**Blue Hill/Surry Transfer Station**

**Solid Waste Committee Meeting**

**Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at 4:00 PM| Blue Hill Town Hall**

**Minutes**

**Call Meeting to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 pm.

1. **Quorum and meeting attendance** – S. Miller (Chair-BH), T. Welgoss (S), E. Best (BH), S. Dooley (BH), M. Allen (online – S), D. Soper (TS Manager) and M Rockwell (Treasurer – BH).

**Business Items**

1. **Review Financials** – T. Welgoss met with M. Rockwell prior to the meeting to review financials. M. Rockwell will review DM&J invoices for accuracy in expenses. Currently, the demo income is $127,641.05 and the expense is $106,576.99. This is a net profit of $21,064.06 for demolition related transactions, so far, this fiscal year.
2. **Hiring** – D. Soper will review applications and contact potential candidates to interview. D. Soper has asked that the Town Hall staff direct potential employees to the transfer station to talk with him in person. The Board advised them about the 90-day probationary period and to let them know if we need to advertise the position. D. Soper would like to get someone hired by Monday.
3. **Tire Disposal** – D. Soper addressed the loss the transfer station takes when disposing tires. It costs $275 per ton to have them rolled off. It’s done by weight. When water gets in the tires, it adds unneeded weight. Citizens are already complaining about the $6 fee per tired charged, so raising the rate may cause folks to dispose of them inappropriately. D. Soper mentioned possibly having people take them to the Ellsworth transfer station. Paint is already disposed of in Ellsworth. The Board suggested D. Soper contact area transfer stations and inquire about fee rates.
4. **Commercial Compactor** – The commercial compactor has been repaired and is working again. D. Soper stated that they can no longer weld the structure as the metal is too thin. A contractor was able to put a through-bolt on it to get it up and running. He received a quote for both a new and a used compactor from United Hydraulics. A refurbished compactor is $45-46k and a new one is $65-70k. Both would have a life expectancy of 15-20 years, but the new one would come with a 3-year warranty. If the current compactor breaks down, there is a roughly 2-month replacement time. The Committee should review this again and certainly consider putting something in the budget.
5. **Wall Repair** – E. Best spoke about the concrete wall in need of repair at the transfer station. She asked D. Soper to take pictures and send them to her. She will reach out to Andrew McCullough to possibly take a look. This repair was budgeted for in the 23 budgets.
6. **Tools** – D. Soper would like to have some tools on sight, wrenches, a weed whacker, a leaf blower, and a mower. E. Best moved to authorize D. Soper to make necessary purchases; S. Dooley seconded. Vote: 5-0 Approved.
7. **Voicemail/Phones** – The Board asked D. Soper if he felt they needed a phone on site. D. Soper said it is good to have, they just can’t always answer it. He would like the voicemail turned off. M Rockwell will go review the system and make some changes.
8. **Non-Resident Fees** – Minimal discussion concerning a per bag fee for non-residents. This would address vacationers’ need to dispose of their waste properly. Further discussion is needed**.**
9. **Minimum Load Requirements** – Currently, the rate for demolition debris is $0.10 per pound with a minimum fee of $10. D. Soper discussed that often times people with small loads baulk at paying $10 so they just drop it and the crew will catch them the next time. D. Soper would like to reduce the minimum load to $5 to avoid this in the future. New signage would need to be ordered.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.