

**Hopkinton/Webster Landfill Committee
Webster Town Hall
Minutes**

June 4, 2009

DRAFT

There was a meeting of the Hopkinton/Webster Landfill Committee on Thursday June 4, 2009. The Meeting was held at the Webster Town Hall and began at 7 PM. Linda Hook, Bob Drown, Barbara Corliss, Sally Embley, Karen Irwin, Stretch Kennedy, Bob Lapree, and Steve Clough were present. Tom Mullins (Webster Selectman) also attended the meeting.

Draft Minutes from the May 7, 2009 meeting were reviewed. Meeting location and a name spelling were corrected. Stretch made a motion to accept the Minutes as corrected, Karen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. Phone numbers, email addresses, and terms were updated on the Committee member listing. The approved Minutes and updated listing will be posted.

Committee members were given copies of the 2009 annual contract by Nobis Engineering. The monitoring, inspection, and reporting aspects were discussed along with the estimated funding for dealing with water quality issues. Steve briefly explained the towns' obligations under state & federal law and the general reasoning for these requirements.

The internet and associated software still isn't up & running at the transfer station. Eventually it will have several functions. A grouping will be developed to save mailing costs, reports can be transferred electronically to the finance director, and better records overall can be kept. The service will also enable education, promotion, and notifications. A system for salvaging C&D and matching up other reusable items will also hopefully be developed over time.

A couple of potential new small programs were discussed. Steve went over an outlet for #5 plastics (yogurt containers primarily). It would be a material that would have to be shipped in small quantities in boxes but there might be a significant amount of interest in it. It wouldn't cost a lot so a pilot program will probably be initiated in the near future.

The *Got Books* program was also discussed. This program would put a dumpster on site to deposit used books that can't go in the mixed paper recycling bin. The vendor picks up the dumpster free of charge. The books are sorted and sold at ongoing book fairs and the proceeds are donated to *Got Books* charities. The annual Hopkinton library book fair was discussed. Steve will confirm the details of the program and bring the subject back up at a later date.

The ordinance issues were skipped. There is nothing pressing but rather a few nuances to address the next time that revisions are brought up for approval.

The issue of putting together a swap shop proposal that is less sophisticated than the previous Environmental Center Plan was brought up for discussion. The Recycling Committee and the Hopkinton Board of Selectmen evidently support considering some type of facility. A new proposal would address the location issue but would have to take into account current operations, safety issues (traffic & parking), future expansions, capital costs, and operational expenses.

Some committee members thought that some type of swap shop would be beneficial to the existing operations and some committee members were primarily concerned about the expense and particularly the operational costs. A proposal could be developed independently and then be brought before the Landfill Committee for consideration or the Committee could take the lead in putting something together. Steve will put together a preliminary outline and mission statement, solicit input from other committees and interested parties, and bring some more definitive information back to the Landfill Committee for discussion. He has already requested a clarification of the Hopkinton Board's 2008 position against any such projects.

Karen had a few questions about the Practical PAYT modeling that was presented at the last meeting. Steve briefly reviewed the information. All other PAYT programs offer free recycling anywhere that the bags are required. The plan brought to town meeting in 2008 would have attempted to force everyone in Hopkinton to go to the transfer station with their trash & recyclables because no one supports providing the 75% of residents using private haulers with free recycling. This would require significant additional open hours at the facilities and a significant increase in the operating budget. With Practical PAYT the Town of Hopkinton would provide curbside trash pickup at a fee, provide free curbside pickup of recyclables, and retain the existing public hours at the station. This would cost about the same amount of taxes to support as the 2010 budget will require without PAYT. Recycling would increase significantly under Practical PAYT.

Steve had several projects to discuss that will be put off until next month's meeting. Linda will put together an agenda for next month that includes more information on the swap shop concept, information on ongoing projects at the MSW Facilities, and any other topics that may become appropriate.

Bob made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Karen seconded it, and the committee voted to adjourn at approximately 8:45 PM.

Submitted by: Steve Clough, Ex Officio

