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DURHAM MIDDLEFIELD INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT ADVISORY BOARD

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, March 26, 2026

Middlefield Community Center

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM by Chairman DelVecchio.

Members present: Ron Capozzi, Dom DelVecchio, Glenn McNamara, Frank Petrella, Chuck Stengel, Howard Weissberg and Charles Zieminski

Members absent: Steven Koerber

Staff present: Sean Piatek

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Board members agreed to amend the agenda to include an executive session regarding a personnel matter.

Frank Perella made a motion, seconded by Howard Weissberg, to amend the agenda to allow for executive session for personnel reasons. Motion passed unanimously.

Howard Weissberg made a motion, seconded by Frank Petrella, to approve agenda, as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Site Manager's Report

Sean Piatek reported that stickers are now up to 3,106, at approximately 20 per week. People without stickers have been turned away.

Sean explained that they are starting to get into the brush season and beginning to service the grinder. They should be ready to go next week. They were down a truck after turning in the Kenworth and had some issues with the delivery of the new Peterbilt truck. Dom DelVecchio explained that the new truck was delivered to the wrong location from the manufacturer and the delivery to Indiana for the hoist installation was delayed by about three weeks to a month. The new truck with the hoist has been delivered and the hoist is operational, but they are having supply chain issues with the tarping system causing them to have to temporarily tarp by hand. This did cause them to have to use contractors for a few days to help haul waste streams. Dom DelVecchio felt that DMIAAB needed to have another discussion with Sanitary Equipment about the length of time it took for the hoist install.

Ron Capozzi asked if there was a performance bond and Dom DelVecchio did not believe they had one with Sanitary Equipment. Sean Piatek explained that they only have to tarp the demo can and the metal can.

Sean Piatek explained that they have a guy who comes in to plow every year, but this year was difficult. He plowed into the new OSHA-required fence and bent the poles. Sean got a quote from Durham Fence. He also let the plow contractor know he is responsible for it and he understood.

Sean Piatek ordered cold patch to patch the potholes two weeks ago and will pick it up tomorrow.

2016 Peterbilt Repairs

Dom DelVecchio explained that the 2016 Peterbilt truck needed to be towed to Peterbilt and it is still there. There is a very strong possibility that the transmission went, but the truck was scheduled to go in for service in July. The clutch is original and they had planned to have that done in July at the start of the new fiscal year. Peterbilt refuses to take the truck apart without having a transmission in-house, so DMIAAB authorized them to order a transmission but it has been backordered. They're hoping to have it by March 31st. That truck has 200,000 miles on it and has not had a new clutch. The rear main seal has also started to leak and will be replaced when the clutch is replaced. The transmission is \$7,800, but there is a \$2,000 rebate for the core.

Discuss and Approve Proposed FY26/27 Budget

Dom DelVecchio explained that there was a meeting of the joint Boards of Selectmen and Finance on February 5th and they recommended an increase in the sticker fee of \$10, going from \$50 to \$60. Dom DelVecchio felt it was reasonable as they haven't had an increase in six years.

A revised budget was shared with the board members and a vote was requested. Chuck Stengel asked about a line item for the expense or capital for the point-and-pay system (credit system). Dom DelVecchio thought that the Town of Durham may have an extra tablet that they can use. He explained that the joint boards also would like DMIAAB to establish the credit card system with the users paying any fees. They had two reasons, one being the perception of the DMIAAB staff handling cash and the other being to offer the option for townspeople.

Sean Piatek is working on WiFi and has reached out to Frontier.

Ron Capozzi made a motion, seconded by Chuck Stengel, to increase the annual sticker fee from \$50 to \$60, effective July 1, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

Ron Capozzi made a motion, seconded by Frank Petrella, to approve the FY26/27 budget of \$898,445, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion – Point-and-Pay System

Dom DelVecchio explained that the Point-and-Pay system that the towns currently use has additional layers of governmental protections. Square is really meant for smaller vendors and doesn't offer additional protection. Howard Weissberg added that Middletown uses the same system as City Hall does and felt DMIAAB should do the same. This system can be used for stickers, demo and anything else and will come with a \$2.00 convenience charge for up to \$85.00. After \$85.00, the fee will be 2.5 percent.

Glenn McNamara asked if there was any security on-site and Dom DelVecchio explained that all cash leaves the site every night. The Durham's Board of Finance had been concerned about documentation of receipts. Sean Piatek explained that each receipt has two copies and Dom DelVecchio felt that once it's entered into the computer system each day, it'd be difficult to delete with the backup system in place. Sean added that the system also tracks deleted transactions. There is a daily transaction sheet and every dollar is tracked for tires, furniture, freon, etc. All of those transactions then get entered into the computer. Dom DelVecchio noted that, as a municipality, the towns most likely will not be able to tell residents they can't pay with cash. The system will be implemented on July 1 and they will see where it goes. He hopes to have an agreement to vote on at the next meeting.

Discussion – Tire Stewardship Program

Dom DelVecchio thanked Chuck Stengel for bringing this to his attention. It's similar to the mattress program where the manufacturers pay a fee to the CT Stewardship Program. Dom DelVecchio registered DMIAAB as being interested in the program. It is not mandatory that retailers participate in this program but that may change this coming fiscal year with pending legislation. The agreement mandates that DMIAAB would have to accept tires from anyone in the state, not impose any fee and have a special sticker since they are not town residents. Dom DelVecchio reached out to the program and they may be willing to eliminate those mandates. They hope to implement this on July 1, 2026 as well. Both Middletown and Meriden participate in this program. Howard Weissberg strongly felt that DMIAAB should not be the leading edge on anything. Dom DelVecchio emphasized that if those mandates are not removed, DMIAAB will not participate in the program. Sean Piatek noted that people come in with mattresses all the time.

Discussion – Gas Cylinder Collection Program

Sean Piatek explained that helium cylinders and small fire extinguishers can go right into the metal can. He added that 20-lb. propane cylinders (barbecue tanks) are a problem. Dom DelVecchio reviewed that Middletown's recycling coordinator, Kim, helped with all of this. DEEP has stated that the smaller cylinders are not supposed to go in the metal bin. He noted that provisions of this program will also need to be negotiated. The current provider has agreed to take 20-lb. cylinders. Sean Piatek noted that retailers that sell propane cylinders must take them back, but there may be a charge.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Howard Weissberg made a motion, seconded by Glenn McNamara, to enter into Executive Session. Motion passed unanimously.

The board exited Executive Session and resumed the regular meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Composting Units (Update)

Dom DelVecchio is still looking for a volunteer for this program. People can come to the transfer station to purchase a composting unit.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Glenn McNamara made a motion, seconded by Charles Zieminski, to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2026 regular meeting, as presented. Motion passed, with Ron Capozzi and Howard Weissberg abstaining.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the regular meeting. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Waz

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