

Solid Waste Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

December 3, 2020

Board members present: Adam VonDette, Audrey Bethel (Phil Griffin tried to participate but had tech difficulties)

Also present: Laura Buono, Angela Poluchov, Luke Levesque, and Kay Hartnett (Deering resident, interested Board member)

Please note: Meeting was conducted via Zoom for the first time.

We start by discussing the task we divvied up last meeting: to research Brush fee scale and policies in other towns around NH.

Laura reports:

Sandown – accept 5” or less free

Claremont – small brush, leaves and limbs – they compost

Antrim – accept @ no charge

Durham – no charge – residents only

Alton – accept stumps, trees, brush, etc. @ no charge

Weare – no charge – they burn

Auburn – Waste Mgmt. owns the T.S. – they don’t get much brush and they put it in an open container

Litchfield – no charge – they burn

Chester – no charge – they burn – close the pile if the weather is too dry/drought

Gilford – no charge – they burn

Francestown – no charge – they burn (state permit)

Lincoln – no charge – they hire a company to grind it

New Hampton – accept up to 4” @ no charge

Audrey reports:

In New London, they do not accept the brush at the site where folks drop off the rest of their trash but they do have a location for residents to bring their brush, free of charge-- when the piles get too big, they bring in a chipper.

They end up needing to get the chipper in there about 2X / year.

They used to have a chipping company that did not work out good for them, but they gave me the name of the new chipping operation they are using-- who they highly recommended.

Chuck Rosen Incorporated , shop # 746-2311 .

Lebanon has no charge for loads less than 2 cu. yards and they have a limit of less than 4" diameter. Bigger brush is \$10/ton

For residents.

Kay reports: Peterborough has no charge for residents. They charge \$0.05/ il for commercial and only take up to 22" diameter.

They keep brush separated out for compost

Adam reports:

In Concord, they sub contracts out to Gelinas Excavation Earth Material Recycling Center (Near the CAVES veterinary clinic and they charge

\$10 /per pick up truck or carload

\$25 / ton truck load

Compost is sold back.

But, sounds like there is a “freeze” on wood chips on a big scale level .

Kay asks “what happens to the wood chips?” We question the making of particle board, but think perhaps the supply chain is cut because of no access to biomass plants in Canada with the pandemic? All other Biomass plants we can think of in the region have shut down except for Berlin.

Charlotte was not able to make the meeting but reported via email what she got in a letter from Varick Proper :

Warner does not currently charge for brush disposal and they find it hard to figure out how to set up a charge fee scale because it can be hard to assess the metrics of brush... once on site, “While we once incinerated on site we no longer engage in that practice for a variety of reasons, air quality and staff safety being two of them. Now when the collection area is full the highway department transfers the material to the town owned pit where it is stockpiled until sufficient quantity exists for processing in a tub grinder. For the past several years the grinding has been done by a local logging and land clearing contractor in exchange for the resulting chips” . Varick wants to be kept informed about what we decide.

Phil emails his findings:

Francestown has no commercial dumping. The brush from residents goes in the burn pile.

Weare accepts commercial brush from their town at no charge. Right now in Weare brush goes to the burn pile ,but they are working on doing wood chips in the future.

Luke will look over all the data we have collected.

SWAB conversation turns to next agenda item: getting a counter to count vehicles coming through the transfer station. Laura says she will follow up about radar counter.

Luke reports on the cardboard situation. We have continued to see high volume of cardboard and the vendor we were selling cardboard to is retiring (Schwartz) so Luke bought the container off of them to store cardboard bails in. He has made new contract with Charlie George in Massachusetts. First load set to go out soon.

We discuss that the need for a new cardboard Bailer is still relevant , we will just need to make sure they take those size bails. Adam reported that Naughton and Sons still has that horizontal bailer for sale.

We also need to submit annual report to the town.. We brainstorm what could be included as it has been a weird year.

We talk about including stuff we have been researching as well as some goals for 2021.

Luke will bring our year-end totals of trash & recycling tonnage to the next meeting.

Next meeting : Thursday, January 28th 2021 at 8 am via Zoom