

## SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

October 11, 2005

**ATTENDING:** Douglas Foglio, Sr., Robert Fay, Jon Gale, Cindy Moore, Dwayne Woodsome, Nancy Brandt, Pam Witman, Jonathan Raymond, David Woodsome, John & Wendy Carter, Larry Jacobsen, Fred Fay, Ralph Bowley, Evan Grover, Willis Lord, Paul Kussman, Tammy Wells, Don & Darthea Drew, Roland Gendron, Clint Andrews, Chris Ledoux, Roger Lauzier and others.

Selectman Foglio called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. opening the Public Hearing regarding General Assistance Maximums. Wendy Carter, GA Administrator explained that the figures presented are what the state has applied to the Town of Waterboro. Copies of the figures are available at Town Hall. Also suggested that families who want to help over the holidays might consider donations of money in lieu of toys to assist with high heating costs this winter. Discussed why Biddeford, Saco and Sanford have been separated and have higher maximums. Representative Larry Jacobsen announced the open house to be held at the Town Hall on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> to explain and provide staff assistance regarding Maine Residents Property Tax & Rent Refund Program, Homestead and Veteran Property Tax Exemptions, Home Heating and Conservation Programs, Heating Oil Program, Winter Safety Tips and Prescription Drug Programs. Motion by Selectman Woodsome and seconded by Selectman Gale to close the public hearing at 7:14 pm. Vote unanimous. Motion by Selectman Woodsome and seconded by Selectman Fay to approve the General Assistance state maximums as printed. Vote unanimous

Opened the information meeting regarding Pay Per Bag with Willis lord giving some background on the Transfer Station beginning in 1988 to present. Stated that recycling began in 1991. Also had figures on changes in recycling in communities who recently switched to Pay Per Bag. The month of September Waterboro was 3<sup>rd</sup> highest in recycling among 21 member communities. Stated that 139 towns in the state have Pay Per Bag and it does work. Followed with the presentation by the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Foglio explained what has been appropriated and spent at the Transfer Station over the past 5 years. Nancy explained LD1 and it's impact on the overall budget process. Also explained what makes up surplus and that it is largely only paper money. Explained that because of LD1 are limited to \$1,260,728.67 to be raised from taxation. Also stated that you can not appropriate overlay without a town meeting vote. Explained that County Tax and schools are exempt from LD1. Selectman Foglio using graphs shows the dramatic increase in school vs County Tax vs municipal budget. Also had a graph showing RWS monthly debt over the past 5 years. Showed recycling totals. Selectman Gale showed the household trash totals in 2004/2005 versus August 2005 after starting Pay Per Bag. Average loads Aug. & Sept. 2005 was 18 ½ truckloads or 265 tons of household trash versus 73 ½ tons in August & Sept. 2005. Should save approximately \$227,000 this year. Also noted that without Pay Per Bag 1/10<sup>th</sup> of tax bill would go towards the Transfer Station and the impact on the environment is tremendous. Paul

Kussman stated that he is not opposed to recycling but the way they implemented this Pay Per Bag system is not cost saving. He fears that the Transfer Station will run in a deficit this year. Also stated that the cost is approximately \$.10 per lb. of trash. Evan Grover expressed concern over the reduction in tonnage and where it might be going. Dave Woodsome questioned where the money would come from if they do away with the Pay Per Bag. Stated that the increase in recycling is a direct result of Pay Per Bag. People were throwing everything imaginable in the compactor prior to Pay Per Bag now it is only household trash. Explained that they knew from the beginning that the citizens would only be paying a part of the cost for the bags. Selectman Fay stated that it is costing much less at the Transfer Station with Pay Per Bag. Selectman Gale stated that if in favor of recycling and fundamentally in favor of Pay Per Bag and concerned that the Transfer Station is underfunded why would you dismantle what's in place and cost the town even more. Paul stated that he is opposed to how it was instituted. Dave Woodsome explained that they looked at door to door pickup and bins for every household but the problem was cost and they were supposed to be reducing cost. Chris Ledoux stated that he is doing this for the future of the kids. He is now doing 1 bag of trash every 2 weeks and before was doing 4 bags every week. Evan questioned again the missing tonnage. Stated that Saco does door to door for \$160,000 and sees this as a quick fix. Selectman Moore stated that she doesn't like the thought of being held hostage for a few people dumping on the side of the road or burning. Selectman Fay stated that RWS is very upset that the information they have been providing to those opposed to Pay Per Bag is being changed. Discussed the funds received by SAD 57 from LD1 and how the previous administration had stated that it would be returned to the towns as tax relief and was instead added into their budget. Willis stated that he has been on most of the main roads in town and not seen bags of trash alongside the road. Also stated that if this is working for 139 towns in the state it can't be all wrong. Roger Lauzier stated that change brings about good things. If this means change in peoples lives then let's work together to make it better. Selectman Foglio stated that there had been trash dumped long before pay per bag. Stated that last week they set the tax rate at \$22.50 which would have been \$23.60 without pay per bag. Anytime you don't take \$400,000 from taxation is a savings which is what was requested but not funded. This will be a very difficult budget season. Cost of the current recycling building was well laid out and should come in under budget. This decision ws no underhanded it was because of the charter.

Selectman Woodsome read the reminders.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Selectman Woodsome and seconded by Selectman Moore to adjourn at 8:50 pm. Vote unanimous.

### **SIGNED:**

Warrants for bills and payroll

### **APPROVED:**

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_