

TOWN OF CUSHING
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of Meeting
June 10, 2019
Cushing Community Center

Selectmen Present: Chair Alton Grover; Selectmen Corey Jones, Laurie Haynes, Martha Marchut, and Dan Staples

Selectmen Absent: none

Staff Present: Town Clerk Lisa Young

Public Present: Kristi Niedermann, Alan & Monika Magee, Johnathon Young, and Willard Payson

1. Call to Order: Chair Alton Grover called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and a quorum was determined.

2. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Approve and sign the Warrant:

ACTION: Selectman Dan Staples made a motion, seconded by Selectwoman Martha Marchut, to approve 2019 Warrants 21 and 22.

Discussion: none

Motion Carried 5-0-0

4. Review and approve the minutes

4a. May 28, 2019 meeting:

ACTION: Selectwoman Martha Marchut made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 28, 2019 meeting as written. Selectwoman Laurie Haynes seconded.

Discussion: none

Motion Carried 5-0-0

4b. June 6, 2019 meeting

ACTION: Selectman Dan Staples made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2019 meeting as written. Selectman Corey Jones seconded.

Discussion: none

Motion Carried 4-0-1, Laurie Haynes abstained as she was absent from meeting

5. Additions and Changes to the Agenda:

5a. Martha asked to allow Monika Magee to speak about the MRRRA Conference

ACTION: none

Discussion: Monika Magee thanked the Board for allowing her to attend the 26th Annual Conference focusing on all the changes that took place due to China's change of policy. She then reported information from the conference back to the Board (see attached report for detailed information) Dan Staples questioned why they stopped accepting plastic. Monika said from her understanding it was due to the contaminations of the loads. She added a positive note she took away was that the restrictions have reawakened the Country to their responsibility for dealing with recycling's here and made for business opportunities. She added that her take a ways from the conference were that only 50% on house holds have access to recycling programs, the average household creates 800 lbs of recyclables per year, and that Maine's 2017 recycling rate was 38% but it expects that in 2018-19 that will be even lower. Martha added research that has been done among different generations and how to promote recycling, especially to younger generations, and studies have shown it doesn't necessarily matter if younger generations think the idea of recycling is good or not, it depends on how it's presented and if recycling is made to be easy or not. Monika also gave the Board a mandatory survey from the State of Maine which was to be completed by the end of May (a little late). Martha is going to ask Bob Butler how their handling it as they're not sure who's the most qualified to complete it.

5b. Bids on foreclosed property located at 236 Cushing Rd

ACTION: Selectman Dan Staples made a motion, seconded by selectwoman Laurie Haynes, that due to legal problems that have arisen, the Board at this time is rejecting all bids and returning down payments.

Discussion: none

Motion Carried 5-0-0

6. Unfinished Business:

6a. Update on Clerk's office remodel

ACTION: none

Discussion: Lisa said we have come up with the idea of design just need someone to draw it and asked will floor be included. Corey suggested to include floor, just go over what's already there. Dan asked if we can put something out for bid that doesn't have a plan. Corey stated the design is pretty simple; an 8 ft window and re do the desk so all three people can work at their own computer and two people can work at the window with room. Laurie said if she understood Sami correctly it would be the big window and a desk on each side, Lisa confirmed, the higher counter, two desk on each side with Lisa's desk going back more making room for her to go to the middle and help a third person when needed. Corey said he can draw something up; he's been there and listened to things that have been said and watched how they work and can see how it needs to be done. Dan suggested getting someone outside of them [the Board] to come in and listen to what the girls say and make a design. Corey added that if you get someone else, you're paying for it. It's same as the parking lot [at the Good Neighbor Park] we drew it up, what we want, we put it out to bid and get prices, we can do the same thing. We want a window here, we want floor, and someone will come in and bid it for the 8 ft window and new flooring. Dan also thought

having the girls go into other town offices and looking at their layouts would be a good idea. Alton asked what the window was now, Corey said it's 4 ft now, will gain two ft on each side. Alton asked about the shelf, Corey said it would be more like Waldoboro. Alton asked who's going to do it. Corey said he will draw it up and whoever bids on it, it's common sense on what can be done without really reconstructing it and 8 ft is decent and about all the hallway is anyway. Lisa asked about a roll down window, Corey said there's no way around it because it has to be able to get shut up, adding that if you didn't have the other room with Scott and everyone you could just add a glass door and lock it, but having the other room access through there he didn't think access to the office was allowed, would depend on who had keys to that area and what the laws are. He mentioned a glass door to the outside hall, and you might not need to shut the window up. Dan added he thought that door was a good idea because if we got the air conditioner or heat to the room in the winter, it might be more efficient in the long run to shut that area off. He also mentioned it being more secure with the time and the way things are. Martha asked about structure to adding a bigger window, if all will be okay with that, Alton confirmed it won't be a problem. Laurie asked when we're thinking of doing this, mentioning sometimes we talk about things and make a plan and then it gets put off. Corey said he will measure it all and sketch it up for next meeting and then it can go out to bid.

6b. Town Roads

ACTION: none

Discussion: Dan Staples said Alton was going to get some bids from the people that paved last year, Alton said he already has now it needs to go out to bid to everybody. Alton said he had heard that Dan had already told some people that Stone's Point Rd was going to get paved, Dan said no he knew what he was referring to and he [Alton] ought to know better than that. Alton said first some ditching needs to be done and possibly replace a culvert on Stone's Point. Dan said put it out to bid. Alton questioned that would be hard as it's not the whole road, just certain places and asked if it would be hard to explain to a contractor. Dan said you could put it out with the idea he would show them the areas that need to be done. Corey suggested printing off a map of the road and high lighting the areas that need to be done. Alton said it would be easier to go down and mark the areas with paint marker, just doing the areas where the water is out in the road and the ditches are filled up. Alton asked if you pay per hour or how it goes out. Dan said to mark it out and put it out to bid as a whole job. Corey suggested measuring it out and putting it out as how much area needs to be ditched, also asked if ledge would be a problem anywhere. Alton didn't think the ledge areas would affect any of the ditching. Corey also mentioned adding some ditching around the s-turns on the end of Pleasant Point Rd where water/ice was backed up this winter and shoulders are high. Monika Magee asked about a spot on the road near Maple Juice Cove where it's completely collapsed and a big safety issue on the edge of the road, Alton said the State is supposed to be fixing that. Laurie agreed that is definitely a safety issue and that another phone call should be made. Laurie said it almost seems like the road is washing away underneath the pavement in two places where those culverts are. Alton said they are supposed to be replacing the culverts with longer ones and filling around them. Corey went back to the topic and asked if the ditching was only open to Stone's Point or adding other places to that as well, Alton reminded there is a budget, and thought focus should be on the road that might get hot topped. He asked if Pleasant Point Rd was going to get done too or not. Dan Staples said the idea was to find out about Pleasant Point Rd, Davis Point Rd, and Stone's Point Rd and explained that they may need to go to undesignated funds to go along with what money is left over in the excise account. Alton said he thought Davis Point Rd was pretty good and didn't think Stone's Point Rd was real bad except for the few sections where water backs up in the road and thought that road should have most of the attention for now. Corey said he thought the importance was Stone's Point and then the end of Pleasant Point especially in the s-turns where it's breaking up and then Davis Point. Corey added Pleasant Point would be nice just for the purpose of plowing next year, it was already breaking up pretty bad. Alton determined they would go measure the ditching and get it ready to put out to bid before the next meeting.

7. New Business:

7a. Andy Blanchard, Rescue Squad Director, to address the Board

ACTION: none

Discussion: none; Andy was not able to attend the meeting as planned

7b. Mowing Good Neighbor Park

ACTION:

Discussion: Dan Staples said that David Taylor has been down because of clamming in Broad Cove now and there's been a lot of e-coli contamination coming mostly from the runoff and what comes from birds, like geese and other nesting birds. He asked that when it gets mowed this year if there could be at least a 4 ft buffer that was left along the edge of the field un-mowed because a scientist told him that it kind of filters what runs off there so it helps keep the cove open. Dan said the only problem he thought not mowing to the edge was keeping the alders kept down as they started to grow and asked if that became a problem would he have a crew that would help keep those trimmed down, David had agreed. Dan wondered if other Selectman might see a problem with the 4 ft buffer. Alton asked if for how long, and added it couldn't be kept forever because it would definitely become a problem with alders. Corey asked if it could be mowed at the end of the season before winter. Dan said the other thing they could do would be leave it for a year or two and see what happens, if it becomes a problem mow it again. Dan said it's a big producing cove for clams and stuff and its been closed down for contamination for a while. Corey said worst case it could be mowed every couple years just to keep the alders down. Alton suggested using the roadside mower that gets the bushes down too, that wouldn't cut all the grass just the bushes. Dan just wanted to bring it up as they'd been working really hard to get the area open. Alton clarified it's basically leaving the area between the walking area to the shoreline. Kristi reminded the Board that the Bobolink are now nesting down there so it shouldn't be mowed until after August 1. Dan said they nest a long time, Kristi confirmed they do, and that the young stay in the grass until they can fly, and with it being so wet this year, she thinks they may have started a little later. She said it's a normal thing for fields that if you want the Bobolink coming back you need to mow them a little later. Dan said they've mowed it for years and years, used to mow it for hay in June. Kristi said you can mow it early, and they will nest after, but the field isn't good hay anyway. Dan stated his point was he has never heard of a problem with the Bobolink until she brought it up. Kristi said they may have mowed it early and then again later, and the birds may have nested in between.

8. Comments from Citizens: none

---Executive Session---

The Select Board entered into Executive Session, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(E), to discuss consultations with legal Counsel, at 7:10 p.m. A motion was made by Selectman Alton Grover and seconded by Corey Jones to go into Executive Session.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

Selectman Laurie Haynes motioned, and Dan Staples seconded, to enter back into the main meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

9. Adjourn

ACTION: Selectwoman Laurie Haynes made a motion, seconded by Dan Staples, to adjourn at 7:45 p.m.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha Jones
Recording Secretary

The 26th Annual Conference was informative and inspiring given the diminishing options for selling recyclables to China.

The keynote speakers and presenters at the various events during the two day gathering have posted their Keynote or PowerPoint presentations on the MRRRA website.

<http://mrra.net/home/links/>

Please, explore the presentations online to learn about the recycling challenges and important changes we are facing as a town, state, nation, and globally.

Among the challenges there were many positive things going on, as well.

The most important discussions focused on what is the ultimate goal by recycling?

- using less
- recycling more
- reducing toxicity
- reducing environmental impact
- presenting uncontaminated loads of recyclables to the industry

To recap the reasons for the not being able to recycle as many items as before:

China instituted in

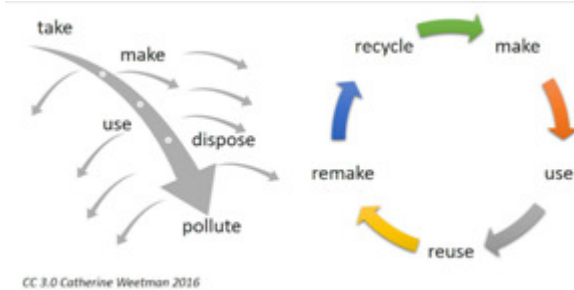
- **2013: Green Fence** which restricted the importation of plastics, in
- **2017: National Sword** an anti-smuggling campaign where China rejected contaminated loads and MSW (municipal solid waste) hidden inside loads of recyclables, in
- **2018: a ban** on mixed paper and mixed plastics, and in
- **2019-2020: China is potentially considering a complete ban on all US recyclables.**
- In the keynote speaker's opinion, Chaz Miller said that this was not driven by supply and demand but by politics.
 - However, I also learned that there were considerable illegal efforts in hiding MSW within the bales, being sent to China. The bales were surrounded on the exterior with recyclable plastic but internally hid trash, medical waste, adult diapers, etc. In recent news, Malaysia also rejected contaminated bales of recycling because of smuggling of MSW hidden within the bales of plastic. The rejected containers are being returned to their country of origin, which included the USA, Canada, and Europe.

These sweeping restrictions by China awakened a need for creating or restructuring recycling plants here in the US.

A few take-aways from the 2019 MRRRA conference:

- Only 50% of households across the US have access to recycling programs.
- The average US household creates 800 pounds of recyclables per year.
- Maine's 2017 recycling rate was 38% but expects the 2018 and 2019 rate to be lower because of the limits on what can presently be recycled in Maine.
- We will see a "roller-coaster" market in recyclables for a while.
- **The changes in the Export Markets show:**
 - the rejection of shipments or bans by China due of poor quality are some of the biggest changes in the recycling markets

- preparing and selling a quality recycled material remains critical for marketing success
- **Moving Forward in today's recycling markets :**
 - we will see more consolidation in the global economy and marketplace
 - there will be a focus on the **Circular Economy** to minimize waste and to make the most of resources. See chart defining it below.



There is some Good News as well:

- There are 17 new or expanding paper mill projects in the US, and **two of them are in Rumford and in Old Town, Maine.** They are both owned by Nine Dragons, a Chinese company. The mills will turn mixed paper into pulp which China will legally permit to be imported.
- China will also buy plastic processed into plastic pellets as long as the plastic is processed elsewhere. China has made it clear that it wishes to protect itself from importing pollutants. It expects the producing nation to responsibly process the recyclables within its own nation.

Coastal Resources of Maine in Hampden, the facility to which our MSW is sent expects to be fully operational by July 1, 2019. <https://www.mainepublic.org/post/after-yearlong-delay-hampden-waste-facility-expects-full-operations-july-1>

- **Maine's DEP's new head is Jerry Reid. His first and most important concern is the PFAS found in water when tested by DEP.** PFAS contamination may turn out to be one of the serious health-affecting issue we will face.
 - **PFAS are PolyFluoroAlkyl Substances.** PFAS are toxic compounds used in non-stick surfaces, waterproof clothing, car washes, dental floss, food wrappers, umbrellas, tents, carpets and firefighting foam and in the manufacture of plastic, rubber, and in insulation for wiring.
 - It was discovered (among other places across our country) that a dairy farm in Arundel, Maine tested very high for PFAS. The DEP suspects a large source of PFAS to be the sludge which the DEP had in the past approved and encouraged to be spread on farm fields and front yards.
 - Governor Janet Mills has created a task force to establish screening methods for these fluorinated pollutants, with a goal to reduce them.
 - The DEP will also be testing Composting Facilities for these PFAS compounds. For more information about their toxicity and distribution in land, waterways and in our bodies:
- <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2019/04/22/708863848/scientists-dig-into-hard-questions-about-the-fluorinated-pollutants-known-as-pfa>

INNOVATIVE PRODUCT INFORMATION presented at MRRRA 2019:

- **GLASS RECYCLING**

- **AERO Aggregates** a firm creating ultralight foamed glass used in preparing new roadbeds and paving, can be used on embankments and in water permeated soil. It has a 54° angle of repose. Process uses all colors of glass. The Philadelphia manufacturing facility runs 24/7, only needs 2 people to run the entire plant, uses all German equipment that has two decades of experimentation and production experience. www.aeroaggregates.com
- **PACE GLASS** will pick up recycled glass within a 500 mile radius of its plant in Jersey City, NJ to supply the container glass and insulation industries. www.paceglass.com
- **IRN, Innovative Reuse Network OFFICE AND SCHOOL FURNISHING** recycling based in New Hampshire, which collects used office/school/laboratory furnishings and matches what they have collected to charities in 63 countries. They have re-purposed 90 million pounds of office furnishings. www.irnsurplus.com tel: 603-496-7908
- **EXTENDED PRODUCERS RESPONSIBILITY: EPR**
 - A province-wide program overseen in Quebec by **Éco Entreprises Québec** pays for each town's recycling program in the entire province. It is funded by charging a per ton fee from each a manufacturer based on the type of containers their company uses to market its products.
 - **Éco Entreprises Québec** paid C\$1.3 billion to the Québec government which fully covered each town's recycling facility's expenses.
 - www.eeq.ca/ email: <mguillemette@eeq.ca> tel: 514-987-1491 x 232
 - **The 2019 fees charged to the marketers per ton:**
 - C\$205 newsprint and circulars
 - C\$184 Corrugated Cardboard
 - C\$285 PET bottles
 - C\$181 aluminum food and beverage containers
 - C\$793 polystyrene products for food or protective purposes
 - **The NRCM Natural Resources Council of Maine** is exploring EPR, as well as finding ways to better recycle mattresses, unused drugs, plastic lids and container caps, and tobacco products (plastic tipped cigarette butts are a non-compostable, unconscious source of littering).
- **CHANGES IN STATE REGULATIONS AFFECTING EACH TOWN:**
- There is a change for 2019 for the required annual DEP Data Reporting, deadline is June 30, 2019.
- each municipality is now responsible for sending in a report. However, the main entity, in our case Waldoboro, will provide the statistics needed to Cushing and Friendship. The State has a website with helpful tutorials and information to make this easier. The change incorporates two separate reports into one. www.maine.gov/dep/waste/solidwaste/transfer.html

IMPORTANT POINTS RE CUSHING-FRIENDSHIP-WALDOBORO TRANSFER STATION:

- Lincoln County Recycling (LCR) picks up recyclables at no cost to the towns.
- **If our transfer station would re-start collecting plastics 1 through 7**, in addition to the present HDPE #2 it is collecting, **Coastal Resources Maine** (Fiberight) will process the additional plastics. We will then only pay \$35/ton instead of the \$70 per ton when presently the 1-7 plastics are included in our MSW
- **MONIKA'S DISCUSSION WITH MANAGER OF LCR:**

- Quality of recycled materials sent from the CFWTS to LCR is excellent. LCR finds a market for 90% of materials they collect.
- MONIKA'S DISCUSSION WITH THE CUSHING HAULER BEN LASH re Recycling Issues in town.
 - Ben finds that when people are recycling, **some are co-mingling all materials into the red bin rather than separating them.** He cannot take the time, when making a deliver to the Transfer Station, to sort through each bin, so it's likely that the co-mingled bin will be dumped into the MSW hopper. **Could the Cushing Select Board put out a notice about the importance of home-separation of recyclables?** Monika has put the How To Prepare Recycling Information into each annual Town Report, on flyers available at the Post Office, posted notices bin Cushing's Town Office, as well as sent the document out via Cushing's e-directory. **A supportive message coming from the Select Board would carry weight.**

Bob Butler, Waldoboro Selectman, recently joined the Municipal Review Committee (MRC) Board of Directors <https://www.mrcmaine.org>

Monika relayed, to Bob, the question from our hauler Ben Lash about the reduction in recycling with which he cannot reach the 30% recyclables needed in order for him to dump the MSW for free.

Ben is not meeting his 30% and is having to pay more to dump the MSW.

Bob Butler says this conundrum will be addressed and he is also going to talk first to MRC Board and then John Daigle, Waldoboro's Transfer Station Director, to see if our transfer station will re-institute the collection of plastics 1-7. It would be a huge savings to the towns and help the haulers to increase their recycling percentages.

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7b. Mowing Good Neighbor Park

ACTION:

Discussion: Dan Staples said that David Taylor has been down because of clamming in Broad Cove now and there's been a lot of e-coli contamination coming mostly from the runoff and what comes from birds, like geese and other nesting birds. He asked that when it gets mowed this year if there could be at least a 4 ft buffer that was left along the edge of the field un-mowed because a scientist told him that it kind of filters what runs off there so it helps keep the cove open. Dan said the only problem he thought not mowing to the edge was keeping the alders kept down as they started to grow and asked if that became a problem would he have a crew that would help keep those trimmed down, David had agreed. Dan wondered if other Selectman might see a problem with the 4 ft buffer. Alton asked if for how long, and added it couldn't be kept forever because it would definitely become a problem with alders. Corey asked if it could be mowed at the end of the season before winter. Dan said the other thing they could do would be leave it for a year or two and see what happens, if it becomes a problem mow it again. Dan said it's a big producing cove for clams and stuff and its been closed down for contamination for a while. Corey said worst case it could be mowed every couple years just to keep the alders down. Alton suggested using the roadside mower that gets the bushes down too, that wouldn't cut all the grass just the bushes. Dan just wanted to bring it up as they'd been working really hard to get the area open. Alton clarified it's basically leaving the area between the walking area to the shoreline. Kristi reminded the Board that the Bobolink are now nesting down there so it shouldn't be mowed until after August 1. Dan said they nest a long time, Kristi confirmed they do, and that the young stay in the grass until they can fly, and with it being so wet this year, she thinks they may have started a little later. She said it's a normal thing for fields that if you want the Bobolink coming back you need to mow them a little later. Dan said they've mowed it for years and years, used to mow it for hay in June. Kristi said you can mow it early, and they will nest after, but the field isn't good hay anyway. Dan stated his point was he has never heard of a problem with the Bobolink until she brought it up. Kristi said they may have mowed it early and then again later, and the birds may have nested in between.

8. Comments from Citizens: none

---Executive Session---

The Select Board entered into Executive Session, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(E), to discuss consultations with legal Counsel, at 7:10 p.m. A motion was made by Selectman Alton Grover and seconded by Corey Jones to go into Executive Session.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

Selectman Laurie Haynes motioned, and Dan Staples seconded, to enter back into the main meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

9. Adjourn

ACTION: Selectwoman Laurie Haynes made a motion, seconded by Dan Staples, to adjourn at 7:45 p.m.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha Jones
Recording Secretary

The 26th Annual Conference was informative and inspiring given the diminishing options for selling recyclables to China.

The keynote speakers and presenters at the various events during the two day gathering have posted their Keynote or PowerPoint presentations on the MRRRA website.

<http://mrra.net/home/links/>

Please, explore the presentations online to learn about the recycling challenges and important changes we are facing as a town, state, nation, and globally.

Among the challenges there were many positive things going on, as well.

The most important discussions focused on what is the ultimate goal by recycling?

- using less
- recycling more
- reducing toxicity
- reducing environmental impact
- presenting uncontaminated loads of recyclables to the industry

To recap the reasons for the not being able to recycle as many items as before:

China instituted in

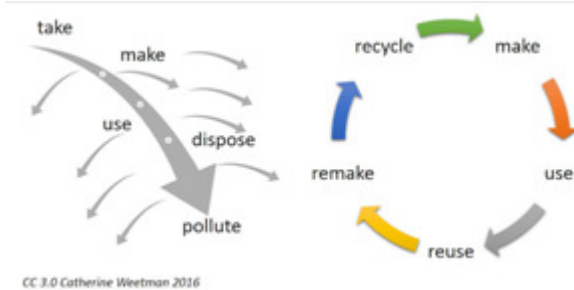
- **2013: Green Fence** which restricted the importation of plastics, in
- **2017: National Sword** an anti-smuggling campaign where China rejected contaminated loads and MSW (municipal solid waste) hidden inside loads of recyclables, in
- **2018: a ban** on mixed paper and mixed plastics, and in
- **2019-2020: China is potentially considering a complete ban on all US recyclables.**
- In the keynote speaker's opinion, Chaz Miller said that this was not driven by supply and demand but by politics.
 - However, I also learned that there were considerable illegal efforts in hiding MSW within the bales, being sent to China. The bales were surrounded on the exterior with recyclable plastic but internally hid trash, medical waste, adult diapers, etc. In recent news, Malaysia also rejected contaminated bales of recycling because of smuggling of MSW hidden within the bales of plastic. The rejected containers are being returned to their country of origin, which included the USA, Canada, and Europe.

These sweeping restrictions by China awakened a need for creating or restructuring recycling plants here in the US.

A few take-aways from the 2019 MRRRA conference:

- Only 50% of households across the US have access to recycling programs.
- The average US household creates 800 pounds of recyclables per year.
- Maine's 2017 recycling rate was 38% but expects the 2018 and 2019 rate to be lower because of the limits on what can presently be recycled in Maine.
- We will see a "roller-coaster" market in recyclables for a while.
- **The changes in the Export Markets show:**
 - the rejection of shipments or bans by China due of poor quality are some of the biggest changes in the recycling markets

- preparing and selling a quality recycled material remains critical for marketing success
- **Moving Forward in today's recycling markets :**
 - we will see more consolidation in the global economy and marketplace
 - there will be a focus on the **Circular Economy** to minimize waste and to make the most of resources. See chart defining it below.



There is some Good News as well:

- There are 17 new or expanding paper mill projects in the US, and **two of them are in Rumford and in Old Town, Maine.** They are both owned by Nine Dragons, a Chinese company. The mills will turn mixed paper into pulp which China will legally permit to be imported.
- China will also buy plastic processed into plastic pellets as long as the plastic is processed elsewhere. China has made it clear that it wishes to protect itself from importing pollutants. It expects the producing nation to responsibly process the recyclables within its own nation.

Coastal Resources of Maine in Hampden, the facility to which our MSW is sent expects to be fully operational by July 1, 2019. <https://www.mainepublic.org/post/after-yearlong-delay-hampden-waste-facility-expects-full-operations-july-1>

- **Maine's DEP's new head is Jerry Reid. His first and most important concern is the PFAS found in water when tested by DEP.** PFAS contamination may turn out to be one of the serious health-affecting issue we will face.
 - **PFAS are PolyFluoroAlkyl Substances.** PFAS are toxic compounds used in non-stick surfaces, waterproof clothing, car washes, dental floss, food wrappers, umbrellas, tents, carpets and firefighting foam and in the manufacture of plastic, rubber, and in insulation for wiring.
 - It was discovered (among other places across our country) that a dairy farm in Arundel, Maine tested very high for PFAS. The DEP suspects a large source of PFAS to be the sludge which the DEP had in the past approved and encouraged to be spread on farm fields and front yards.
 - Governor Janet Mills has created a task force to establish screening methods for these fluorinated pollutants, with a goal to reduce them.
 - The DEP will also be testing Composting Facilities for these PFAS compounds. For more information about their toxicity and distribution in land, waterways and in our bodies:
- <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2019/04/22/708863848/scientists-dig-into-hard-questions-about-the-fluorinated-pollutants-known-as-pfa>

INNOVATIVE PRODUCT INFORMATION presented at MRRRA 2019:

- **GLASS RECYCLING**

- **AERO Aggregates** a firm creating ultralight foamed glass used in preparing new roadbeds and paving, can be used on embankments and in water permeated soil. It has a 54° angle of repose. Process uses all colors of glass. The Philadelphia manufacturing facility runs 24/7, only needs 2 people to run the entire plant, uses all German equipment that has two decades of experimentation and production experience. www.aeroaggregates.com
- **PACE GLASS** will pick up recycled glass within a 500 mile radius of its plant in Jersey City, NJ to supply the container glass and insulation industries. www.paceglass.com
- **IRN, Innovative Reuse Network OFFICE AND SCHOOL FURNISHING** recycling based in New Hampshire, which collects used office/school/laboratory furnishings and matches what they have collected to charities in 63 countries. They have re-purposed 90 million pounds of office furnishings. www.irnsurplus.com tel: 603-496-7908
- **EXTENDED PRODUCERS RESPONSIBILITY: EPR**
 - A province-wide program overseen in Quebec by **Éco Entreprises Québec** pays for each town's recycling program in the entire province. It is funded by charging a per ton fee from each a manufacturer based on the type of containers their company uses to market its products.
 - **Éco Entreprises Québec** paid C\$1.3 billion to the Québec government which fully covered each town's recycling facility's expenses.
 - www.eeq.ca/ email: <mguillemette@eeq.ca> tel: 514-987-1491 x 232
 - **The 2019 fees charged to the marketers per ton:**
 - C\$205 newsprint and circulars
 - C\$184 Corrugated Cardboard
 - C\$285 PET bottles
 - C\$181 aluminum food and beverage containers
 - C\$793 polystyrene products for food or protective purposes
 - **The NRCM Natural Resources Council of Maine** is exploring EPR, as well as finding ways to better recycle mattresses, unused drugs, plastic lids and container caps, and tobacco products (plastic tipped cigarette butts are a non-compostable, unconscious source of littering).
- **CHANGES IN STATE REGULATIONS AFFECTING EACH TOWN:**
- There is a change for 2019 for the required annual DEP Data Reporting, deadline is June 30, 2019.
- each municipality is now responsible for sending in a report. However, the main entity, in our case Waldoboro, will provide the statistics needed to Cushing and Friendship. The State has a website with helpful tutorials and information to make this easier. The change incorporates two separate reports into one. www.maine.gov/dep/waste/solidwaste/transfer.html

IMPORTANT POINTS RE CUSHING-FRIENDSHIP-WALDOBORO TRANSFER STATION:

- Lincoln County Recycling (LCR) picks up recyclables at no cost to the towns.
- **If our transfer station would re-start collecting plastics 1 through 7**, in addition to the present HDPE #2 it is collecting, **Coastal Resources Maine** (Fiberight) will process the additional plastics. We will then only pay \$35/ton instead of the \$70 per ton when presently the 1-7 plastics are included in our MSW
- **MONIKA'S DISCUSSION WITH MANAGER OF LCR:**

- Quality of recycled materials sent from the CFWTS to LCR is excellent. LCR finds a market for 90% of materials they collect.
- MONIKA'S DISCUSSION WITH THE CUSHING HAULER BEN LASH re Recycling Issues in town.
 - Ben finds that when people are recycling, **some are co-mingling all materials into the red bin rather than separating them.** He cannot take the time, when making a deliver to the Transfer Station, to sort through each bin, so it's likely that the co-mingled bin will be dumped into the MSW hopper. **Could the Cushing Select Board put out a notice about the importance of home-separation of recyclables?** Monika has put the How To Prepare Recycling Information into each annual Town Report, on flyers available at the Post Office, posted notices bin Cushing's Town Office, as well as sent the document out via Cushing's e-directory. **A supportive message coming from the Select Board would carry weight.**

Bob Butler, Waldoboro Selectman, recently joined the Municipal Review Committee (MRC) Board of Directors <https://www.mrcmaine.org>

Monika relayed, to Bob, the question from our hauler Ben Lash about the reduction in recycling with which he cannot reach the 30% recyclables needed in order for him to dump the MSW for free.

Ben is not meeting his 30% and is having to pay more to dump the MSW.

Bob Butler says this conundrum will be addressed and he is also going to talk first to MRC Board and then John Daigle, Waldoboro's Transfer Station Director, to see if our transfer station will re-institute the collection of plastics 1-7. It would be a huge savings to the towns and help the haulers to increase their recycling percentages.