

Recycling and Waste Disposal Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2012

PRESENT: Pat Bracken, Chairman, Ellen Cabral, Bob Nugent, Chris Kowalski, (absent Bob Golden)

Chairman Bracken opened the meeting.

Guests: Selectman Lindquist, Penny Williams (Tri Town News), Steve Harms

OLD Business

MINUTES

There was a motion to approve the minutes of Jan. 11, 2012 as written.

Ms. Cabral made a MOTION to accept the minutes of January 11, 2012

Mr. Nugent seconded the motion.

VOTE: 4-0-0

Motion Passes

New Business

Letter from Resident regarding Transfer Station-

A letter was received stating concerns about workers at the transfer station taking the metal for their personal use. Mr. Bracken asked that Mr. Harms be present to explain the process at the transfer station and address some of the concerns.

Mr. Harms explained that in prior years, the Town of Hampstead had NRRA (Northeast Resource Recovery Association) provide containers for the metal goods. When the containers were full, they were hauled out and the Town of Hampstead would receive any funds received from the metal goods, less the cost of the hauling. Around 2008, Windfield Alloy approached the committee and offered to take the metals at no cost to the town and would also take white goods, all electronics, Freon, propane tanks and lights at no cost. The Town would provide the labor to load a town truck and unload it at Windfield Alloy. They provide the metal container and handle the roll off. Mr. Harms stated that the employees at the site scrap the metal on their own. Sometimes it is a case of taking electrical cords and they strip it for the copper and sometimes they will be given metal such as aluminum. He stated clearly that they do not take any metal out of the container. Mr. Bracken asked if there were any issues with Windfield Alloy with the practice. There was a recent article in a local paper about some of the local towns making money on the recycling at their transfer station. Those towns that were mentioned do not have curbside pickup and the money they are talking about may be for the recycling that we currently do curbside. Mr. Harms stated that what goes to the transfer station to be recycled is recycled. There was a concern that what the employees may be taken would have been going to Windfield Alloy and is therefore a loss to them. Mr. Harms stated that he knows one of the employees does not bring any of the scrap metal he has to Windfield. Mr. Kowalski asked if the employee was taking the items apart while working or at home. Mr. Harms responded that it could be both. He noted that they may take a carburetor off a lawnmower and give it to someone they know is looking for one to repair a lawnmower. Mr. Harms was asked about the copper. He responded that what comes off easily they will take, the rest goes into the metal container. Mr. Harms was asked how often the metal container is collected and he responded once a month. Ms. Cabral asked how full it was and Mr. Harms responded not as much as in the past.

The committee had no issue with the practice at the transfer station as explained by Mr. Harms and a formal letter will be sent to the resident.

Mr. Bracken noted that in looking over this issue it was realized that the Town of Hampstead had a one year contract with Windfield, which was for 2008. It was suggested that a new one be sent to them. The other years there was a verbal commitment.

2012 Flyers- The committee reviewed the flyer that was sent out in 2011 and suggested some changes. Mr. Nugent noted that he spoke with Bestway recently and they stated that the recycling is still going to Allied in Hooksett because people in town are still separating their recycling. If it is co-mingled, then Allied will bale it and send it out that way. He thought they are currently using the three section truck for recycling.

Change in Allowable amounts curbside- The committee discussed about changing the limits that are allowed curbside. Currently it is 4 barrels or 8 bags. The options would be to reduce it to 3 barrels and 6 bags or cut it in half to 2 barrels and 4 bags. The discussion centered around the amount to reduce it to as well as when to implement. It looks like the RecycleBank will start around July 1st and there was some concern about starting the reduction along with the program. If the Selectmen approve it within the next few meetings, it would give the committee time to get the information out and it won't be a negative on the RecycleBank program.

Selectman Lindquist will present the request at the next Selectmen's meeting and ask for input from the residents before any decision is made. If the Selectmen agree to the change, Bestway will need to be notified. They would want to make sure that the residents were notified of being over the limit.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm

NEXT MEETING

March 14, 2012 at 7:30 p.m

Respectfully Submitted,

Tina Harrington,
Recording Secretary