

Town of Waldoboro, Maine
Transfer Station Committee Meeting Agenda
Municipal Building - 1600 Atlantic Highway
Thursday November 8, 2012 – 7:00 p.m.

1. Sign in and Call to Order
2. Determination of the presence of a Quorum

Present at the meeting were:

Randy Robins, Cushing Resident
Bob Butler, Waldoboro Resident
Ted Wooster, Waldoboro Select Board
Liz Dinsmore, Friendship Select Board
Will Payson, Cushing Selectboard
Bruce Prior, Hauler

Those members present constituted a quorum

Also present were John Spear, Waldoboro Town Manager; Monika Magee, Cushing Resident; Alan Magee, Cushing Resident; and Terry Gifford, Hauler Alternate

3. Review minutes of October 11th meeting.

Will Payson moved and Randy Robbins seconded that the committee accept the minutes of the October 11, 2012 meeting we written. All members present voted in favor.

4. Public Comments for Items not on the Agenda

Liz informed the committee that she has a new home phone number: 832-5039
John Spear excused John Daigle's absence. His Public Works Department was contending with the stormy weather.

John Spear passed out binders to committee members who had requested them. The binders contained the Waldoboro Solid Waste and Required Recycling Ordinance and the Municipal Services Agreement.

John Spear reported on behalf of John Daigle that the Transfer Station couldn't accept car parts from dealers because the license Waldoboro holds from DEP to operate the Transfer Station does not permit it.

Bruce Prior asked if the Transfer Station could accept plastic bumpers. John Spear will ask John Daigle). Bruce also pointed out that where car parts are concerned, there is concern about fluids leaking from those parts as possible sources of contamination.

Bruce also said that in his experience, if there were a pickup with white goods and a stray muffler, the Transfer Station wouldn't turn the muffler away.

John Spear also reported on behalf of John Daigle that all tires dropped at the Transfer Station do go to PERC. The allowance is up to 40 tires per trailer load with no limit per year. The town has been trucking tires to PERC for 15 years

Terry Gifford suggested that we discuss as a future agenda item selling the tires brought to

the Transfer Station instead of sending them PERC.

Terry Gifford asked if the Transfer Station Committee is charged with implementing the new ordinance and, if not, who, specifically is charged with implementing the ordinance.

Committee members explained that Transfer Station personnel are responsible for operating the Transfer Station in accordance with the Ordinance. If an issue arises about which the Ordinance is not clear, it should be referred to the Transfer Station Committee.

Bruce Prior referred to a lady who rakes leaves but does not have a place to compost them. It was suggested that he check with Lee Brace, who does take compostable materials.

Terry Gifford suggested there should be a sign at the Transfer Station, which confirms that the Transfer Station will accept used oil OR, if the Transfer Station does not accept used oil, then a list of where people can take it to dispose of it for free. A clearly written sign stating disposal alternatives would be helpful to those who use the Transfer Station.

Committee members stated that it would also be helpful to have copies of Transfer Station documents that are kept on file with the Town Office to enable them to follow the progress of the operation.

5. October 24th MRC meeting and MRC Ballot – Comments

The Committee voted to recommend to the Waldoboro Select Board that it vote for Tony Smith for a position on the Municipal Review Committee Board.

Randy and Will were unable to attend the October MRC meeting. They are going to try to attend the next meeting.

6. Town Office WI FI access??

Monika Magee had asked at the October 11th meeting about gaining wi fi access to the Internet at the Waldoboro Town office. During the present meeting she was able to address the problem of access on her own.

7. Review Waldoboro Town Manager's position concerning Transfer Station Operator's attendance of Transfer Station Committee Meetings.

John Spear reported that he had given the matter further thought. He was aware that John Daigle could not come to the present meeting because he had been working nights to keep the roads clear. John Spear emphasized that he's reluctant to have the Transfer Station Operator attend the meetings on a regular basis because of personnel considerations and because the FY2013 budget does not have funds to support his attendance. He did confirm that the Transfer Station Operator might attend a meeting or two so that Transfer Station Committee members could speak with him.

The Committee asked whether the Transfer Station Manager's position would be in the budget for FY 2014.

The Committee thought it would be a good idea to involve the Administrative Assistant to the Town Manager to be involved in the Committee's review of Transfer Station forms.

8. Developments concerning Pine Tree Engineering Study

John Spear reported that there have been no developments with Pine Tree's initial study. The Town is waiting for a response from DEP concerning setback issues relating to the

locations of the CDD consolidation pads Pine Tree and John Daigle have been discussing. There is on file a letter Pine Tree wrote to DEP on October 17th requesting a setback requirement waiver. DEP has not responded.

John Spear pointed out that Construction Demolition Debris is the most important item the Transfer Station needs to address. The possible fine for a contaminated chip pile could cover the costs of some of the improvements the Pine Tree study is proposing for the Transfer Station. Where CDD is concerned, it's cost avoidance that must be pursued as a matter of importance.

Committee members would like to see copies of the letters written to DEP concerning the setback issue.

Pine Tree has submitted a revised estimate dated Nov 7th

9. Discuss Scale pricing and specifications

Apropos the revised estimate, John Spear emphasized that we're looking for a hydraulic scale, not an electronic scale. Tim Jackson's scale is electronic, and John Daigle visited Tim Jackson and went away with the impression that the scale has had problems.

John Spear asked how having a scale would make money for the Transfer Station. Scales are expensive. There's the initial capital investment, maintenance, capital reinvestment as key parts wear out, and the need for a capital reserve to replace the scale after it's completed its useful life. Moreover, John Daigle would need a third person to operate the scale.

Will Payson emphasized again the meeting he and Monika had had with Victor Parrish of Creative Information Systems. He pointed out that the scales, themselves, are relatively useless without the software that comes with them. He and Monika saw the software in operation. He pointed out that Parrish had contacted John Daigle to no effect. Will's point is that the committee needs to find out the value of the data scales can produce.

Bruce Prior pointed to the importance of scales if and when the landfill is closed. If people are bringing CDD to the Transfer Station for disposal it has to be weighed in order for the Transfer Station to charge by the ton.

Monika argued that scales are necessary, not to make money, but to ensure fairness, to ensure that each of the three towns supporting the Transfer Station is depositing its fair share of recyclables.

John Spear agreed a scale could help allocate the operating costs more equitably. Monika believes Cushing is being assessed unfairly because she believes Cushing is recycling more than the other two towns. Alan Magee said scales would help all of the towns feel better about being a part of their arrangement with one another.

Ted Wooster pointed out that the three towns are subsidizing those who sell their recyclables. He also emphasized we need to work the cost of the operator into the cost of the scales.

Alan Magee suggested we ask other operators from neighboring towns if they are sorry they put in their scales.

Bruce Prior said that Nobleboro charges \$85 for a truckload of shingles; Waldoboro charges \$15.00

John Spear said we WERE talking \$80,000 for a scale. NOW we're talking about \$146,000, plus \$68,000 for recycling area improvements, plus CDD transfer improvements with three containers (another \$196,000). The total project cost is now estimated at \$414,000. And the Transfer Station fund balance is \$172,000 with another \$299,000 in the landfill closing reserve. Some of the landfill reserve funds could be reprogrammed because the life of the landfill has increased. All of which was said to support his view that he could not at present make a lucid, cogent argument in town meeting to support purchasing scales.

All committee members agreed to the importance of defining what it is the purchase of scales is supposed to achieve.

Will Payson suggested we ask Victor Parish what the scales with the software will produce as an investment? How could the scales save us money? How much money could they save?

Terry Gifford suggested that each committee member write down what we need as opposed to simply listening to a salesman making a pitch.

10. Is Lincoln County dictating recycling methods to the three towns or are the three towns free to choose their own methods of recycling?

Terry Gifford asked if we have a written contract with Lincoln County to take the Transfer Station's recyclables. John Spear and Ted Wooster said they are not aware of any contract.

It was pointed out that Wiscasset doesn't take its recycling to Lincoln County. Why no?

Terry pointed out that Cushing, Friendship and Waldoboro seem to be looking for zero cost garbage.

Ted suggested we don't have to reinvent the wheel, using Denmark as an example of a country from which we could learn a lot.

Terry pointed out that Lincoln County would not be able to handle the volume of recycling if the three towns achieved 100% recycling.

Monika suggested that Friendship and Cushing should receive a refund for the recycling that goes to Lincoln County because those two towns are in Knox County and do not participate in the pooling of revenues from recycling that the Lincoln County towns do.

11. Set the Date of the Next Committee Meeting.

The Transfer Station will meet on December 13, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Waldoboro Municipal Building.

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12. Adjournment

Randy moved that the Committee adjourn the meeting. Ted seconded. All members voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted: Liz Dinsmore, Secretary and Bob Butler, Chairman

Approved: Bob Butler, Chairman _____

Ted Wooster, Vice-Chairman _____

Elizabeth Dinsmore, Secretary _____

Will Payson _____

Bruce Prior _____

Randolph Robbins _____