RESOLUTION 94-2014
REQUEST COMPOSTING FOR BUSINESS ENTITIES
Offered by Supervisor Wilber, seconded by Councilmen Wenk and McKenna:

WHEREAS, organic waste suitable for a composting program, consists of food waste (vegetable scraps, coffee grounds, kitchen prep, bakery items, meat, chicken and fish trimmings, cheese, etc.), approved compostable packaging, waxed cardboard, landscape trimmings, plant material, or untreated wood; and
WHEREAS, many of our local restaurants and food purveyors are not separating their organic waste; and
WHEREAS, this organic waste is being mixed with solid waste to be picked up for disposal by garbage haulers; and
WHEREAS, the aforementioned organic waste, when not separated from the rest of solid waste, is taken to the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency (UCRRA) for weighing and then transported more than 250 miles to landfills near Syracuse, New York, for final disposal; and
WHEREAS, organic waste, including yard trimmings, that end up in landfills create methane which, when not captured, is released as a greenhouse gas that is 21 times more potent than carbon dioxide; and
WHEREAS, the UCRRA located at 999 Flatbush Road in Kingston has established an innovative composting facility that is a local and cost-effective system optimizing recycling and reuse opportunities for the Woodstock community; and Whereas, separating organic waste can potentially save money for businesses, as the cost for processing organic waste by composting is substantially lower than transporting for disposal; and
WHEREAS, organic waste diverted from landfills for composting:
1. Saves tax money;
2. Creates nutrient-rich material highly valued by farmers, nurseries and gardeners that contribute to the vitality of the Woodstock Community;
3. Aids the Town’s Carbon Neutral Initiative; and
WHEREAS, many municipalities across the nation in the past decade have implemented programs for the collection of organic waste, including yard trimmings; and
WHEREAS, the Town of Woodstock has the opportunity to become a leader in Ulster County in organic waste recovery; now, therefore
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Woodstock Town Board
• Requires agencies of the Town to separate their organic waste for either on-site composting or transport to the UCRRA compost facility; and
• Requests all entities (restaurants, food purveyors, and others) in the township to separate their organic waste from other solid waste for either on-site composting or transport to the UCRRRA compost facility; and
• Requests those entities unable or unwilling to provide on-site composting of the organic waste generated in their place of business to arrange for its transport to the UCRRRA facility for processing into valuable compost.

Prior to the vote, many people from the audience spoke in favor of the resolution. Michelle Bergkamp from UCRRRA, recycling coordinator, spoke about ways the Business Entities could compost and explained what products are compostable. Supervisor Wilber said he wanted the Town Offices to set the example! After discussion, the resolution vote was called:

All voted 5-0: Supervisor Wilber - aye
Councilwoman Magarelli - aye
Councilman Wenk - aye
Councilman McKenna - aye
Councilman Panza - aye

STATE OF NEW YORK

COUNTY OF ULSTER

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Town of Woodstock, Ulster County, New York, DO HEREBY CERTIFY:

THAT I have compared the attached proceedings of the Town Board of the Town of Woodstock including the resolution contained therein with the originals thereof on file in my office and that the same is a true and correct copy of the said original as recorded in the minutes of the Town Board meeting dated April 22, 2014, and filed in the Office of the Town Clerk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Town of Woodstock, New York this 24th day of April, 2014.

SEAL

[Signature]

Jacquelyn E. Earley, RMC, Town Clerk

Town of Woodstock