

Solid Waste Committee Meeting
Monday, January 13th, 2025, 3:30 PM

Members Present: Rich Marcou (*Chair*), LeeAnn Mackay, Kent Ruesswick (*BOS rep*) Stephen Rasche, Roy Plisko, Elle Bezanson, Greg Heath

Others Present: Kim Scammon

Agenda:

1. Call to Order:

Rich Marcou called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

2. Accept Previous Minutes:

Kent made a motion to approve December 9, 2024, minutes, seconded by LeeAnn, no further discussion, all voted in favor.

3. New Business:

Meeting Updates

Rich gave an update from the 1/6/25 Selectboard Meeting that was a follow-up from the PowerPoint presentation from the December BOS meeting. The Selectboard was looking for data on three things: information on the footprint, infrastructure, and cost estimate. It was determined that there was an estimated \$6965.00 in a capital reserve fund for the transfer station. Rich asked to take that reserve and ask for the remainder of \$3035.00 in requested funds for this year to make the goal of \$10,000.00. The answer was unclear until after this evening's BOS budget meeting. Rich gave an update from the 1/7/25 Budget Committee meeting with the Selectboard. The Budget Committee questioned if there was enough resident support for moving the transfer station. Rich drafted up wording for a warrant article similar to the feasibility study from the school withdrawal article and forwarded on to Ken this morning. Moving forward this project is going to have to eventually get bonded.

Rich created a draft proposed timeline and shared it with the committee to prepare for this project pending what the outcome is to the BOS budget meeting. The committee may have to regroup and be prepared to ask for a petition warrant article. Next steps are preparing for the town meeting, asking for either a warrant article supported by the BOS or a petition article the committee will need to focus on the presentation, starting with the survey and issues at the dump, and propose a study to produce a ballpark cost. Kim suggested some temporary or permanent solutions, for example, once the landfill is closed, is there space at that existing site for something to potentially bridge the time period or by temporarily paying to use Loudon transfer station or paying for pick-up. Roy

researched the costs of pickup and said that Belmont is cheaper due to having a contract with Casella, \$60.00 a month per customer, approximately \$400k a year per town. However, the cost does not include recycling, which is a priority for Canterbury, and they have limits of how much they will pick up. (Important data to include in the study). Rich would like to give a presentation at the 2025 Town Meeting, whether we get it in the budget or as a warrant article, justifying the request, highlighting the survey.

Rich shared a draft timeline with the committee:

Solid Waste: Draft Proposed Timeline

Site Requirement Needs:

- Three-phase power
Space: (3 minimum to five acres) for collection and separation of all disposed materials, short-term storage of baled recyclables, scale, composting organics (both food waste and tree debris).
- Easy access for trailer trucks, maintenance vehicles and citizen vehicles pulling trailers.
- Multiple lanes for citizens to access different operations and locations simultaneously.

Project Cost Goal

- To keep the final total under two million dollars

Town Meeting 2025

1. Warrant establishing **Capital Reserve Fund** for: *“a new Transfer Station and all costs associated with designing, construction and equipment.”*
2. Solid Waste Committee presentation highlighting a proactive approach to make the move now to address the inevitable issues facing the current site.

Year in-between Town meetings 2025-2026

- Property Identification:
 - Seek and determine the best possible location that meets all required needs.
- Community Engagement:
 - Conduct surveys and informational meetings to define the scope of the project and address public concerns.
 - Seek and identify citizens with expertise in planning and construction that wish to become involved with the project.
- Planning and Budgeting:
 - Detailed estimates of costs associated with the identified requirements regarding site layout, facility construction and equipment purchases.
 - Identify potential phases for project construction.
- Town Meeting 2026

- Warrant for land acquisition
 - Significant Capital Reserve allotment towards anticipated new facility cost, to include engineering and any other related expenditure towards preparing the site.
4. **Fee Schedule:** (Last updated on website in 2012) The committee needs to prioritize updating the fee schedule.

5. **Other Business:**

The Committee discussed and collaborated on addressing the warrant article, language, and presentation issues for the upcoming town meeting.

Action Items:

- **Draft warrant article for moving funds**
- **Update Fee Schedule**

RSA 91 reminder that Committee Members need to have a separate email for correspondence.

Adjournment: LeeAnne motioned to adjourn, and Greg seconded at 4:40pm.

**** Funds for a warrant article this year were eliminated in budget process for this year (Selectboard meeting on 1/13/25). Special meeting called to discuss logistics if action and efforts were to continue this year*

Special Meeting: January 20th, 2025, 3:30 PM in the Meeting House.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Hammond

Secretary for the Solid Waste Committee