

**Blue Hill/Surry Transfer Station  
Solid Waste Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, at 4pm|Blue Hill Town Hall  
Minutes**

**Call Meeting to Order**

The Meeting was called to order at 4pm.

**Attendance and Quorum**

1. **Quorum and meeting attendance** – S. Miller (Chair, BH), T. Welgoss (S), M. Allen (S), C. Stark (S), S. Dooley (BH), E. Best (BH), J. Atwell (BH Town Administrator), M. Rockwell (Treasurer), D. Soper (Transfer Station Manager).
2. **Approval of Minutes for December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023** – C. Stark motioned to approve the meeting minutes from December 26<sup>th</sup>; M. Allen seconded. Vote: 5/0 Approved.
3. **Public Comments** – There were no public comments.

**Business**

1. **Transfer Station Manager Update** – D. Soper received quotes on the following:
  - a. Commercial Retaining Wall - \$24,000 from Copia Specialty Contractors, Inc.
  - b. Demolition Pile Handrails - \$3,500 from Copia Specialty Contractors, Inc.
  - c. Waste Oil Handrail - \$2,700 from Copia Specialty Contractors, Inc.
  - d. Trash Retainer Wall - \$40,000 from Copia Specialty Contractors, Inc.
  - e. Safety Gates on Residential Compactors - \$9,006 from United Hydraulics
  - f. Roof Replacement on small bump outs - \$3,800 – Gaspar Carpentry

Brooklin would like us to seek grant opportunities to fund some of these capital, safety improvements. He mentioned that Maine Municipal Risk Management had some opportunities that we should inquire about.

2. **Review of 2023 revenues/expenses** - This was done in congruence with the 2024 budget discussions.
3. **Review of 2024 Draft Budget** – The Committee reviewed the proposed budget for 2024. There has been a significant increase in the budget from last year. In order to mitigate the rise in costs, T. Welgoss suggested that we utilize \$70,000 from reserves to cover the cost of some of the capital improvements requested from D. Soper. He also suggested that we should look for alternative vendors for the transportation of our waste. DM&J's rates are steadily increasing, and it would be good to look for alternatives. He also thought we may be able to work with other towns to drive costs down. T. Welgoss thanked S. Miller for his work on putting the 2024 budget together and appreciates his great work.

Brooklin questioned if sending towns should be expected to contribute to capital improvements since they don't have ownership. S. Miller advised that yes, it's all part of the interlocal agreement.

T. Welgoss moved to approve the budget as drafted with the following adjustments:

- Take \$70,000 from Reserves
- Add \$83,000 for Capital Improvements
- Change the Woodward and Curran line from \$22,000 to \$24,850

C. Stark seconded. Vote: 5/0/1 Approved.

E. Best motioned to authorize J Atwell to execute the Woodward and Curran contract; C. Stark seconded. Vote: 6/0 Approved.

**4. Engagement of Auditor for fiscal 2023 results** – T. Welgoss motioned to sign the engagement letter for the audit and for the fixed asset with RHR Smith and Company; M. Allen seconded. Vote: 6/0 Approved.

**5. Renewal of CDARS Investment – Amount? Term?** - Currently the Transfer Station has two \$250,000 CDARS with the First National Bank. They mature on January 25<sup>th</sup>. E. Best moved to reinvest the CDARS with the First for 12-month at a rate of 4%; C. Stark seconded. Vote: 6/0 Approved.

**6. Interlocal agreement between Blue Hill and Surry – 2025 Renewal** – The interlocal agreement between Blue Hill and Surry automatically renews in April of 2025. S. Dooley feels that there needs to be updates made to the interlocal agreement. Currently, there is no chain of command, and he would like to add the job descriptions for both the Transfer Station Manager and the Town Administrator. S. Dooley and M. Allen will work together to review the agreement and bring it back to the committee.

### **Executive Session**

E. Best moved to go into executive session at 5:12pm per 1 M.R.S.A § 405 (6)(A) - Personnel Matter; S. Dooley seconded. Vote: 6/0 Approved.

T. Welgoss moved to leave executive session at 5:30pm; M. Allen seconded. Vote: 6/0 Approved.

### **Updates/Reminders**

- Next Solid Waste Committee Meeting – Tuesday, February 27| at 4pm

### **Adjournment**

M. Allen motioned to adjourn; E. Best seconded. Vote: 6/0 Approved. The meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm.