

Town of Waldoboro Maine

Transfer Station Committee Meeting Minutes

Municipal Building – 1600 Atlantic Hwy.

Thursday, September 8, 2016 – 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

1. Sign in and call to order: Bob Butler called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM on Thursday, September 8, 2016.
2. Determine the presence of a quorum (at least 5 of the 7 committee members or their duly appointed alternates must be present): The following Waldoboro Transfer Station Committee members were present and constituted a quorum:

Bob Butler, Waldoboro Select Board

Ted Wooster, Waldoboro resident

John Meyn, Friendship resident

Randy Robbins, Cushing resident

Liz Dinsmore, Friendship Select Board

Wayne Luce, Hauler representative

Martha Marchut, Cushing Select Board

Also present:

John Daigle, Waldoboro Public Works Director

John Higgins, Waldoboro resident

Katherine Winchenbach

3. Information Sharing and Public Comments: Committee Members, Haulers, and Director of Public Works and all others for items not on the agenda: John Daigle passed out statistical information on activity at the Transfer Station. He indicated that the hauler with issues hasn't been in for a few weeks. This hauler reportedly has a new truck and has been picking up trash in different towns. According to John, the hauler is not allowed at the Waldoboro Transfer Station until he catches up with his bill. If this does not happen soon, the hauler will not be allowed in at all.
4. Discussion of the Minutes of the August 11, 2016 Transfer Station Committee Meeting: John Meyn made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2016 meeting. Ted Wooster seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with a vote of 7 in favor, 0 opposed.

5. Discussion of Pay as You Throw (PAYT) Initiative on Waldoboro November Ballot: Bob Butler went through the presentation he'll be using in Waldoboro. According to Bob, people need to understand that we won't increase taxes; we will decrease the Transfer Station budget. Without PAYT, the budget estimates a 3% increase each year due to hauling and tipping fees. Following a question by John Higgins, there was a discussion of performance credits. Reportedly, the lack of performance credits potentially increases the budget. PERC plans to end them and Fiberight also will not have them. Instead, Fiberight will provide rebates, although not for the first couple of years. John Daigle noted that we're currently paying \$77 per ton; with credits, the amount is reduced to around \$63 per ton. John Meyn suggested that we need a slide that addresses the change in performance credits. It was noted that FY'18 shows a big increase due to the end of performance credits. Martha Marchut noted that PAYT calculations assume a 41% recycling rate (we're currently at about 18%). With PAYT, the budget reduction occurs regardless of whether recycling increases to 41% because revenue from the bags will offset any lack of recycling. John Higgins asked how we could say that in FY'19 the budget can be as low as \$156,225 if we're currently paying \$117,000 for operations. Bob Butler stated that if a hauler picks up bags that aren't PAYT bags, the hauler would have to pay for them. John Daigle suggested that it's possible that the haulers could sell bags. Wayne Luce noted that there needs to be an alternative way for the haulers. There is now. John Higgins noted that with PAYT, we wouldn't be able to mandate recycling. Haulers won't be responsible for a particular level of recycling. Bob Butler stated that there is a mandate that all recycling come to the Transfer Station from the haulers. With PAYT, the enforcement for recycling is the economic incentive. Katherine Winchenbach asked how we could say that recycling is mandatory when people do not have to recycle as long as they pay for the bags. According to Bob Butler, this needs to be addressed. Wayne Luce stated that we couldn't promise that taxes will go down as a result of implementing PAYT. John Daigle stated that all what we ask is that it be brought to the people. This should be agreed upon unanimously. Wayne Luce noted that haulers might need to make adjustments if recycling increases. In response, John Daigle noted that there are other options that could help the haulers, drop boxes, for example. Ted Wooster asked what would be needed in order for Lincoln County Recycling to do pick-ups. John Daigle responded that there are possibilities in that area, noting that we're not here to leave people hanging. Katherine Winchenbach stated that she doesn't think people will increase recycling due to PAYT. She expressed a preference for single stream recycling. Big events also are an issue although Bob Butler suggested that big events could be done simply (limited to paper and plastic, for example). John Daigle stated that savings from PAYT might cover the cost of switching to single stream; however, the recycled material is so contaminated that a lot will go to the landfill. Randy Robbins noted that non-recyclers would pay for not doing so; recyclers would not. There was a discussion about where to have bags sold. Wayne Luce noted that Warren True Value sells them and makes 25 cents per bag. Bob Butler responded that we do not want to do it that way. Bag prices are planned as follows: 15 gallons = \$1.25, 30 gallons = \$2.00, 45 gallons = \$3.00. Wayne Luce suggested that haulers would be concerned about the weight of the larger bags. There was a discussion about whether or not the Town of Waldoboro should buy the bags; reportedly, Warren, Camden and Union do this. We do not plan to. Bag companies get

15% or the cost of the bags to the consumer. The administrator of the program may pay the store something to sell the bags – we will not. John Higgins asked how we know how many bags really are being sold. Bob Butler responded that this would be addressed through quality control and spot checks as well as by working with reputable, publicly held entities. John Daigle noted that if trash isn't in the proper bag, a bag would need to be purchased at the Transfer Station. The bag can be tied to the nonconforming bag. John Higgins asked whether we should be naming PERC in our presentation when we're moving away from PERC. It was suggested that we use "disposal facility" instead.

6. Discussion of Agenda for October 13, 2016 Meeting: The next meeting will be Thursday, October 13, 2016 at 6:00 PM. Bob Butler would like to cover PAYT again at that time. In response to a question from Randy Robbins, Bob indicated that he would send invitations to key entities to attend the meeting.
7. A motion to adjourn was made by John Meyn and seconded by Ted Wooster. The motion was approved with a vote of 7 – 0.

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