

MINUTES FOR THE
TRANSFER STATION SAFETY COMMITTEE
Kick-Off Meeting of August 4, 2025
Knighly Meeting Room, 33 Geremonty Dr., Salem, NH

CALL TO ORDER: Member Cathy Stacey called the meeting to order at 4:03PM

INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS:

Member Cindy Kenerson (Assistant Financial Director), Member Nicole McGee (Financial Director),
Member Colleen Mailloux (Assistant Town Manager), Member Cathy Stacey (Town Council),
Member Geoff Benson (Deputy Director - Public Works), Member Wayne Amaral (Director of Municipal Services)

Also present but not introduced:

Member James Pacheco (Facility Forman), Member Dave Cantor (Resident), Member Joe Devine (Town Manager)

ELECTION OF CHAIR:

Motion by Member Benson to elect Member Cathy Stacey as Chair, second by Member Mailloux

Member Cindy Kenerson - Yes

Member Nicole McGee - Yes

Member Colleen Mailloux - Yes

Member Cathy Stacey - Yes

Member Geoff Benson - Yes

Member Wayne Amaral - Yes

Member James Pacheco - Yes

Member Dave Cant or - Yes

Member Joe Devine - Yes

The motion passed 9-0-0

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR:

Motion by Member McGee to elect Member Wayne Amaral as Vice-Chair, second by Member Mailloux

Member Cindy Kenerson - Yes

Member Nicole McGee - Yes

Member Colleen Mailloux - Yes

Member Cathy Stacey - Yes

Member Geoff Benson - Yes

Member Wayne Amaral - Yes

Member James Pacheco - Yes

Member Dave Cant or - Yes

Member Joe Devine - Yes

The motion passed 9-0-0

ELECTION OF SECRETARY:

Motion by Member McGee to elect Member Colleen Mailloux as Secretary, second by Member Benson

Member Cindy Kenerson - Yes

Member Nicole McGee - Yes

Member Colleen Mailloux - Yes

Member Cathy Stacey - Yes

Member Geoff Benson - Yes

Member Wayne Amaral - Yes

Member James Pacheco - Yes

Member Dave Cant or - Yes

Member Joe Devine - Yes

The motion passed 9-0-0

DETERMINE VOTING MEMBERS:

Member Devine appointed voting members as follows:

Member Nicole McGee

Member Cathy Stacey

Member Geoff Benson

Member Wayne Amaral

Member James Pacheco

Member Dave Cant or

Member Joe Devine

COMMITTEE VOTING MEMBERS ALTERNATES:

Member Cindy Kenerson is the alternate for Member Nicole McGee

Member Colleen Mailloux is the alternate for Member Joe Devine

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

COMMITTEE PURPOSE:

Member Mailloux opened the discussion by suggesting ways to make the transfer station more user-friendly and emphasized the importance of reviewing suggestions for improvement. Member Benson focused on operational improvements, highlighting the value of the committee's diverse experiences. He addressed public concerns and committed to bringing forward actionable recommendations. Member Amaral provided a recap of Member Benson's review of the station's operations and existing regulations. Member Cantor pointed out that the station still only has nine parking spaces. This led to a broader discussion about how to move improvements forward more efficiently—possibly by taking smaller steps and creating more opportunities for public input. Member McGee reminded the committee that the Waste Management contract is set to expire in 2026 and suggested it may be wise to begin discussions earlier than planned. Member Stacey brought up a concern regarding an associate who has allegedly been sleeping at the station, while Member Devine reviewed current contracts and explained the bidding process. There was a brief discussion about forming a subcommittee, as suggested by Member Amaral, but Member Stacey expressed that she did not see a need for one at this time. Member Mailloux questioned whether the committee's role is temporary or if it is intended to continue on an ongoing basis. Member Benson

responded by stating that the committee should remain active, not just to resolve immediate issues but to support continuous improvement. All members agreed that the station's current hours appear to be working well, with few complaints received. Member Stacey added that it is rare for users to have to wait in line. The topic concluded with action items assigned, including further exploration of user experience improvements, operational enhancements, and a plan to revisit the waste management contract timeline in future meetings.

GOALS OF THE COMMITTEE:

During the meeting, Member Stacey noted that as issues arise and state regulations are reviewed, they should be addressed proactively. Member Cantor discussed the challenges posed by space constraints, especially when considering additions and the rising cost of contractors. Member Cantor shared his past experience working at the transfer station and explained the existing agreements with LL&S. Member Cantor also referenced Windham's operations, which are funded by user fees, and mentioned that Derry accepts construction and demolition (C&D) debris at a relatively low cost. Member Amaral questioned whether current fees should be reviewed, and Member Stacey agreed that this would be worth looking into. The group collectively emphasized the importance of continually identifying opportunities for improvement and addressing issues as they come up. Member McGee brought up concerns about the garage doors, noting that only one is currently operational. She also reported ongoing rodent issues. Member Pacheco responded by stating that pest control has been involved, but the persistent trash accumulation makes it difficult to manage the problem. Rodents are causing damage by nesting in the affected areas. Member McGee also reported that the trailer on-site has sustained damage, and while temporary fixes have been made, nothing permanent has been done yet. Member Pacheco added that a full evaluation of the trailer should be considered in the coming years to address these ongoing issues. Member Cantor suggested that the vocational program (VOC) could help by being involved in the building of a more sustainable building recommending that the existing bathroom be retained. The committee agreed this was a very good idea. Member Pacheco addressed the water system, stating that it was initially meant to be a temporary setup but has remained in place for many years. He recommended moving the water tank currently sitting on a section that requires repair to allow for necessary maintenance to take place.

CHARTER DISCUSSION:

Member McGee stated that a Charter should be drafted, especially as more community members begin to get involved. Member Mailloux volunteered to take the lead on drafting the Charter. Member Amaral asked whether the purpose of the committee would be included in the document, and it was confirmed that it would be.

OPEN DISCUSSION FROM PUBLIC:

Council member Jeff Hatch expressed concerns about past issues at the transfer station, particularly related to the improper disposal of oil and fuel, which led to contamination and high cleanup costs. He stated his opposition to bringing back the acceptance of oil and fuel for disposal. He compared the Town of Derry being self-sufficient and suggested the town consider following suit by accepting some construction and demolition (C&D) debris from residents. He noted that the City of Methuen allows only residents—not contractors—to dispose of such materials, which could be a model to explore. Council Member Hatch also shared his personal experience using

the LL&S facility, describing it as not resident-friendly. He emphasized the need for additional town employees at the transfer station to enforce proper disposal practices, such as separating trash and recyclables appropriately. He suggested that the person stationed in the trailer should be given the authority to manage the site more effectively, including the ability to remove individuals who do not follow the rules. Council Member Hatch also raised safety concerns about individuals picking through the metal pile, warning that someone could get injured. A broader discussion followed between Member Cantor, Member Benson and Council Member Hatch regarding these operational challenges and possible solutions. Member Mailloux emphasized the importance of public education and outreach, suggesting that clear information should be distributed through social media. Member Pacheco recommended updating signage at the site to clearly indicate what materials are accepted. Member Devine mentioned a company that offers free signage specifically for recycling, which could support these efforts.

Resident Roland Giguere raised a concern regarding ash disposal, referencing that a decision should be made soon as the ash season is coming with pellet and wood stoves coming into use. He expressed the view that if ash disposal is going to be allowed, it should be done decisively. Member Benson responded by reviewing previous plans of ash dumping – dumping ash on wood chips and not brush but stated it was not approved – as it includes testing procedures to monitor for potential contamination. A back-and-forth discussion followed between Member Benson and Resident Giguere over whether testing the ash is necessary or if the risk outweighs the benefits. The topic of reinstating the ash bin was also mentioned as part of ongoing discussions.

ACTION ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS:

Member Devine asked whether committee meetings should be recorded. In response, Nicole recommended not recording the meetings, stating that the public already has access to the official meeting minutes and the committee's recommendations to the town council.

Member Stacey inquired about getting copies of what the state says their expectations are for Best Management Practices (BMP) to which Member Pacheco stated he would work on getting those copies.

NEXT MEETING DATE: September 8th @ 4:00PM

Motion by Member McGee to adjourn, second by Member Mailloux

Member Cindy Kenerson - Yes

Member Nicole McGee - Yes

Member Colleen Mailloux - Yes

Member Cathy Stacey - Yes

Member Geoff Benson - Yes

Member Wayne Amaral - Yes

Member James Pacheco - Yes

Member Dave Cantor - Yes

Member Joe Devine - Yes

The motion passed 9-0-0

180 Notes/minutes taken by: Lisa Perry
181 Approved: Transfer Station Safety Committee
182 Date: September 8, 2025