

Solid Waste and Recycling Committee
June 20, 2018 Meeting

The meeting opened at 7:30 AM.

Present were: Wendy Carr – Chair; Ray Emerson, Otty Merrill, Tammy Willey, Tim Polky, Jann Limman, Debby Wheelock, Jane Bracy, Elizabeth Curtis, Kate Johanson

Fees for brush—we have an enormous pile of brush; we now charge to take it. It costs \$800 a day to have a tub grinder come and chip the material. Transfer stations are not allowed by state law to store chips on site for more than 12 months.

Weekday evening hours – The transfer station will be open later one day a week.

We have a tremendous amount of rigid plastic. We have quite a bit compacted and stored until the price improves. The agencies that sell it for us and other municipalities are concerned about recent tariffs with China, and how they will affect the price we get for rigid plastic.

Currently there is one commercial hauler, so we don't think we need to charge for a permit. If in the future there are more commercial haulers, we'll discuss.

We have a new Paint Care sign at the Transfer Station; hopefully citizens will notice and bring in their leftover paint.

Household Hazardous Waste – Having a hazardous household waste company (such as Clean Harbors or EPI) come and take away items such as paint thinner, solvents, insecticides, weed killer, rat poison, cleaning products, or other chemicals that citizens may have in their garages, sheds, homes was discussed again. The cost is around \$6,000. It's possible to get a grant to help cover part of the cost. Wendy will check out the grants from Tabitha and Steven King Foundation. It would be held as a one day event with plenty of time in advance to notify the public. If citizens dump these materials irresponsibly, contamination of well water is a possibility.

Compost is selling well. We are getting sheep manure to help balance the composting process. It is tested by the University. It would be great to have a screen, and Tim has looked into purchasing one—they cost quite a lot.

The recycling rate is 24%. It is low because we haven't sold much in the last few months, and the rate is based on what we have shipped.

Otty's ideas for the St. George Days parade—Otty will do something to illustrate the value in recycling milk jug plastic. Some committee members will walk in the parade (on July 21) highlighting various other recyclable materials. The purpose being to show the public some of the materials we recycle and the cost avoidance in doing so.

The select board has made it known they would like committee meetings to be held after 6:00 p.m. This is a conflict for more than half the committee members.

There is a full-time job opening at the Transfer Station; it is being advertised now.

Rockland soon will cease taking clean demo debris from us and other municipalities because they are almost finished topping off the quarry they have been filling in. This means we'll need to find a new place to take clean demo debris.

Minutes from the May meeting were approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00. Next meeting is Wednesday, July 18 , 7:30 a.m.