

Town of Henniker
Solid Waste Disposal Committee
Twenty-Third Meeting: Thursday, July 23, 2009, 7:00 PM
At The Grange

a. **Approved Minutes**

Present: Donald Blanchard, Michael C. French, Amanda Gilman, Lia Houk, John V. Kjellman, Donna MacMillan, and Rod Pimentel

Absent: Bill Christiano, Linda Patterson

1. 1. Chairman John Kjellman called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. 2. The Chairman began with his introduction:

- b. a. Handouts: Agenda, Draft minutes of July 9 meeting, Updated preliminary draft of report to Town (Version Seven)
- c. b. A lot of recent articles in Monitor about Concord's PAYT program, and related solid waste disposal issues, some of which I haven't yet read.
- d. c. Tony Caplan of Mink Hills Center for Sustainable Development of Henniker (Ray Road) filed suit with DES in January 2009 appealing DES decision to renew Wheelabrator's five-year operating permit for the Penacook incinerator (which has to be renewed every 5 years), on basis of increased dioxin emissions, even though they are within current regulatory limits.
- e. d. Also there were recent My Turns in Monitor discussing planned increase in Penacook tipping fees (\$56 in 2010, \$65 in 2011). Stephen Clough wrote on 7/10 that COOP should dip into reserves instead. Bill Herman, who is chairman of the COOP, wrote on 7/15 saying reserves must be maintained and that the increases are justified.
- f. e. Plans for the COOP's S/S facility are on hold. In part because of the soft market for recycled materials, but also because of insufficient guarantees of recycled materials to make the facility cost effective. Apparently Nashua decided to send its commingled materials to Maine. I have a copy of the COOP's report to its board members. It seems to indicate COOP really needs about 30,000 tons per year for the facility to be viable (tipping fee for commingled recycled material less than trash tipping fee).
- g. f. Bob has instituted a pilot-recycling program for plastics #3-#7, including yogurt cups, clear plastic egg boxes, and shopping bags. See summer issue of the Outlook for details. Note also, Hazardous Waste Day will be 10/3.
- h. g. Notice from Spirit of Henniker Organizational Team: Music on Main Street on Saturday 9/12 5-10 PM. There will be food, crafts, music, and entertainment.

3. 3. The minutes of the July 9, 2009 meeting were reviewed and corrected. Lia Houk made a motion to accept the corrected minutes. The motion was seconded by Donna

Macmillan and passed unanimously with Donald Blanchard and Amanda Gilman abstaining.

4. 4. Reports and updates from members:
 - a. a. Amanda has no new information from Naughton and she will contact them before the next meeting.
 - b. b. Amanda passed out a revised business survey spreadsheet and asked the committee for input. She will make the recommended changes and email it to the committee for each member to input their individually collected data. John will mail a paper copy to Don Blanchard for him to enter his data on.
 - c. c. Recyclable table for committee report by Amanda has not yet been updated but she will do so for the next meeting.
 - d. d. Landfills and incinerators report from Rod was emailed to John prior to the meeting.
 - e. e. Amanda reported on HB 338 final version, which was signed into law by Gov. Lynch on June 22, 2009. This bill essentially expands the definitions of electronic waste that have been prohibited from disposal in solid waste landfills since July 1, 2007. It adds video display media recorders, players and computers, as defined, to the list of items that may not be placed in a landfill or incinerated.
5. 5. Review and discussion of updated draft of the report. The committee agreed that the report is on the right track and taking shape nicely. Discussion ensued as to the value of having a person outside of the committee review the report prior to submission. John reported that his plan was to have a final draft reviewed by Bob Pennock and Tom Watman prior to completion of the final version. The committee agreed that this was a good idea.

Discussion also centered on the subject of the businesses in Henniker and the apparent discrepancy in how businesses pay to dispose of their Solid Waste (e.g. using a private hauler versus trucking it themselves to the Transfer Station). In effect, businesses (and home owners) that use private haulers are participating in a voluntary Pay-As-You-Throw program, in that they pay both the cost of collection and the tipping fee at the incinerator. Those that take their trash to the Transfer Station do not pay the tipping fee.

The committee discussed ways to provide incentives to businesses to recycle, which would in effect reduce their disposal costs. It was agreed that single stream recycling is the easiest and most viable option for businesses, and if these items were accepted at the Transfer Station it would also reduce trucking costs (for the commercial hauler) for recycling, thus further reducing a businesses overall disposal costs. This could increase costs at the transfer station, as the overall cost of disposing of the material could be higher than the revenue which would be generated. The viability of this option has yet to be examined but these issues will be included in the final report.

This led to the discussion of single stream recycling being offered to the rest of residential Henniker, perhaps as an option, and perhaps at a small cost. The concept is that a resident could choose to utilize single stream recycling and pay a fee for how much recycling they have, or they could continue to sort recyclable materials (status quo) for free. The committee thought this issue was of interest in that it could actually increase recycling by residents who

are willing to pay a fee for the convenience of single stream recycling. However, this concept would only work if Henniker adopted some type of Pay-As-You-Throw program. This issue has yet to be fully examined and the committee decided to consider it further at future meetings.

6. 6. Future meeting schedule:

- a. a. Thursday PM, 8/13/09 -- Regular Committee Meeting
- b. b. Thursday PM, 8/27/09 -- Regular Committee Meeting
- c. c. Thursday PM, 9/10/09 -- Regular Committee Meeting
- d. d. Friday AM, 9/11/09 -- Final report to Town Secretary (John)**
- e. e. Tuesday PM, 9/15/09 --Presentation to Board of Selectmen**
- f. f. Thursday PM, 9/24/09 -- Regular Committee Meeting
- g. g. Tuesday PM, 10/6/09 -- Follow-up discussion with Board of Selectmen**
- h. h. Thursday PM, 10/15/09 -- Regular Committee Meeting
- i. i. Late October/Early November -- Public Forum (tentative)**

17. 17. Donna MacMillian made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Don Blanchard. The motion carried unanimously at 8:15 PM.

Submitted 7/30/09
By Amanda Gilman
Reviewed 8/10/09
By John V. Kjellman
Approved 8/13/09