

Hopkinton/Webster Landfill Committee  
Minutes of November 6, 2008

The meeting opened at 7:00 pm. at the Webster Town Hall.

Present: Robert Drown, Linda Hook, Karen Irwin, Louise Carr, Gordon Welch, Richard Kennedy & Asst. PW Supt. Steve Clough

Also present: Webster Selectman Tom Mullins

Absent: Peter Russell & Sally Embley

Steve Clough gave an overview of potential short and long term strategies that could be implemented at the transfer station to help to increase recycling and revenues. The following are not in any particular order of importance.

Create 2<sup>nd</sup> stream for easier access to the recycling bins that would be built on the backside of the current storage areas. This would be designed to make accessibility easier for private haulers using hydraulics so they can back directly up to the bays to dump rather than dumping outside of the bays and needing to be pushed into the bays by the loader.

Build better dry storage areas for handling cardboard & paper as they currently can get damp from the weather. The goal is to consolidate and export the dry goods to increase revenues but companies that will pay for the goods measure the moisture content and will not accept our dry goods that have become damp.

Purchase a horizontal baler.

Create more areas to further separate C&D materials. This would allow for reusable materials to be kept in an area where residents could put their old windows, doors, cabinets, etc. and interested residents could take them for reuse in their own homes. This would decrease the tonnage of C&D that needs to be hauled away.

Possible purchase of bags or totes if the towns decide to pursue certain curbside recycling options.

If the towns decide to go with single stream recycling it may be necessary to purchase a compactor rather than continue to ship recyclables loose in 100 yard trailers.

Steve explained an idea he is exploring to help to further reduce reusable C&D materials. Steve will see if there is an interest among contractors to network regarding reusable building materials, consolidate interests from residents to match up reusable building materials and continue to explore areas in which recyclables can be consolidated netting a higher return rate.

The committee asked Steve to identify two strategies that could be easily implemented in 2009. It was agreed that adding a 2<sup>nd</sup> stream for recycling and developing C&D reduction education would be two areas of interest and Steve will provide the committee with costs associated to implement these.

Steve Clough distributed to the committee two handouts that review the recycling revenues from 2007 vs. 2008 and the recycling income statement for 2007. The recycling market is bottoming out especially for scrap metal. In 2007 the transfer station was paid between \$115 to \$145/ton for scrap metal, beginning of 2008 the price was \$140 to as high as \$285/ton but in October the going rate dropped to \$50/ton. This trend is expected to continue into 2009.

Aluminum cans are marketed about 3 times a year netting just under 8 tons. Due to consolidation Steve was able to get \$.91/lb. whereas in 2007 they sold between \$.70 to \$.79/lb.

Steel (tin) cans vary greatly depending on metal prices. Tin cans can only be held for a limited time outdoors because of rusting. Cans are generally sold 3 times a year. In 2007 the sales varied from

\$55/ton to \$80/ton compared to the two sales in 2008 which netted \$130/ton and once at \$402/ton with consolidation. The transfer station recycles about 10 to 15 tons a year.

Hopkinton is a PGA host community for glass collection meaning we collect glass from surrounding communities and NRRA collects \$20/ton from participating towns. Periodically the glass is crushed using the fees collected by NRRA that allows a certain amount of Hopkinton's glass to be crushed for free therefore generating a savings of several thousands of dollars a year and shipping fees.

Hopkinton averages 16 tons of plastic about every 9 months. The various types of plastic net different rates per ton with the transfer station receiving \$11,882 in revenues for 2007.

Textiles are difficult to market due to unreliable vendors and their demands. In 2007, 7.9 tons of textiles were recycled netting a cost savings of \$442.

Electronics are sold directly to a vendor which costs \$.10/lb but CPU's are free and generate a \$.10/lb credit towards the other items. This is the same rate NRRA offers. In 2007, 37 tons of electronics were recycled generating a savings of \$2,084 from tipping fee and shipping cost avoidance.

The rate for mixed paper increased throughout 2007 from \$53/ton to \$85/ton. The rate for 2008 has remained stable at \$75 to \$85/ton. 318 tons were recycled in 2007.

The rate for cardboard has also increased. In 2007 the rate ranged from \$95 to \$115/ton and in 2008 the cardboard sold for \$115/ton to \$130/ton.

The 2007 recycling income statement reflects \$102,864.48 in net income/savings, \$26,152.43 in total liabilities resulting with a net income and savings of \$76,712.05. Total tons recycled, excluding heavy metals and waste oil, was 746.8125 tons resulting in a net income and savings of \$102.72 per ton processed.

Steve updated the committee that Dockham Trucking has purchased a six-bin hydraulically operated recycling truck. They are steadily increasing their recycling customer base with a strong interest from residents in the outlying areas of Hopkinton. Steve was asked by the Chair from the last meeting to provide the committee with an analysis of incentives to trash haulers for picking up recyclables. The incentives were designed to be revenue neutral to the towns. The Chair asked that the committee review the information and to be prepared to discuss at our next meeting.

Karen updated the committee that the Recycling Committee held their first public hearing on their SMART plan that they will present at town meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm. The next landfill committee meeting will be held at the Slusser Senior Center on Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,  
Louise Carr