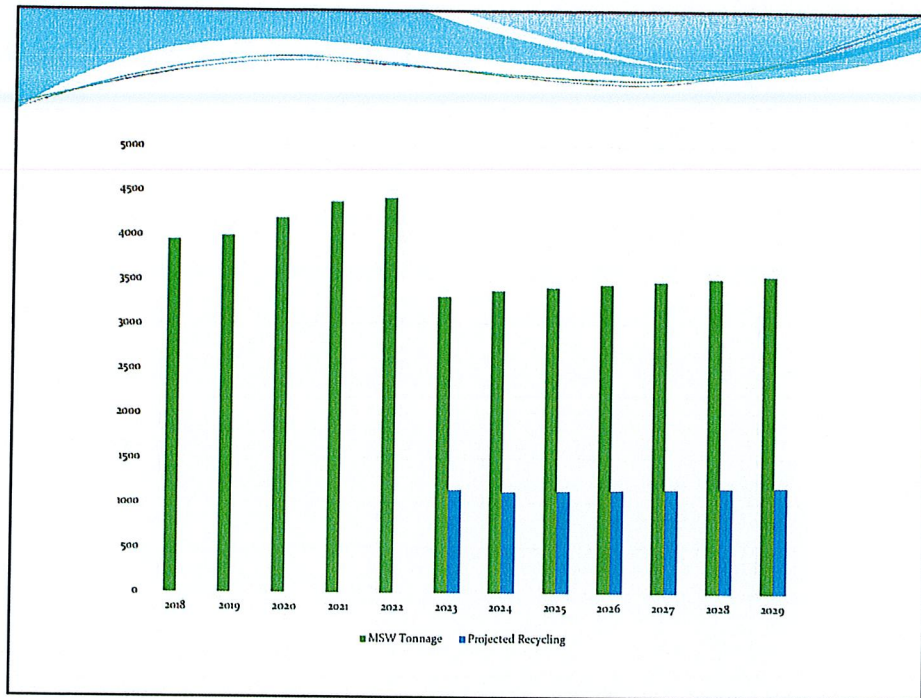
- Trash removal is a cost of doing business
- Reduces disposal costs paid for by the general fund
  - City could offer program for commercial properties who do not generate enough trash for a dumpster
- Difficult to control commercial activity at transfer station
- Not enough savings to increase personnel for code or trash compliance or aging equipment & infrastructure
- Hard to regulate mandatory recycling or implement alternative programs or provide increased education

## Alternatives – Discontinue Curbside Collection

- Cost savings from curbside could be directed to transfer station and code enforcement operations
  - Increase efficiency at transfer station
  - Allows for fluid operation to target revenue generating opportunities, i.e., recycling
- Easily implement mandatory recycling
- Commercial Subsidy more easily managed
- Decrease Tonnage – mitigate cost increases
- Implement alternative programs
- Up front costs for transfer station –
  - most costs needed even if stay status quo
- Education needed
- Citizen choice to utilize transfer station or subscription service







## Alternatives – Implement Pay as You Throw (PAYT) Option

- Cost Savings to General Fund
- City Choice on expenditures covered by PAYT program
- Education to public – recycling
- Hard to regulate recycling
- Commercial subsidy eliminated
- PAYT – barney bags or by the container
- Implementation and enforcement issues
- Doesn't address inefficiencies and capital needs at transfer station
- Limits ability to implement alternative programs

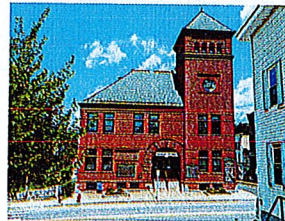


## Next Steps



## Council Direction

- Discuss and Determine best solution for Franklin
- Ordinance Revision
- Develop Time Table and Budget to fit solution
- Equip Personnel with tools necessary to implement solution
- Public Education





## Questions/Discussion

