

**Hopkinton-Webster Refuse Disposal Committee
Minutes 13th October 2011**

DRAFT

Webster attendees: Barbara Corliss (chair), Ellen Kontinos-Cilley, Dave Klumb, Sally Embley (arrived late), Bob Drown

Webster absentees: Tom Mullins

Hopkinton attendees: Richard Kennedy Richard Houston, Karen Irwin, Steve Clough (advisory member)

Hopkinton absentee: Bob LaPree

Public attendees: None

The chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Alternates Ellen Kontinos-Cilley and Rich Houston replaced Tom Mullins and Bob LaPree as voting members. Chairman Corliss ruled that Kontinos-Cilley's assignment to voting member would stand after Embley's (Webster alternate 1) late arrival.

September Meeting minutes were approved unanimously with no changes.

Several housekeeping items will be addressed/corrected by Clough on the Transfer Station website including: 1) correct label assigned to August approved minutes 2) addition of Klumb to list of Webster alternates 3) deletion of the link to the obsolete document entitled "Proper Disposal of Municipal Wastes/fee schedule/hours" 4) posting of the correct Facility Holiday Schedule.

Clough presented Transfer Station activity items including Facility After Hours Access Report and confirmed that the septic haulers on this list are assessed the \$60.00 After Hours/Emergency Fee as per Ordinance. There have been no changes to the proposed 2012 budget at this time as Clough still needs to meet with the Hopkinton Board of Selectman and Hopkinton Town Administrator next week for feedback. He will advise the committee of any major changes at the next meeting and forward. At this time, a separate budget item has not been added for security cameras at the pump house. The source of this funding will be explored with the Hopkinton Selectboard. Clough will recommend a DVR security system with 3 cameras on a 360 degree rotation with auditory alert. Several new procedures have been implemented by facility personnel in an effort to monitor/deter illegal entry via the porous perimeters. These procedures seem to be working as Clough is unaware of any major security events in the last 2-3 months.

Chairperson Corliss advised that the attorney for town of Hopkinton has yet to review the proposed ordinance for input on re-use hold harmless wording or to review facility deeds to be sure that Webster's ownership interest is properly reflected. As the joint Selectboards met on June 20, 2011, the RDC Committee is hoping that input from the attorney for town of Hopkinton will be received soon. A discussion of fees began with a request from the Chair to discuss and adopt a fee strategy that is either funded by tax dollars, or fees, or a combination of the two as is currently used. Discussion followed concerning the approval authority for recommendations from this Committee. The consensus is to

maintain the present system, to review the fees for cost recovery against current market rates, and to provide fee wording with clear intent.

The first fee under consideration was the Tipping Fee assessed on residents hauling over 400 lbs at one time per week. Discussion followed whether to continue the practice of charging the fee from the 1st pound, or to charge only for that portion over the 400 lb limit. A motion was made by Kontinos-Cilley seconded by Irwin, to correct the language in Article V Section 1 of the Proposed Ordinance to add the words “per week,” to remove Section 1 in Article V to become a new article, and delete the word “Haulers” from the Title of Article V. The motion passed with 1 abstention (Kennedy) and 1 nay (Drown).

A motion was made by Drown and seconded by Kennedy to revise the fee for both household waste and construction debris to allow only for assessment of fees to that portion over the 400 lb. limit. Clough estimated such a change would lead to an estimated \$10,000 loss of revenue. Due to Hopkinton’s mandatory PAYT program, this proposed fee change would affect Webster residents hauling household waste and construction debris over 400 lbs and Hopkinton residents hauling over 400 lbs of construction debris only. A roll call vote was requested by Kennedy and taken: Ayes; Drown, Kennedy; Nays: Houston, Irwin, Kontinos-Cilley, Corliss. Motion defeated 4-2.

At the next meeting, the Committee will review the balance of fees as well as the possibility of the implementation of a Fee Exemption Process for Farms and other Hopkinton/Webster resident endeavors whose existence add value and benefit to our local communities.

A motion to Adjourn was made by Houston, seconded by Irwin. Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.