

Town of Waldoboro, Maine
Transfer Station Committee Meeting Minutes
Municipal Building - 1600 Atlantic Highway
Thursday, April 5, 2012 – 7:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order** – Bob Butler, Waldoboro citizen, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. with a quorum present. Other committee members present were:

John Higgins, Waldoboro Citizen
Liz Dinsmore, Friendship Select Board
Will Payson, Cushing Select Board
Bruce Prior, Cushing Hauler
Monika Magee, Cushing Citizen
Randolph W. Robbins, Cushing Citizen
Terry Gifford, Waste Hauler (Left after Hearing)

Also in attendance: John Daigle, Waldoboro Department of Public Works, Alfred McKay, Waldoboro Transfer Station Operator, John Spear, Waldoboro Town Manager and the following members of the public:

Sally Butler, Waldoboro Resident
Alton Grover, Cushing Resident
Robert Worthing, Cushing Resident
George Seaver, Waldoboro Resident
Joanna Willimetz, Cushing Resident
Eric Anderson, Cushing Resident
Alan Magee, Cushing Resident
Katherine Winchenbach, Waldoboro Resident
David Staple, Cushing Resident
Melody A. Feltis, Waldoboro Resident
Roger Feltis, Sr, Waldoboro Resident
David Farmer, Cushing Resident
Laurie Haynes, Cushing Resident
C. William Pacey, Waldoboro Resident
Brooke Pacey, Waldoboro Resident
Patricia Chapman, Waldoboro Resident
Eva McLain, Waldoboro Resident
Arthur (Bubba) Thompson, Friendship Resident

2. **Citizens Comments** – None

3. **Minutes** – Randy Robbins moved and John Higgins seconded that the Committee approve the minutes of the March 22nd meeting. All committee members present voted in favor of the motion.

4. **Public Hearing: Waldoboro Solid Waste Disposal and Required Recycling Ordinance (the “Ordinance”)**

Bob Butler and Monika Magee made a presentation concerning the Transfer Station and the existing and proposed Ordinances. Bob Butler then opened the hearing to questions, comments and suggestions from the public.

Bubba Thompson, a Friendship contractor, said the proposed new Ordinance did not change anything for him.

Bruce Prior spoke as a trash hauler and mentioned that the new Ordinance requires permitted trash haulers to have a license from the State of Maine as well as a permit from the Town of Waldoboro. He added that the three communities must tighten their solid waste disposal rules and said that people should pay a penalty if they don't recycle.

Terry Gifford, also a waste hauler, said she doesn't like Waldoboro putting her out of business. She questioned the practice of throwing only 40 tires into the compactor at the Transfer Station instead of being allowed to burn them all of them. John Daigle pointed out that the Transfer Station is permitted to have only so many tires on site at the Transfer Station and that PERC permits no more than 40 tires in each load of waste shipped to PERC.

Someone asked whether the three Towns receive money for the recyclables Lincoln County Recycling transfers free-of-charge from the Transfer Station. The response was that Lincoln County Recycling receives the money and uses it to defray the costs of running its recycling operation. Recycling ensures reductions in the solid waste tonnages the towns would otherwise send, at their expense, to PERC.

Someone asked who is going to enforce the Ordinance. The response was that that new Ordinance and the old ordinance are identical in that both require recycling. The new Ordinance, however, permits Transfer Station personnel to work with the residents in a number of ways to encourage cooperation with the recycling effort. There are provisions for warnings and efforts to enlist cooperation before fines and/or penalties are imposed. The new Ordinance has a grievances process, which allows residents to appear before a permanent Transfer Station Committee to air their complaints and to provide feedback to the Transfer Station Committee. The new Ordinance permits Transfer Station attendants to request unruly or noncompliant residents to leave the Transfer Station and gives the Transfer Station attendants discretionary authority to phone the police if they do not. The idea is to keep politics and anger and resentment out of the operation of the Transfer Station and to provide a mechanism that defuses tensions instead of adding to them.

Someone questioned that the Transfer Station be in charge of issuing Transfer Station stickers to residents. It was pointed out that the Transfer Station currently hands out stickers. There is no fee for the stickers and thus no exchange of funds. And, since everyone who uses the Transfer Station does go there, it was felt it's easiest to issue the permits there.

Katie Winchenbach suggested that different colored stickers could be issued to summer and other non-permanent residents.

George Seaver questioned the wording of Section A4 of the Ordinance, in particular the use of the word "may". Bob Butler noted that the Committee would consider Mr. Seaver's comments and possible changes to the Ordinance after the hearings were closed.

5. Close the Public Hearing: The Ordinance.

Monika Magee moved that the hearing concerning the Ordinance close. Randy Robbins seconded the motion. All committee members voted in favor.

6. Public Hearing: Amended and Restated Waldoboro/Friendship/Cushing Municipal Services Agreement for Solid Waste Disposal Facilities (MSA)

Bob Butler opened the hearing concerning the MSA.

Citizens of Cushing questioned the use of the United States census as the basis for apportioning the costs of operating the Transfer Station among the three towns. Cushing residents present felt that Cushing is doing a more effective job recycling than the other towns. Someone suggested that the amount of Solid Waste residents and waste haulers from each of the three towns bring to the Transfer Station serve as the basis for apportioning operating costs.

Transfer Station Committee members pointed out that it would be operationally impractical to determine the origin of each load of solid waste deposited at the Transfer Station. The Transfer Station does not have a scale, and even if it did, obtaining the full and empty weights of every vehicle, private and commercial, that entered the Transfer Station would present a logistical nightmare to Transfer Station staff, and could cause traffic logjams.

Transfer Station Committee members suggested that no system of cost apportionment is absolutely perfect, adding that census information is probably the best one currently available. Research has demonstrated that average per-person solid waste disposal numbers have been consistently reliable over time. Moreover, fairness is best ensured if everyone from all three towns makes a conscientious and concerted effort to recycle.

Committee members expressed the hope that the new Ordinance would further such efforts by improving cooperation among the three towns.

7. Close the public hearing: MSA

Will Payson moved and Monika Magee seconded that the MSA hearing close. All committee members present voted in favor.

Monika Magee then expressed her disappointment that not a single Waldoboro Select Board member was present at the hearings, whereas all five members of Cushing's Select Board were present. Monika added that she was very proud that Cushing's entire Select Board and that two Friendship Select Board members were present at the hearings. John Spear pointed out that he, as Waldoboro Town Manager, was present and that Waldoboro's Select Board members do not have to be present for such hearings. He added that the Waldoboro Select Board would be holding its own hearing about the Ordinance if it approves it to go onto the town warrant. Bob Butler pointed out that the Waldoboro Select Board has been kept abreast of developments concerning the Ordinance during their regularly scheduled meetings.

8. Discuss and, if deemed appropriate, make changes to the Ordinance in light of comments received during the public hearing

The Transfer Station Committee, after considerable deliberation, decided to change the wording of A4 to read as follows:

- A4. Exceptions and Refusals (Article II, Section 2.3.5 of the Ordinance): The following items are exceptions and refusals, as described below:
 - A4.1. Solid Waste from which Recyclables have not been removed and which Waste Haulers have collected from public schools located in Waldoboro and/or one of the Partners may not be deposited at the Transfer Station. In the event such Solid Waste is deposited at the Transfer Station, for whatever reason, the WTS Manager shall charge dumping fees for such Solid Waste pursuant to Attachment B, below.
 - A4.2. Construction and Demolition Debris, which is intended for the Landfill and which is acceptable to legally sanctioned dumping areas outside of the boundaries of Waldoboro and the Partners need not be deposited.
 - A4.3. Solid Waste, which privately contracted Waste Haulers collect from Residents and/ or Resident Businesses and discard at legally sanctioned dumping areas located outside of the boundaries of Waldoboro and the Partners need not be deposited.

A4.4 Waste Haulers who collect Recyclables from within the boundaries of the Partners but deposit or sell them elsewhere shall submit a monthly report to the WTS Manager of the categories and weights of such undeposited and/or sold Recyclables. Failure to submit the monthly reports could, in the sole discretion of the Board, upon receipt of a recommendation from the Transfer Station Committee, result in the loss of the Waste Hauler's Waldoboro Waste Hauler License.

A4.5. Refusals. The WTS Manager may refuse to allow the deposit of certain categories of Solid Waste in the event there is not sufficient space to accommodate them at the Transfer Station. Examples include items intended for the metal or the woodpiles, which have reached maximum capacity. Prior to arrival at the Transfer Station, Permitted Users are advised to contact the WTS Manager to determine the status of Solid Waste items, which could be subject to refusals.

The Committee also decided, by consensus, to modify the definition of Disposal Methods and to make accurate references to Disposal Methods in Section 2.3.5.1

Randy Robbins moved, and John Higgins seconded, that the Ordinance be accepted as modified during the meeting. All Committee members voted in favor of the motion

9. Discuss and, if deemed appropriate, make changes to the MSA in light of comments received during the hearing

The Committee, by consensus, recommended that no changes be made to the MSA. Will Payson moved and Randy Robbins seconded that the Committee accept the MSA as written. All present voted in favor.

10. Determine whether to refer the Ordinance to the Waldoboro Select Board for inclusion in the Waldoboro Warrant for its 2012 Town Meeting

Will Payson moved and John Higgins seconded that the Committee refer the Ordinance to the Waldoboro Select Board for inclusion in the Waldoboro Town Warrant. All Committee members present voted in favor.

11. Determine whether to refer the MSA to the Waldoboro Select Board for inclusion in the Waldoboro Warrant for its Town Meeting

Randy Robbins moved, and John Higgins seconded, that the MSA be referred to the Waldoboro Select Board for inclusion in the Waldoboro Town Warrant. All Committee members present voted in favor.

11. Adjournment

Liz Dinsmore pointed out that the next meeting of the Transfer Station Committee is scheduled for Thursday, April 12th at 7:00 p.m.

John Higgins moved for adjournment. Randy Robbins seconded the motion. All present voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted: Bob Butler and Liz Dinsmore

Approved:

Transfer Station Committee
Town of Waldoboro, Maine:

□ _____ Bob Butler, Chairman

_____ (Absent) Ted Wooster, Vice Chairman

_____ Liz Dinsmore, Friendship Select Board

_____ Terry Gifford, Waste Hauler, Waldoboro

_____ John Higgins, Waldoboro Citizen

_____ Monika Magee, Cushing Citizen

_____ Will Payson, Cushing Select Board

_____ Bruce Prior, Cushing Hauler

_____ Randy Robbins, Cushing