

## **Agenda for Solid Waste Committee 10/14/2020**

**5:30 via Zoom**

### **Task of Committee:**

- a. Overseeing protocols for keeping the Recycling Barn open during the pandemic.
- b. Containing expenses for the recycling program and problem-solving curbside pick-up contamination.
- c. Addressing the condition of the barn after the Selectboard has reviewed inspections and reports and discussed their findings with David Berry.

Reminder: Freedom of Information Act, this is a very important statute! Per the Freedom of Information Act, committees can NOT have conversations/discussions via email, phone, etc. All committee discussions and decisions must be had and made at a public meeting. Any conversations by more than 2 committee members outside of a public meeting is considered an illegal meeting. Furthermore, all emails that you send as a committee member and/or regarding committee business is considered public information and is part of the public record. Committee members may use email to distribute information to all committee members and committee staff, but any discussion of that information must take place at a public meeting.

**All committee members must be included in Solid Waste Committee emails:**

**Members-Cathy Curtis, Susan Brown, Michael Smith, Pat McDonough, Tessa Kingsley, Lisa Wesel, Susan Drucker, Bryan Benson**

Nicole Briand is in the process of scheduling an FOAA Training for all town boards & committees members.

“Until then, email should only be used to distribute information, there should be NO discussion of that information via email. For agenda setting, I would suggest that you plan the agenda for your next meeting at your meeting and have an other business agenda item if something comes up.

As for meetings, the Town of Bowdoinham will be conducting public meetings via video conferencing. This is in accordance with emergency legislation (PL 2019, c. 617) enacted by the Maine legislature on March 17, 2020, which temporarily authorizes remote participation at municipal board and committee meetings by board members and the public. “

### **Call to Order**

### **Amendments to the Agenda**

### **Approval of the Minutes from 9/30/20**

### **Old Business**

- revisit norms of committee with the goal of more effective communication and civil discourse
- Review any information from Select Board Meeting as it pertains to committee

- Update on how “Silver Bullets” are working as well as increased hours of access
- Cost of “Silver Bullets”, possibility of cardboard only dumpsters
- Review safe handling practices information-72 hour hold
- Continued discussion of how to maximize revenue and reduce costs

Further questions the committee would like more information on:

What is included in 35 sec 01 admin and sec 03 support/ben? Pls be specific. Stating Labor is too broad. Does it cover fica and taxes? What is included in support and benefits? What benefits and support is included? A complete breakdown of fy19-20, in those categories will help to understand

What is the barn policy with the new information on handling recyclables? Why are we still holding for 72 hours? What is this new rational?

May the committee have the last 12 weeks of numbers for recycling bags and trash, broken down by week?

What was the timeframe when recycling went from citizen sorting (many bags) to single stream?

What is the advantage of Clean vs Contaminated recycling to the town? Does it cost less to recycle if Clean? What is that cost difference? For example, do they charge more if contaminated vice clean?

What is the purpose of keeping track of the amount of contamination in recyclables? How is this data used? Are we sorting the contamination out and disposing, at town cost?

If the recycling moved to a different location, what are the personnel requirements for a Saturday? Pros and cons on a single employee onsite 8-4.

Additionally, it was mentioned there is data on contamination. Please provide to the committee

## **New Business**

- Consider proposal by Michael Smith:

1. When location is moved, suspend curbside recycling and Bulky Waste (no storage avail) for 6 months.

This will allow other options to be explored and will not overwhelm the bullets. Allows for a month to notify residents. No longer a need to hold 72 hrs for processing. Using 17-18 FY data, there seems to be a 10-20% reduction of recycled bag pickup in Oct/Nov, normal Dec, and 10-20% Jan-Apr.

2. Select a specific day (weekly bi weekly or monthly) to handle other waste (paint batteries lightbulbs etc).

This will allow for a single employee operation (other days), possibly opening a 6 day a week operation (1 person) with current staff. These waste streams are a break even service, at best, and could also be suspended for 6 months. What are the hazardous waste storage procedures at the new location? Is the town continuing to store hazardous waste at the barn? What are the plans for their removal?

3. Increase hours at the new location to a 6 day 8am-4pm single person operation.

This will allow for the management of the bullets without an influx on Thursdays. Allow citizens to recycle when best for them.

- Determine what other information the committee needs and how to gather that information

### **Public Comments**

### **Follow-up Items**

### **Next Agenda and Meeting Date, time, place:**

### **Adjournment**