

Hopkinton/Webster Landfill Committee
Webster Town Hall
Webster, New Hampshire

March 14, 2013

Attendance: Barbara Corliss (W), Sally Embley (W), Dave Klumb, Alt. (W)
Ellen Kontinos-Cilley (W),

Karen Irwin, Chair (H), Rich Houston (H),

Steve Clough, Ex Officio

Absent: Richard Kennedy (H), Mike Greenwood, Alt, (W)

Public: Gary Rondeau, Jeremy Blackman (Concord Monitor)

Karen brought the meeting to order at 6:38 P.M. Barbara requested that Dave be approved as a voting alternate for this meeting substituting for Sally (who was not present when the meeting was tabled to order). Chairwoman Irwin appointed Dave as a voting member for Webster. The committee reviewed the January 2013 Minutes. Dave made a motion to approve the January Minutes, Rich seconded the motion, and the Minutes were approved 4-0 (Ellen abstaining due to absence).

Steve provided the Committee with the off-hours reports for December 2012, January 2013, and February 2013.

The SW Permit modification was discussed. Gary (an abutter to the MSW Facilities) and Jeremy were at this meeting to learn more about the application so Steve reviewed the entire initiative. The process began in January 2012 when Steve presented a report on the costs and revenues associated with MSW operations. The facilities are underutilized, recycling and overall revenue are dropping, and there would be the potential of generating significantly more revenue (profit) if recycling programs (primarily household recycling, electronics, and C&D) could be offered to non-residents. A term and condition in the Solid Waste Permit prohibits this type of service. The Committee decided to recommend to the Boards of Selectmen that the towns request that this term and condition be removed from the SW Permit so that revenue generating opportunities can be explored.

The Boards approved the Committee's recommendation and directed the Committee to file the application for a modification of the Solid Waste Permit. The Committee looked at what services could be recommended to be offered and agreed that recycling should be focused on

and that trash could only be accepted from non-residents if it facilitated recycling or helped Hopkinton's primary private trash hauler. No one would want to do anything that hurts this long time family business.

The process with the state has been drawn out because the department of Environmental services wants all facilities to comply with the requirements that they have an Operating Plan, a Closure Plan, and a cost estimate for closing the facility with financial assurance in place. These requirements must be met in the near future anyway but they have to be completed before the application can be considered.

Gary expressed his opposition to the permit modification. He is not happy now, as an abutter, with the noise, traffic, and litter associated with the facilities and doesn't want to see any more activity. He was convinced that any change in the permit would inevitably lead to major corporate trash haulers, such as BFI, being allowed to use the station. Committee members all stated that they wouldn't vote for any proposal to allow major trash haulers to use the facility and certainly wouldn't allow any more activity than is allowed by the permit. There will be no changes to the design or capacity of the facilities that were approved in 1989 under any circumstances. Gary made it clear that he disagrees with the Committee's expectations. Jeremy asked a few questions and members provided clarifications (Dave left the meeting at 7:35 and the Chairwoman reappointed Sally as a voting member for Webster).

Sally informed the Committee that the Webster Conservation Commission is planning a town wide litter pickup on April 20th. They would appreciate any publicity that could be given to the event, and any volunteers that would be willing to participate. The Committee supports this initiative.

The Chairwoman suggested that the Committee take their annual vote and elect a Chairperson from Webster to be effective starting with the next meeting in April and with the usual term of one year. Members agreed that the vote would be taken with the full Committee. Ellen nominated Barbara to be Chairwoman for the next year, Rich seconded the nomination, and the vote was unanimous, 5-0.

The Chairwoman opened the meeting up for public comment. Gary had no more comments and Jeremy had a couple of more general questions answered.

Barbara made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Rich seconded it, the vote was 5-0, and the meeting ended at 8:00 P.M.

These Minutes were drafted by Steve Clough, Ex Officio

