

## Public Hearing October 3, 2022

These minutes were transcribed by Angela Eldridge, Secretary. Also, present were Matt Sawyer Jr., Town Administrator, T.J. Eldridge, Public Works Director. The meeting was held in the Bub Avery Gymnasium at Town Hall.

Chairman Smith made a motion to open the Public Hearing at 5:00 PM to discuss the Transfer Station construction demo fees. M. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

### **Discussion:**

T.J. Eldridge, Public Works Director, advised that fees will not change regarding debris being brought into the transfer station. The issue is that there are 3 big, reflective, signs stating you need to stop and speak to an attendant before going down back and people are going down back, dumping, and leaving without paying. Also, once you dump, the people in the scale shack do not know what to charge because it would need to be weighed. So, it is proposed that going forward, you will be charged a \$100.00 fine. Smith corrected that it would be a fee and not a fine. T.J. advised that this is the only way to ensure people stop for the attendant. It is expensive to get rid of construction debris, so this is affecting taxpayers. They want to make sure all of the debris is accounted for as well. Smith advised that to put it simply, there are signs clearly marked to speak with an attendant, dump, then go back to the attendant but people are bypassing the process. T.J. advised they will be putting signs at all dumpsters as well. Chris Elliot asked for a clarification if this is for household trash. T.J. advised that this was for construction debris like lumber, shingles, etc. Smith confirmed that it is for anything that goes on the scale. Emery had a question about propane tank fees. He asked if something can be done about the 1-pound tank costing \$1.00 and a 20-pound tank is \$2.00. T.J. advised that \$1.00 was what was suggested, and the Town doesn't even break even on these tanks. The 20-pound tanks get recycled. Smith advised that they pressure test them and put a new valve on them. T.J. said they also put a stamp on them as well. Emery asked if he could put them in the metal section. T.J. said as long as the tank is punctured and emptied of all gas. Discussion ensued.

Smith made a motion to approve the \$100.00 fee for those who bypass the scale shack to dump their construction debris. Simpson seconded.

**Discussion:** T.J. advised that this goes into effect once the signs are posted. Smith asked when that would happen. T.J. advised as soon as he can get them.

A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed.**

Emery asked what the average load of construction debris is, and T.J. advised that it varies. Steer asked if \$100 is less than the average and T.J. advised that it is more to deter people from dumping without weighing. Steer asked if their sticker would potentially get revoked as well. Smith advised yes. Steer asked if that was a part of the motion. Smith advised no. Discussion ensued.

Lynne Parker mentioned that maybe people should have to also pay a fine if they get that fee charged to them. Smith advised that they have to pay that fee immediately and if they bounce a check the treasurer handles that. Discussion ensued.

**Adjournment:**

Being no further input, Smith made a motion to adjourn. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Adjourned at 5:09 PM.

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Jonathan H. Smith, Chairman

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Susan J. Simpson

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Martha B. Eldridge

To be approved 10/17/2022