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9:32 AM Jodi Moore, ATC

**DURHAM MIDDLEFIELD INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT ADVISORY BOARD**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, September 17, 2026

Durham Town Hall

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM by Chairman DelVecchio.

**Members present:** Dom DelVecchio, Ron Capozzi, Steven Koerber, Glenn McNamara, Frank Petrella, Chuck Stengel and Charlie Zieminski.

**Members absent:** Howard Weissberg.

**Staff Present:** Sean Piatek.

**Approval of Agenda**

*Chuck Stengel made a motion, seconded by Ron Capozzi, to approve the agenda, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Site Manager's Report**

Sean Piatek reported that they have sold 1,400 stickers so far. Starting next month, they will stop every car coming into the site to let them know they have one month left to purchase a sticker. He noted that most people feel that the increase in the fee was long overdue.

Service has been done on the grinder and they will start grinding next week to finish the pile. A board member asked if they have ever looked at having someone come in to do the grinding vs. the upkeep of the grinder. Sean Piatek had heard that it could be up to \$6,000 a day to have someone come in to grind. Dom DelVecchio added that another problem is having an area to store brush. At this point, they grind about every six weeks.

Sean Piatek noted that the Middlefield Lions Club donated a shed for the site last year. The stone base has finally been installed and prefabricated concrete slabs have been purchased. The shed is scheduled to be installed tomorrow. The composting containers will be stored in the shed.

Work has been done on the compactor. Chuck Foreman worked on it for four days and the floor and one of the side walls were replaced. Unfortunately, the ram itself was disintegrated and needed to be completely redone. The total bill came in at \$21,000 and they will need to offset that cost somehow in the budget.

Sean Piatek added that the front tires on the 2016 Pete are due to be replaced. He got one quote from Pete's Tire Store (who has the state bid) and is waiting for quotes from Oasis and Sullivan. They will move the old front tires to the tag axles because they are scuffed up. The insurance claim for the new Peterbilt has not been submitted yet as they need to get a couple of quotes from the auto body shop. The window has been repaired, but the door repair has not.

The Tire Recycling Program was started after the last meeting. Glenn McNamara asked how we are recording the tire information and it was explained that DMIAAB just verifies that the people bringing in tires are from Durham or Middlefield. Sean Piatek added that there are only a little more tires being brought in than normal. They now need to weigh the tires before bringing them to Don Stevens. Dom DelVecchio reminded everyone that they are in complete control of the process.

Sean Piatek explained that the boardwalk was rebuilt many years ago, but has started to rot. The metal railing brackets rotted away and the railing was leaning in. One-half of the railing has been repaired. The Boy Scout who had proposed the flag collection unit has to go back to his troop to explain the project.

### **Discussion FY25/26 Year-End Budget**

Dom DelVecchio noted that they will have to discuss wage increases at the next meeting. He believes that minimum wage will be going up to \$17.48 which will push everybody's wages up.

A lot of unexpected things occurred in the last fiscal year, including three radiation response calls at \$800 each, the State revised the stormwater permit and a truck transmission needed to be replaced. One good thing was completing a double grinding in Guilford this year that helped offset the expenses. Replacing the computer in the tub grinder was \$11,000. The Pete was over budget as well. There are a couple of accounts receivable still to be collected. Overall, the deficit will be about \$8,100 which isn't terrible on a \$1 million budget.

It was agreed to stay with the same contractor for snow removal again this year. Dom DelVecchio also noted that they are still paying \$2.88/gallon for diesel through the consortium with current prices around \$6.50/gallon.

Dom DelVecchio reviewed the total staff hours for the last three years and it has been very consistent. Chuck Stengel added that he has heard that Durham's Board of Finance will be pushing for a zero budget increase.

### **Discussion Gas Cylinder Collection Program**

Dom DelVecchio reported that they still do not have a contract.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Composting Units (Update)**

Dom DelVecchio asked Sean Piatek to do an inventory.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chuck Stengel mentioned that the Town of Milford is doing a pumpkin smash for composting and thought it might be an idea for next year.

A member of the public asked about the burn plant contract and Dom DelVecchio explained that they have a five-year contract with this year being around \$101. They will go out to bid in a couple of years. Recyclables are in really good shape.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Ron Capozzi made a motion, seconded by Charlie Zieminski, to approve the minutes of July 30, 2026, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.*

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Waz

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