**Solid Waste Committee**

**January 9, 2024**

**6:00pm**

**Members present**: Dan Allard & Bob Hodgkins

**Others present:** Carol Buzzell, Town Manager; Ron McNaughton, Transfer Station Attendant; Sheldon Bubier, Selectmen Liaison & Greg Keene, PW & TS Supervisor.

**Absent:** Kevin Berry, Byron Boyington, Holly Ewing, Matt Higgins & Adam Varney.

Meeting opened at 6:00pm at the Town Office in the small conference room.

Carol Buzzell distributed Expense Detail Report for July 1, 2023 to current date as of 1/9/2024, and Transfer Station Facility Rules brochure.

Discussions about a dress code for employees at the transfer station. We realize it’s just a ‘dump’ but townspeople have to feel confident that fees given to the attendant will be passed in to the town. Carol will speak with attendants.

Those present went over the fees in the brochure and feel they are fine for now. Reminder there is no longer a punch card needed and the stickers are for 2 years. (2024 and 2025). Sheldon made suggestions to make sure and charge a resident for a half load of construction debris that brings it in a suburban style vehicle. This is the same volume as a small truck load and should be charged accordingly.

Carol will look into the cost of a large sign with the fee schedule on it so citizens will be informed of the fees. Suggestions to put “PLAN AHEAD” or “THINK AHEAD” on the sign so citizens can see the fees for items they plan on bringing in at a later date. Dan suggested to purchase a tablet with a internet plan to accept credit/debit cards at the transfer station. Citizens can pay at the town office and get a receipt or pay cash or check at the transfer station.

Cusineau’s is at the transfer station this week grinding the brush pile. Cost is $2,000 plus $5.00 per ton. Discussions on whether to continue to take brush and or charge per load. This will be discussed at a later date, once we get the total cost of the brush Cusineau is hauling off and we’ll be able to determine the charge per pickup load if we choose to go that route.

Ron would like a roof over the oil drums to avoid rainwater mixing in with the oil. Greg will put this on his ‘to do’ list for the public works crew to do when time allows. Ron will give Greg a tour of the transfer station soon and discuss any other issues.

Patrick Corcoran is interested in purchasing the two old compactors and one old container the town owns but is no longer usable due to rust and rot. Corcoran will give $750 each. All agreed.

Corcoran is currently hauling all recyclables free of charge. Also hauling the glass/mixed for $140 per load. Troiano hauls the trash compactors and construction demo debris. Greg will contact Troiano to see if they could be more dependable in scheduling pick-up times and dates. Questions arose if we have contracts with Troiano or Maine Waste to Energy? Carol will research this.

Ron reported that security cameras 1 & 2 are not working. Greg mentioned that he’ll contact them because there is an issue with a couple cameras at the public works too.

Discussions about the possibility of building a new building to house the backhoe, household universal waste & hazardous waste and a space for a swap shop. Sheldon and Bob strongly opposed the idea. Ron mentioned that the Quonset hut which houses the backhoe at this time is getting tired. Sheldon stated to just leave it outside and it will be fine. Greg mentioned that if the structure is still good, we could always just purchase the vinyl/canvas top.

The old backhoe is at John Caron’s being evaluated on condition and cost to fix leaks. Greg will get an update tomorrow. The selectmen will decide whether to sell or keep it once it is determined what’s wrong with it.

Meeting closed at 7:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Buzzell