

Town of Stoughton

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

Andrew M. Tibbs, Chair ♦ Steven Snyder, Vice Chair ♦ Richard Parolin ♦ Ellen Epro ♦ Michael Varner

The Stoughton Board of Health held this meeting on Monday, June 23, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. In accordance with the Governor's order allowing public bodies to hold open meetings in person, remotely or in a hybrid fashion extended to June 30, 2027, the meeting was conducted both in person at Town Hall, 10 Pearl Street, Stoughton, MA 02072, 3rd floor Yaitanes conference room– and by remote participation via Google Meets.

Members present:

Mr. Andrew Tibbs, Chair, Mr. Steven Snyder, Vice Chair, Mrs. Ellen Epro, Mr. Richard Parolin, Mr. Michael Varner

Also, Present:

Lawrence Perry, Town Sanitarian, Sean Leahy Asst. Town Sanitarian

Present virtually: Attorney Brian Winner, Town Counsel, and Mr. Matt Hughes, WIN Waste Director of Environmental Compliance, Mr. Chris Karras, VP of Operations at WIN Waste

Chairman Tibbs called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m., announcing it is being conducted both in person at Town Hall and virtually via Google meets as posted. Mr. Tibbs announced the purpose of this meeting is to continue the public hearing from the June 12, 2025 meeting on the application of WIN Waste Environmental's request for a minor modification in the site assignment at the C& D facility located at 100 Page Street.

I. Public Hearing

A.

100 Page Street C& D Facility: Minor modification request to allot 150 tons per day of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) within the accepted 800 tons per day from what is now Construction and Demolition (C&D) Waste.

Mr. Tibbs said after we hear from a representative from WinWaste, we will open it up to public comment.

Mr. Matt Hughes, Director of Environmental Compliance said this was first discussed back in February. He explained the request is to reserve 150 tons from within their currently permitted 800 tons per day of Construction & Demolition debris to Municipal Solid Waste (MSW). He added there is no general increase in tonnage per day; it is just requesting a change of 150 tons out of the 800 tons from construction waste to municipal solid waste. Mr. Hughes said the MSW would then be brought to one of their local waste facilities.

Chairman Tibbs called on town counsel, Attorney Brian Winner to explain what makes this a minor modification. Mr. Winner said Mr. Hughes approached the board and his office was contacted to determine which procedure was applicable to this modification. After sifting through many legal regulations, based on their findings, it was determined this qualifies as a minor modification requiring a public hearing and notifications. He said all the requirements were met.

Mr. Tibbs welcomed questions from Board of Health members.

Mr. Richard Parolin recalled the town previously voted against allowing municipal waste at this facility. He expressed concern with overriding that vote as well as a possible increase in truck traffic. He said trash trucks, while potentially lighter than those hauling construction debris would add to the number of vehicles. Mr. Parolin spoke of concerns with trucks coming in via Page St. when they are supposed to be entering via Avon. For this and other reasons, he said the company has not upheld its end of a previous agreement and he is in favor of initiating a new site assignment.

Mr. Varner asked Mr. Hughes if he sees any negative impact to the town. Mr. Hughes said he does not see any negative impact, but believes it would benefit the town by providing the town with local options on where to bring the town's municipal waste.

Vice Chairman, Stephen Snyder raised concerns about odor control and the handling of potentially hazardous materials in the municipal waste stream. Mr. Hughes explained their inspection procedures and the ability to add odor control to their misting system if needed. Mr. Hughes described their process for managing improperly disposed of hazardous items by removing them for proper recycling or disposal. He confirmed that they would proactively monitor for odors.

Mr. Varner questioned the definition of odor control, distinguishing between masking and counteractants. Mr. Hughes clarified that they use odor counteractants in their misting system. In response to Mr. Snyder's inquiry, Mr. Hughes confirmed the letter WIN Waste submitted mentioned monitoring for odors and using additional control measures if necessary. He added that on-site personnel would monitor for elevated odors.

Mr. Parolin asked what is the average tonnage the facility brings in per day.

Mr. Karras estimated the facility receives between 600 and 700 tons per day.

Mr. Parolin cited lesser amounts and suggested WIN Waste would have some leeway. He recalled a past concern was with dust leaving the facility. He said a bag room was supposed to be put in to contain and odors.

Mr. Karras said the municipal waste would be dumped in a different area than construction and demolition debris.

Mr. Parolin spoke of trucks not adhering to the designated route and travelling down Page Street.

Mr. Hughes stated WIN Waste does review the proper exit routes with their customers. It was noted there is also a large hauling company nearby with 40 trucks that travel that route. Mr. Parolin suggested stricter enforcement and would like a new site assignment to address this issue.

Mr. Peter Ventresco, a resident asked if this would be cheaper than the town's current waste disposal method. Mr. Ventresco asked how many other towns have signed up with WIN Waste.

Mr. Karras clarified that they are only discussing the possibility of the Stoughton DPW disposing of waste at their facility once the current contract with Covanta expires in five years. He said currently there are certain times of year when Stoughton drivers have to wait in line at a dumpsite a great distance away for over two hours. Mr. Karras said being able to drop it off at the local Page Street facility would cut down on travel and waiting in long lines at other locations. He mentioned the agreement Stoughton has now with Covanta is at a good rate, but all rates have increased and things have changed in the industry. Mr. Karras said they are looking to be a partner with the host community. He said it might reduce the number of trucks due to the DPW trucks being able to hold much more weight than the construction waste trucks.

Peter Banis a resident spoke next. He said a previous speaker answered one of his questions. He added he is concerned about the truck traffic. Mr. Banis referred to a new facility, which he believes is Amazon will be adding to even more truck traffic. He said Page Street is a disaster and traffic is out of control. He thinks it is a bad idea.

Mr. Peter Barkley, a member of the Stoughton Redevelopment Authority (SRA) asked why the SRA as owners were not notified. Mr. Hughes replied he has confirmation of sending a copy of WIN Waste's letter to two persons at the SRA. Mr. Barkley asked Mr. Hughes to forward a copy of the emails to the SRA Secretary. Mr. Hughes confirmed he would. Mr. Barkley requested a copy of the facility's current lease agreement. Mr. Karras said the lease agreement is with Conroy Development with the town of Stoughton. He said the lease has several extensions.

Ms. Dawn Dino, a resident asked if WIN Waste's proposal on having a partnership with the town would result in privatization and if the residents would incur the cost. She again asked if this is going to cost the town more money. Mr. Karras responded, in the parameters they are speaking of now, no.

Mr. Karras said he is happy to perform an analysis to show how the town will save money. He said their objective is to be a partner with the host communities. He said in the conversation they are having now WIN Waste is asking for the town DPW to be able to dispose of the town waste in their town.

Mr. Mark Sankevich (?) a resident said he disagrees with this being a minor modification. He added this is a closed facility for construction waste and they want to add municipal waste. He wondered where negotiations stand with Covanta at this time. He said this might be a good idea for other communities, but it is not right for Stoughton at this time. He would also like to see something in writing.

Mr. Chris Sankevich, informed Chairman Tibbs while he is not a resident of Stoughton, he is the shop steward for the DPW. He said he has sat in line for 3+ hours at this facility when disposing of large items. He has seen tractor trailers sit in line for over an hour. Mr. Sankevich asked if WIN Waste is going to expand the current facility to accommodate the increase in trucks that will be coming in. He told Mr. Karras he is agreement this would be better for the town and for the maintenance of their trucks.

Mr. Sankevich said with Stoughton having about 36 tons of municipal waste per day, he expects the remaining amount up to the requested 150 tons per day would be coming from other communities. He would like to know Stoughton would come first.

Mr. Karras responded the main objective of WIN Waste is to make sure Stoughton is getting the best possible deal. Mr. Sankevich replied, he'd like to see the deal up front, on paper, in writing.

A resident of 1308 West St. (name inaudible) said he is at the facility about 4 x per week. He does not see how they can handle more volume or traffic. He spoke of doors being filled to capacity now. He described a scenario where if trash is shipped to another facility and an incident occurs during transportation, who would be responsible for the waste. Mr. Hughes said WIN Waste is responsible as soon as the waste "hits the floor".

Chairman Tibbs indicated there are still unresolved issues and welcomed a motion to continue the public hearing to the next meeting in July. He suggested some questions require further consideration and materials, which can be discussed at a later date.

Mr. Parolin made a motion to continue this public hearing to the next meeting in July. Mr. Varner seconded.

On the vote: Mr. Parolin – yes

Mrs. Epro – yes

Mr. Varner – yes

Mr. Snyder – yes

Mr. Tibbs – yes.

Mr. Parolin made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Varner seconded.

On the vote: Mr. Parolin – yes

Mrs. Epro – yes

Mr. Varner – yes

Mr. Snyder – yes

Mr. Tibbs – yes.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.