

DURHAM MIDDLEFIELD INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, May 27, 2021
Peckham Park, Middlefield

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by Chairman DeVecchio.

Members present: Dom DeVecchio, Ron Capozzi, Steven Koerber, James Malcolm, Frank Petrella, Howard Weissberg, Charlie Zieminski **Members absent:** Brendan O'Connell **Staff Present:** Heather Castiglia

A motion was made by Howard Weissberg and seconded by James Malcolm to approve the agenda as written. The motion passed unanimously.

Site Manager's Report (notes from Bob Matuskiewicz read by Ron Capozzi)

- Roadwork and milling of the site is done
- The site will be closed Labor Day, Monday, September 6th and will be open Tuesday, September 7th.
- 970 stickers sold

New Business

Review Options Discussed at May Meeting Related to Separate Commercial Fee for Commercial Users

Dom DeVecchio talked about how the town selectmen would like a resolution to the issue with commercial users use of the site. Options discussed:

- Weigh and track the MSW of the 55 commercial/combo plate users and when they hit the 1-ton threshold, the commercial user will have to pay another \$50 fee, which then allows them another 1 ton of MSW, or
- as Mr. Zieminski suggested, charge a set initial sticker fee of \$50 for up to 1-ton of MSW, and anything above 1 ton to 5 tons charge \$50 additional, and so on. This would be based on the size of the vehicle; it would be an up-front charge.
- Problem with going by vehicle size—some commercial users just throw out residential trash, regardless of their vehicle's size. Dom mentioned that if a user has a smaller commercial vehicle they will pay for the lesser sticker fee, but could come multiple times and throw as much or more away as a commercial user with a larger vehicle.
- Because the user has commercial plates, it is considered an objective standard to track these users.
- Notices will be given out to commercial users regarding the weighing commercial vehicles for MSW
- Mr. Koerber thinks there are only a few commercial users who will exceed the 1 ton weight.

The board agreed to run this as a pilot program for data collection to track the commercial usage of the site. A letter will be drafted and sent to each commercial user about the program and stating that the commercial users may be asked to be weighed at the site. If one is suspected of excessive disposal they would be notified that they have been identified as a heavy user, and DMIAAB can implement additional charges. Chairman DeVecchio will draft wording for review at the next DMIAAB meeting.

- Mr. Weissberg brought up as a suggestion for the future: he explained how Meriden was given a grant from DEEP for co-collection pilot program—residents volunteer to receive separate bags for food waste and non-food waste. Non-food waste goes to dump, food waste gets sent to the Southington digester. It is pay as you throw above a threshold. Mr. Weissberg thinks it may be too difficult for the site employees to track commercial users, but Dom thinks it may be feasible because there are only 55 commercial users.
- Mr. Malcolm mentioned that if the transfer station can do a composting program, it could reduce the MSW substantially.

Old Business

CAT (Coginchaug Area Transition) Composting Pilot Program at the Transfer Station update

James Malcolm, Dom DeVecchio met with Blue Earth Compost and discussed where to keep the barrels, cost, pick-up times.

- General pick up cost is \$30. Per barrel charge is \$5. Management of the barrels is very important. Barrels must be filled one at a time to avoid extensive cost at pick-up.
- Pick up will be twice a week, Monday and Thursday pickups.
- Only food waste: bones, meats, vegetables
- Is taken to the Southington digester

License Registration/Private Haulers

Chairman DelVecchio has sent notices to the private haulers that have not complied and has since turned the issue over to the Board's attorney.

A motion was made by Ron Capozzi and seconded by James Malcolm to approve July 29th, 2021 meeting minutes as amended. This meeting's minutes to be approved at the next meeting.

Ron Capozzi would like to place the established rules of the use of the transfer station on the towns websites. Chairman Delvecchio and board members agreed and asked Mr. Capozzi to draft the policies and rules.

Chairman DelVecchio announced that October 27, 2021 is the tentative date for the joint meeting between the two Boards of Selectman and two Boards of Finance to discuss the sticker fee and the capital budget for the truck.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM

Respectfully Submitted, Heather Castiglia

Cc: Durham Town Clerk, Middlefield Town Clerk, Board Members