Solid Waste Committee Meeting

2	Monday, February 3, 2025, 2025, 3:30 PM
3	Members Present: Rich Marcou (Chair), LeeAnn Mackay, Stephen Rasche, Roy Plisko, Elle
4	Bezanson, Greg Heath, Kim Scamman
5	<u>Members Absent</u> : Kent Ruesswick (BOS rep)
6	Agenda:
7	1. Call to Order:
8	Rich called the meeting to order at 3:27pm.
9	2. Accept Previous Minutes:
10	Greg made a motion to accept the minutes of January 20, 2025, LeeAnn seconded. No
11	further discussion, all voted in favor.
12	Rich made a motion to approve January 27, 2025, minutes, as amended, LeeAnn
13	seconded.
14	approved edits to minutes:
15	Line 59: " we can't even do because we have been told "No" by Ken and DES."
16	Line 37-38: "Roy approved of how far the investigation has gone and the current testing
17	has been carried out, water testing, etc." Edit: I would like this changed to: "Roy asked if
18	the committee understands the details of the investigation".

20 Line 85-87: "Kim sees this regardless of what happens, the salt shed needs to be moved and that is one small step forward in the process at the current site, whether the site is 21 22 moved or closed or stayed as is, we will be gathering data while achieving the task." Edit 23 After this statement, and before Kent speaks, I would like you to add: "Roy asked when this was decided" 24 25 Line 117: "Roy stated that it is a database answer not an antidotal based answer." Edit 26 I would like to change this to: "Roy said we need data-based answers not anecdotal 27 answers" 28 Line 117. "Greg felt it": The antecedent of "It" needs clarification. I was not speaking about Roy's comment, but the issue of the recent well data. So, let's say "Greg felt the 29 issue of the well data is tangential to the current topic of the warrant article and that we 30 should come back to it after the warrant article question is resolved." 31 32 Line 130 "...forward prioritizing environmental" dropping the word "on". 3. New Business: 33 34 **Petition Article** The committee has collected over twenty-five signatures. Rich will submit these, and it 35

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Rich discussed the town report. Roy suggested including this information in an email, and the committee agreed.

will be a petition warrant article. If the Board of Selectmen (BOS) includes it on the

warrant, which is our hope, he will withdraw the petition.

LeeAnn elaborated on her frustration, stating that it was due to the inconsistency in agreements and changes in subsequent meetings. Apologies were exchanged, and the committee decided to move forward. Greg acknowledged that change happened quickly and emphasized the importance of adhering to the right-to-know laws, which prevent meetings outside of official sessions. He noted that communication styles need adjustment and that the issue lies in communication, not the facts. LeeAnn agreed, stating that the frustration stemmed from the perception that decisions were already made. She expressed a desire to return as a cohesive body. Rich emphasized how much work everyone has put into this and how everyone on this committee is a very important asset. He foresees a lot being accomplished this next year. Greg compared the situation work done for the Town Complex and new Library, which took time but ultimately reached a complete successful project. LeeAnn inquired about the appropriateness of using email for discussions, to which Rich responded that while information can be shared, individual replies are not allowed as it violates 91A. Roy addressed how to email without violating the 91A, to include information for the meeting agenda but include the statement "do not reply here." Greg felt that would make a huge difference, but that takes a lot of time to put together an email and express information. Rich announced the hazardous waste day will be a warrant article, with a budget request of \$10,590.00. Roy reiterated the prioritization of environmental versus structural engineering when factoring spending funds. The boundary lines regarding building are minimal. He does not want to throw away funds.

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65 The BOS has requested an engineering quote, a scope and purpose and Kim obtained a quote from Barton and Loguidice, with Aries offering a beneficial option at \$5,000, plus 66 an additional \$2,000 for more environmental work. Rich felt Aries was most beneficial 67 because they are doing our current water testing, mitigating water run-off, previous 68 studies, and test wells. 69 70 Rich noted that the BOS wanted the scope attached to release the funds. LeeAnn 71 expressed concern regarding abnormalities, but Rich emphasized the need to proceed. 72 LeeAnn was asked to get the Gilford numbers to be sent to Michelle for copying. 73 Stephen questioned the necessity of tearing down the salt shed instead of adding. Roy mentioned storage needs, and Rich agreed that more space is required because we are 74 75 paying penalty on partial loads, we just need a lot more space for storage. 76 Greg addressed the concerns some members pointed out the potential waste of money but 77 acknowledged that the proposal's cost would seem minimal in the end. But stated that 78 moving the dump is inevitable and that opinions alone would not convince others. Roy mentioned again that the environmental aspect has become a significant concern for 79 him. Rich acknowledged that the environmental aspect is not going away. He explained 80 81 that part of the pushback he received is structural, which is an option but not inexpensive. The budget committee, consisting of four or five people, is gaining favor. However, he 82 83 felt that we are taking too large a leap when people are questioning the process. Elle 84 inquired how to find the budget committee minutes and information, it was advised that it 85 can all be found on the town website. 86 Rich will share the Skowhegan article, noting the current cost considerations. The 87 committee plans to also contact Loudon for rough numbers next year.

Kim emphasized the importance of the engineering process, which involves determining feasibility through trial and error. Roy appreciated the explanation.

LeeAnn found it confusing when conflicting information was received from different sources. She requested clarification on the history of testing to substantiate funding requests. Roy suggested consulting Ken or the Department of Environmental Services (DES). Stephen mentioned that an engineering study might provide answers aligning with LeeAnn's concerns. Kim stressed the importance of gathering data and that hiring an engineer would be required for this process. Roy agreed, stating that engineers would address LeeAnn's questions. The next step involves the engineering firm narrowing down the scope, which will be discussed. It takes six weeks to obtain a quote after a contract is signed, following a meeting with the BOS and committee representatives.

The committee addressed concerns over minutes and how they are processed and interpreted. The town administrative assistant is currently working on procedures and process to put before the BOS. The committee has the right to decide to format minutes as agreed upon.

Action Items:

- LeeAnn will get the Gilford numbers she researched, send to Michelle and she will make copies for the meeting.
- LeeAnn asked to update the roster and pass out to members
- Next meeting will be framing presentation. Two more meetings before town meeting.
- 91A; Right to Know, use town emails only

110	• Elle covering shift at the treasure house, how does she sign up. Stephen keeps
111	track of the scheduling. He will add her email to the distribution list.
112	Adjournment:
113	LeeAnn made a motion to adjourn, and Stephen seconded at 4:45pm.
114	Next Meeting: February 24, 2025, 3:30 PM in the Meeting House.
115	Respectfully submitted,
116	Michelle Hammond
117	Secretary for the Solid Waste Committee