

MEMO

RECEIVED

MAY 31 2016

TOWN OF HAMPDEN PLANNER

TO: Members of the Hampden Planning Board

FR: Kathy Walker *KWalker*

DA: May 30, 2016

RE: Landfill hotline

At the public hearing on May 25, 2016, I made a few remarks about the hotline which was in place to field complaints about the landfill in Hampden. Please accept this memo as further clarification of the issue.

The landfill has been in my backyard since 1974. When Casella assumed ownership of the landfill, calls about odors could be made directly to the offices on the Emerson Mill Road, and someone from the facility either returned the calls or visited my property to check out the complaint. The town received notification of these calls. This is the procedure I referenced at the May 25th meeting. Whether this could be called a "hotline" is subject to interpretation.

When the landfill stopped accepting solid waste at the end of 2009, a separate and new hotline was established to field odor complaints, because the closure of the landfill required digging up and exposing garbage that had been previously buried. This new hotline involved town officials, including the manager, the planner, and the code enforcement officer, all of whom received training in recognizing odors. One of these individuals, accompanied by someone from Casella, usually visited the site of the complaint and determined if the odor was indeed coming from the landfill. Detailed reports of these complaints and visits were sent to all parties involved and were also included on the consent agendas of the Town Council.

Now that the landfill is closed, the hotline is no longer in existence. I'm sure that the town still has detailed records of the procedures I have described. All of my documents have been donated to the Hampden Historical Society.

HAMPDEN "THE GARBAGE CAPITAL OF MAINE"

If you have been sitting on your couch thinking that this isn't going to happen or if it does, it won't affect me **THINK AGAIN!!!**

An estimated **89** trash trucks will be coming through our town and **89** trash trucks will be leaving our town on a daily basis in all directions!

Coming up from 1A by our schools, businesses, grocery stores, churches...

Coming off 395 down 202 through the Cold Brook intersection....

Coming off the interstate 95...

Every 4 minutes there will be a trash truck traveling through Hampden either coming or leaving from this site.

Don't be deceived by the photos of the Fiberight Plant in Lawrenceville, VA. These photos were taken on a Saturday when the plant was actually closed. The VA plant is only 10% of the size of the one expected to be built in Hampden.

We haven't even begun to discuss who is going to pay for the road repairs or clean up from the trash that falls/leaks off the trucks.

Offensive Odors..... "Have you really forgotten?"

Are you a parent, a grandparent or planning to have a family? Have you read Silent Spring? Watched the movie Erin Brockovich? I don't know about you, but I don't want our Town to be the Trash to Energy guinea pig for the State of Maine.

Please plan to attend the next Planning Board meeting on **Wednesday, May 25, 2016 @7 PM** at the **Hampden Town Office**

*Saturday Flyer
May 14 or 21st
in mail box*