# Wolcott Litter & Solid Waste Ordinance Committee Meeting
# May 25, 2023

5:30 p.m., Zoom

All Minutes are draft until approved by the Committee
*Please see future Minutes for approval of these Minutes*

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| Present: | Michelle Cortes-Harkins, Kurt Klein, Rick Harkins, John Wheeler |
| Absent: | Barbara Conn |
| Guest: | Sarah Lillibridge, LRSWMD |
| Scribe: | Deb Klein |

Michelle Cortes-Harkins called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

**Amendments to the Agenda:** None.

**Approve Minutes of April 20, 2023:** Motion by Klein to approve the Minutes of April 20. Seconded by Harkins. Discussion: None. Voting: All in favor.

**Comments from the Community/Correspondence:** None.

**Guest:** Cortes-Harkins introduced the guest speaker, Sarah Lillibridge, Outreach Coordinator, with the Lamoille Regional Solid Waste Management District. Cortes-Harkins outlined for Lillibridge the activities the Litter Committee has been engaged in over the past year. The Committee will organize a fall Green Up Day, and Bulk Waste Day this summer. The Committee is pleased with the addition of the textile recycling bins located at the Wolcott Transfer Station. The Committee shared information regarding the new signage that has gone up around Town about not trashing Wolcott.

Lillibridge shared that she met with the Wolcott Girl Scouts a couple of times in the spring. Lillibridge also spoke about the Community Cleanup Grant that can be applied for. The grant provides up to $500 to a Town. This is the grant that Andy Duff used last year to fund his Lamoille River cleanup project.

Lillibridge also spoke to the Committee about a Zero Waste type of grant opportunity. Details on this grant will be released soon.

Lillibridge shared that the Regional Waste District is going to raise their transfer station prices by $1, and increase the cost for tires because their transfer stations are no longer running in the black.

Cortes-Harkins conveyed the Committee's interest in getting the State of Vermont to participate in a mattress recycling program similar to what other states do. Lillibridge mentioned Sleep Well Recycling in Burlington. If mattresses are collected, Town's can arrange for pick up with them.

The Committee discussed with Lillibridge ways in which the Wolcott Transfer Station can be more efficient. Lillibridge offered to come to the Wolcott Transfer Station during open hours on a Saturday or Sunday to help educate folks on recycling, and compost do's and don't's. Lillibridge will also make an

effort to attend Wolcott's Town Event the second Friday in September where she would set up a table to discuss solid waste issues with residents.

Lillibridge referenced a Wheels for Warmth buy-back program for tires that occurs in October.

**New Business**

**Green Up Day – Re-cap:** It was a successful Green Up Day. A table was set up in the lobby of Town Office where folks could sign-up in advance listing the area they were covering and the number of bags they were taking. There were plenty of bags. Turn out for chili at the gazebo was rather low. Next year there may need to be more emphasis on the social aspect. The road crew collected 115 bags, 28 tires from ditches, and 21 miscellaneous items.

**Bulk Waste Day:** Cortes-Harkins reported that Craftsbury does not wish to partner with Wolcott to hold bulk waste day on the same day this year. The understanding is that Craftsbury will host their event on the third Saturday in June. The Committee discussed holding Bulk Waste Day on either the second or fourth Saturday in June. Klein will check on the availability of a road crew member to be at the transfer station, and the availability of roll offs. Flyers will be handed out at the Transfer Station in advance of the event.

**Solid Waste Complaints**

-East Hill Road – A house that is often used as an Airbnb has unsecured trash cans. Trash is often scattered on both sides of the road; perhaps by a bear. A letter will be sent to the owners asking that the trash cans be secured.
-Town Hill Road – The Committee received a report of garbage dumped along a deep stream ditch. The Committee will assess how best to retrieve the trash.
-North Wolcott junk yard – The Committee learned that the owner of the unlicensed junk yard passed away. An abutting land owner is considering purchase of the property, but inquired about potential liens. The State has been investigating the complaint on this property. Klein is waiting for a response from their legal department about the possibility of liens.
-North Wolcott Road – Wheeler reported that the property of concern has been getting worse with more and more junk.

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Deb Klein