

Present: Rachel Bartlett, Jean Prior, Richard Meyer, Spencer Clason, Bill McGahie (Selectman), Ron Fish (Recycling Center Supervisor)

NOTE: The meeting was preceded by a Board of Selectmen's meeting at 3:00 pm: John Snowdon, Bill McGahie, Jodi Scanlon. A zoom presentation was given by Taylor Millspaugh, from Waste Zero, a waste management company. More information on the presentation can be found in the BOS minutes for 12/10/24.

Meeting was called to order at 3:55 pm.

Minutes from the November meeting were approved.

Waste Zero is an option for managing a Pay As You Throw (PAYT) program. They are based in North Carolina, but serve New England as well. Their services include:

- Provide bags (2 sizes)
- Storage of bags
- Order management
- Accounting
- Store delivery

Cost per bag for large bags is \$0.34 and includes the above services. They would work directly with retailers. Waste Zero would handle the issues we have discussed in the past: bag storage, working with retailers. This seems to be a favorable option for managing a PAYT program.

Jean asked about writing the warrant article regarding PAYT for the 2025 Town Meeting. Bill said that Jodi will write it.

The task now for the Recycling Committee is to provide information about the value of a PAYT program to the people of Westmoreland.

Bill will contact Taylor at Waste Zero to schedule an in-person presentation for a public town meeting, possibly on Saturday, January 25 2025. We should schedule several follow-up public meetings to address questions. We need to develop a marketing plan for educating the public, in order to secure a favorable vote at the 2025 Town Meeting.

Committee members will share ideas via email before the next meeting, and also discuss the proposal informally among friends and neighbors. The agenda for the next committee meeting is to develop a specific educational and marketing plan.

Spencer needs to be officially appointed to the committee. Jon Lounsbury and Richard Meyer have declined the invitation to join the committee.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, January 7 3:30 p.m.

MEETING ADJOURNED 4:43 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Bill will contact Taylor at Waste Zero to schedule an in-person presentation to the town.
- Sign on Spencer Clason as an official committee member
- Recruit more committee members
- Brainstorm specific ideas for educating the public BEFORE January 7

Respectfully Submitted,
Jean Prior