

SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE - December 27, 2023 Minutes

<u>Attending</u>	<u>Not in Attendance</u>
Wendy Cunningham	Paul Tabor
Paul Denis	
Pat McDonough	
Bryan Benson, Solid Waste and Recycling Director, Staff	

PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from our 12/13/2023 meeting were approved.

UPDATE FROM BRYAN

- Casella visit - Bryan was going to continue to pursue. *Update: The visit has been confirmed for January 11, 2024. This is a public meeting, i.e. any member of the public is welcome to go as well. We will meet at the Town Hall at Noon on Thursday, 1/11/24.*
- New recycling compressor - the new compressor has been tested, and works well when warm, not so much when cold - will probably just need a block warmer for this. Wendy will work with Bryan to compose an article for the Town web site (and eventually the newsletter).
- Transfer station - confirmed that all we need to make the current Pond Road facility a transfer station is a separate entrance with a gate and appropriate license from the State. Bryan believes the licensing will not be a deterrent and that the entrance/gate can be done with internal resources. **Bryan will supply a quote on what it will cost to do the entrance/gate.** We believe if the cost is minimal we should be able to do this without having the expense approved at town meeting; will need to confirm once cost estimate is available.
- Select Board approved a one year contract with Plummer for 7/1/2024 - 6/30/2025. As a committee we will need to evaluate model(s) and approach for 7/1/2025 and beyond. Current thoughts on possibilities include a different model, e.g. barrels and contractor with truck designed to empty barrels automatically or possibly bringing trash collection in-house which would require new equipment (truck) and extended staff hours. Other models may be identified to be considered also.
- Bryan also obtained rough numbers from EcoMaine, if we were to engage with EcoMaine we believe the Town would be responsible for transporting, e.g. would require additional equipment (truck). We currently pay Casella \$400/trip to transport recycling silver bullets.

NEW ORDINANCE

[Note: we skipped agenda item 'Timing of misc deliverables'; will discuss at next full meeting.]

Determined first public input session would be held on January 24, 2024 during our regularly scheduled meeting. **Bryan will put notice on Town's web site and we will also publicize on Social Media.**

We reviewed the draft Ordinance, Wendy will red-line the draft with details, but in general here are some discussion items (and also fix some of the typos). Please note discussion/ changes are for purposes of next draft (final draft will be shared with public on 1/24/2024 meeting). Changes may still come from public input and/or legal review.

- Section 1 - PURPOSE → Fine as written
- Section 2 - AUTHORITY → Fine as written
- Section 3 - APPLICABILITY → Fine as written
- Section 4 - DEFINITIONS → Definitions will be filled in after we have an edited draft so we know what terms to be defined.
- Section 5 - AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH RULES AND AMEND → Fine as written.
- Section 6 - GENERAL PROVISIONS → Discussions on individual provisions included:
 - 6.1 Dumping; discussion on this revolved around needing to include this as much of this is covered in other Local (e.g. Land Use), State (e.g. Littering), and Federal laws vs. needing to use the Ordinance as a communication tool as well as the legal purpose as people are not likely to read all the other pertaining laws/regulations. Compromise included eliminating some of the verbiage (e.g. abandoned vehicle reference) and including general reference to other pertaining laws/regulations. 6.1.1 on Waterways fine as is.
 - 6.2 Carrion; Discussion included questions about people butchering animals and the thought that 24 hours may not be sufficient time frame.
 - 6.3 Burning; This is meant to prohibit barrel type burning of trash (and other similar burns).
 - 6.4 Abandoned Vehicles; will not include. Discussion included people who keep parts cars and the fact that other Ordinances (Land Use?) prohibits more than 2 abandoned vehicles on any one property. Bowdoinham's current ordinance does not mention abandoned vehicles.
 - 6.5 Construction Waste; we currently accept construction waste as bulky waste, e.g. accept just twice a year. If/as we become a transfer station we can accept more frequently. How this provision is worded depends on our becoming a transfer station.
 - 6.7 [numbering didn't include 6.6 - numbering will be corrected]; Hazardous Waste, change to being approved by Town Manager. 6.7.1 fine as is

- 6.8 Tires; people can easily get rid of tires at local tire facilities (e.g. Town Fair Tire) for a nominal fee. At this point we will not include a provision on tires, this may change in future.
- 6.9 Transfer Station; fine as is
- 6.10 Goods left roadside; change timeframe from 2 months to 1 month. Good item to leave to obtain public input.
- 6.11 Compostable materials; we will have a listing of acceptable materials on the Town's web-site - maintained by the Solid Waste Director.
- 6.12 Lawn Waste; as with compostable waste lawn wastes will be listed (or not) on the Town's web-site. approach to both of these items may change depending on becoming a transfer station.

NEXT SECTIONS

We will hold a special 'working session' of the committee on **Wednesday January 3, 2024 at 6:30PM in the room across from the Kendall meeting room.** As this is a working session we need to publicize (Bryan has posted notice), but there will be no agenda or minutes, just next red-lined draft.