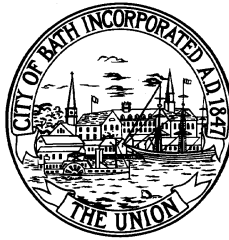


## CITY OF BATH, MAINE

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## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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Bath Solid Waste Advisory Committee  
Meeting of September 9, 2019  
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Susan Bauer, Lee Leiner, Peter Owen, Aaron Park, Lou Ricciardone, George Sprague, Brook Vail

Members Absent: Paul Perkins

Guests:

### Agenda:

- Review and approve minutes of previous meeting
- Review of City Council action on solid waste ordinance changes
- Citizens Climate Lobby Carbon Fee & Dividend Policy
- Landfill budget
- Recycling education
- Adjourn

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was offered and the vote was unanimous to accept.

The committee would like to invite Steve Marois and Lindsey Goudreau to the next meeting for the discussion on recycling education messaging.

Next was a review of City Council action on the recently recommended changes to the solid waste ordinance. The Council discussed and voted on first passage of the changes on September 4. The changes were approved and included: increases to PAYT bag prices of 10-cents each, inclusion of properties with up to 6 units in the curbside collection program, reduction in the number of bags allowed to be placed for collection from 6 to 4 per week, and elimination of curbside collection from Front St (Vine to Summer) and Centre St (Washington to Front). The council was reminded that there is a subsidy of the landfill fund from tax revenues of nearly \$1 million per year. There was short discussion of the operating philosophy of a balance of scale revenue and landfill life. Some council members intimated that the public did not have a choice on use of certain products (disposable diapers) which forces them to purchase more PAYT bags. This led the Council to vote on a 10-cent price increase to be followed by a 15-cent increase next year rather than the single 25-cent increase recommended by the committee. The committee generally supported a suggestion to include automatic and small increases to bag prices to avoid the long stretch of no change. The landfill tax subsidy, and the increase in landfill life due to widespread composting should both be used as education program talking points.

The discussion of the Citizens Climate Lobby Carbon Fee & Dividend Policy was tabled as Paul was not present to lead the discussion.

Lee explained the landfill budget by going through it section by section. A question was asked about the impact of cleanup week and whether it should be eliminated. It should also be used as an educational talking point. The suggestion was made to create an goal for waste reduction to match the timeline to landfill closure. That should be used to train the public to change their behavior to reduce waste creation.

At the next meeting a comprehensive plan for the education program should be created which should be "halfway between aspirational and realistic".

George related a personal quest to find information on recycling small items. He used his old tea pot as an example. How this information can be assembled and presented to the public is yet another educational opportunity.

Next meeting: **October 7, 2019, 4:00 PM in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor conference room, city hall.**

DRAFT