

TO: Honorable Mayor Rines, City Council & City Manager
FROM: E. Patrick Gilbert, CSD
DATE: February 16, 2005
RE: Solid Waste Issues

The Council asked me to explore our options on Solid Waste Disposal with Hatch Hill. I spent some time with Leslie Jones and would offer the following.

Differential in Tipping Fees and Per Capita Fees.

In one sense there already is a differential in tipping fees. A customer pays \$70.00 a ton for general rubbish that ends up in the Landfill. \$50.00 a ton for shingles and wood products and finally \$30.00 a ton for household recyclables. Leslie was not opposed, in fact she mentioned she had brought it up to leadership in Augusta, about some type of tiered Per Capita fee structure that would reward communities for doing recycling and meeting some type of established performance standards.

Advisory Group

Much like we do with the Ambulance Advisory Board and Wastewater Advisory would be to establish a Hatch Hill Advisory Committee made up of representatives from the participating communities. I would point out that there was a loosely established advisory committee for Hatch Hill in the early 90's, it was largely unsuccessful because of lack of participation. A more formal arrangement with appointment by the legislative body would establish a committee that could address many of the issues we are thinking about now. How do you get residents to use color coded bags for general rubbish and household recyclables. How do the waste haulers and Hatch Hill track our waste stream so the benefits can be passed on to the customer/taxpayer in the form of reduced hauler fees and reduced per capita fees. Advanced notice and involvement during time's when increases are being considered. In closing, Leslie was not opposed to establishing an advisory committee to deal with the issues of Hatch Hill.

What is the future of Hatch Hill?

At this point in time the phase III expansion has about 17 years of life left in. So around 2010 we should all start talking about what's next. Is a phase IV expansion going to be possible? Nobody is sure at this point, do we want to disband and all go our separate ways?, have Waste Management come in and set up a transfer station? We could be faced with some large decisions in the future in regards to Solid Waste. Once again an

Advisory Committee would be very valuable, especially if we establish one now and not wait until 2010.

In Closing, I hope this helped answer some of your questions. I asked Leslie Jones, who runs Hatch Hill for the City of Augusta, if she would be willing to come down and talk with us (the Gardiner City Council) she advised that she would be glad to meet with us anytime to discuss these and any other issues we may have regarding Solid Waste.

Respectfully Submitted.