

Town of Brunswick, Maine

RECYCLING AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Monthly Committee Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, March 28, 2023 – 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm

IN PERSON – TOWN HALL, Council Chambers

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| 1. Call to Order / Intros | 4:30 PM |
| 2. Administrative | 4:35 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Secretary• Public Outreach Facilitator• Review/approve Feb 2023 Minutes• Update on Revised Charter | |
| 3. Legislative Updates of Interest (Poppy) | 4:40 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• LD 1171 – “An Act to Raise Funding to Support Waste Reduction, Reuse, Recycling and Composting in Maine”• LD 1172 – “An Act to Reestablish Annual Reporting on Solid Waste in Maine” | |
| 4. Solid Waste Report (Wood & Astle) | 5:00 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2022 Solid Waste Metrics Summary• Ecomaine Kick-off Event | |
| 5. Energy & Sustainability Report – Weems | 5:20 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CPACE update• Window Dressers | |
| 6. Climate Action Planning Update (Charleson) | 5:30 |
| 7. Upcoming Events / News You Can Use | 5:45 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bowdoin College Environmental Studies Program, 50th Anniversary Symposium, April 13 & 14th• Citizens Carbon Lobby “Save Your Money & Our Climate” Curtis Memorial Library, Tuesday, April 11th, 6 – 8 PM• Other | |
| 8. Public Comment** | 5:50 |
| 9. Adjournment | 6:00 PM |

** Public Comment can be given at this point in the meeting via the Zoom dial in number provided during the televised meeting. Alternatively, written comments in advance of the meeting can be sent to jastle@brunswickme.org and they will be read aloud at the appropriate point in the meeting.

MINUTES
TOWN OF BRUNSWICK RECYCLING & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
Brunswick Town Hall - Room 206
February 28, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Steven Weems at 4:30 PM.

Members present: Rep Poppy Arford, David Costello, Jamie Ecker (Chair), Jennifer Hicks (Zoom), Shelley Raymond, Tom Rumpf, Steven Weems, Stephen Wood (Zoom), Karen Topp, Kathy Wilson (Zoom).

Town personnel present: Jay Astle (Director of Public Works), Ashley Charleson (Environmental Planner, Department of Planning & Development)

Public present: Bill Good (Zoom)

Introductions of Committee Members and Town Personnel: Introduction provided by each person in attendance. Steve Weems chaired the meeting.

Administrative & Brief Updates

Approval of January 24, 2023 Minutes: Moved by Tom Rumpf, seconded by David Costello. Approved unanimously by those present. Karen abstained.

Update on Committee Charter: The proposed Committee Charter was distributed via email with updates. It will now go to the Appointments Committee on March 8th, and should go in front of the Town Council within a month for final approval.

Maine Climate Resiliency Grant, General Update

- Ashley provided an update on where staff are with the Climate Action Plan process. Working with the Greater Portland Council of Governments (GPCOG), they are in stage one, which includes establishing a planning task force, a kick-off meeting between Town Staff and GPCOG, and initiating data collection efforts. The task force charge and memo are going to Council on March 6th. Once approved by the Council, we can share with anyone who may be interested in applying (it is currently not shared with the public).
- Two seats on the task force will be held by R&S Committee members, within the Sustainability and Adaptation sector. Other members of the Committee can also apply and take up other spots if interested. Applicants will need to be interviewed by the Appointments Committee.
- Jamie Ecker made a motion to support and recommend the formation of a Climate Action Plan Planning Task Force and use of the draft charge. Seconded by Tom Rumpf. Unanimously approved. Jamie will share Committee support at next Council mtg.
- Committee Members should let Jamie Ecker or Steve Weems know if they are interested in being on the Climate Action Plan task force by Wednesday, March 8th.

- The discussion of the Climate Action Mandate was moved to a future meeting.

R&S Public Education Proposal

- Jamie Ecker introduced a proposal to change the structure of the Public Education sub-committee. The proposal is to eliminate the public education committee, which is currently siloed from the two other committees. Current gaps in our capacity with this structure include the ability to get the word out on important items through social media, the Town's website, press, etc. The proposal is to instead have one point person from the committee who could take the assignment on as "media facilitator" to work with the Town on the website, press releases, how to get word out on items, while supporting other committees, and work with Town staff.
- Interested committee members should reach out to Jamie Ecker.

Energy & Sustainability Committee:

- Steven Weems presented updates on recent actions of the subcommittee. how to bring down to earth tips to residents. Also, discussion of creating EV charging stations along route 1 from Portland to Ellsworth.

Solid Waste Updates:

- Stephen Wood and Jay Astle presented the solid waste committee updates. Jay is providing data on metrics for recycling. Jamie & Stephen met with the Brunswick High School Sustainability club to create videos about recycling. They are also considering a cafeteria audit on food waste.
- Jay announced that there are now two new compost bins added to both of the drop-off locations. There have been issues with the public works location not being able to be collected due to snow clearing logistics, so they are working on a solution.

Public Comment

- Bill Good mentioned he does use the Industrial Road compost location and appreciates that resource. Thanks for the work.

Climate Action Mandate

- Steve Weems will circulate the Climate Action mandate draft. Committee members should review the attachment and send in any thoughts to Steve and Jamie by the next meeting.

Adjournment

- Upon a motion made by David Costello and seconded by Karen Topp, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:00 pm.



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 1171

H.P. 743

House of Representatives, March 14, 2023

An Act to Raise Funding to Support Waste Reduction, Reuse, Recycling and Composting in Maine

Reference to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative BELL of Yarmouth.
Cosponsored by Representatives: DOUDERA of Camden, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, ZEIGLER of Montville.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §2203-A, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2021, c. 653, §1, is further
3 amended to read:

4 **1. Fees.** Unless otherwise provided by rule adopted in accordance with subsection 3,
5 fees are imposed in the following amounts to be levied for solid waste that is disposed of
6 at commercial, municipal, state-owned and regional association landfills.

| | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 7 Asbestos | \$5 per cubic 8 yard |
| 10 Oil-contaminated soil, gravel, brick, concrete and other aggregate | \$25 per ton |
| 12 Waste water <u>Wastewater</u> facility sludge | \$5 per ton |
| 14 Ash, coal and oil | \$5 per ton |
| 16 Paper mill sludge | \$5 per ton |
| 18 Industrial waste | \$5 per ton |
| 20 Sandblast grit | \$5 per ton |
| 22 All other special waste | \$5 per ton |
| 24 Municipal solid waste or municipal solid waste ash | \$2 <u>\$7</u> per ton |
| 26 Front end process residue (FEPR) | \$1 per ton |
| 28 Construction and demolition debris and residue from the processing of 29 construction and demolition debris | \$2 <u>\$7</u> per ton |

30 **Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §2203-A, sub-§2-B** is enacted to read:

31 **2-B. Support for municipal waste reduction, reuse, recycling and composting.**
32 Five dollars per ton of the fee imposed under subsection 1 for the disposal of municipal
33 solid waste, municipal solid waste ash, construction and demolition debris and residue from
34 the processing of construction and demolition debris must be distributed to municipalities
35 to support the priorities under section 2101, subsection 1, paragraphs A, B, C and D.

36 **SUMMARY**

37 This bill increases from \$2 per ton to \$7 per ton the fee imposed on the disposal of
38 municipal solid waste, municipal solid waste ash, construction and demolition debris and
39 residue from the processing of construction and demolition debris. It also provides that \$5
40 per ton of that fee must be distributed to municipalities to support the solid waste
41 management hierarchy priorities of reduction of waste generated at the source, reuse of
42 waste, recycling of waste and composting of biodegradable waste.



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 1172

H.P. 744

House of Representatives, March 14, 2023

An Act to Reestablish Annual Reporting on Solid Waste in Maine

Reference to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources suggested and ordered printed.

Handwritten signature of Robert B. Hunt in cursive.

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative BELL of Yarmouth.
Cosponsored by Representatives: DOUDERA of Camden, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, O'NEIL of Saco, ZEIGLER of Montville.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §2124-A, first ¶**, as amended by PL 2019, c. 291, Pt. B, §3, is
3 further amended to read:

4 By January 1, ~~2024~~ 2024 and ~~biennially~~ annually thereafter, the department shall
5 submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over
6 ~~environmental~~ environment and natural resources matters and the Governor setting forth
7 information on statewide generation of solid waste, statewide recycling rates and available
8 disposal capacity for solid waste.

9 **Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §2133, sub-§7**, as amended by PL 2019, c. 291, Pt. B, §4, is
10 further amended to read:

11 **7. Recycling progress reports.** Municipalities shall report ~~biennially~~ annually, on
12 forms provided by the department, on their solid waste management and recycling
13 practices. The ~~biennial~~ annual report must identify the options available to residents and
14 businesses within the municipality for managing solid waste, including any provisions for
15 the separate management of reportable recyclable materials and organic waste and the
16 disposal of other municipal solid waste, including construction and demolition debris. The
17 department shall assist municipalities in developing and tracking a municipal or regional
18 recycling rate by developing a municipal waste stream management assessment model.
19 The model must rely on actual waste data whenever possible, but incorporate default
20 generation estimates when needed. Default generation estimates must incorporate factors
21 such as commercial activity, geographical differences and municipal population.

22 **SUMMARY**

23 This bill requires the Department of Environmental Protection to annually instead of
24 biennially submit reports to the Legislature and Governor setting forth information on
25 statewide generation of solid waste, statewide recycling rates and available disposal
26 capacity for solid waste. The bill also amends the law requiring municipalities to submit
27 biennial progress reports to the department on recycling by making that an annual
28 requirement.