

Draft Minutes Transfer Station Improvement Committee
October 16, 2023, Cook Memorial Library, 6:00 pm

Call to Order: 6:00 pm

Present: Steve Schaeffer, Willie Farnum, Richard Doucette, Maud Anderson, Ian Haskell, Gabrielle Watson (remote) Sue Stowbridge, (remote) Ellen Farnum, secretary

Approval of minutes from September 25, 2023

Motion to approve: Maud A.

Second: Richard D **Vote:** unanimous

Update on Grant Opportunities:

- **Economic Development Administration (EDA):**

TSIC is seeking grant money to help us finish the transfer station project. Following suggestions from Steve Fortier from NBRC, Willie spoke with Katherine Traconi, an EDA representative. She stated that the EDA mission is about creating jobs. As our project will not create jobs, this grant will not be worth pursuing.

- **Northern Borders Regional Commission (NBRC):**

Willie reported that NBRC will have 2 rounds of grant money our group can apply for in 2024. Grant information will be posted in December; grant applications are due in June and awards are announced in August. It will be important to find out what TSIC could do differently to receive money from this group. (Perhaps consult with Stuart Arnette a second time?)

- **Recycling Partnership:**

Maud has seen material from an NGO, Recycling Partnership that could offer grant money. She will follow up with information on available grants and report back to our group.

- **United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)**

Would it be possible to apply for the USDA grant a second time? Our community is showing greater need due to new census data, and this may help us qualify for a second round of money. Willie will contact USDA representative Eric Law.

- **Earmark money from the office of Representative Pappas**

Willie has not yet been successful reaching Representative Pappas' office to pursue funding for the transfer station project. He will continue trying to reach his contact, Colin Pio.

Meeting with Sanborn, Head & Associates:

Richard reported on a recent meeting between Selectboard /TSIC members Steve S., Richard D, and Willie F (TSIC) and Sanborn, Head & Associates. The group discussed three options for the Transfer station improvement project.

- All options represent a scaled-back version of the original project, but incorporate plans for a bathroom, septic, and wash station.
- All three options include a plan for adding a truck scale,
- The cost of the scale or equipment needed for recycling products is not in any of the options presented. (All the equipment would be an estimated additional cost of \$346,300).
- All options require more funding. Our town would still need to raise at least an additional \$500,000 for any of the options.

- **Option 1:**

Keep the original Sanborn, Head & Associate design and plan.

This option is most aligned with the original goal the taxpayers supported at town meeting and would allow for recycling to occur in the future.

Cost would be reduced from the 2.4 M first proposed to 1.8 M. Price reduction is achieved by reducing the size of the building and making the office space smaller. This proposal includes a “Z wall” for collecting construction materials and metals.

The storage space would be adequate for housing a vertical baler, but not a horizontal baler.

Total Cost for Option 1: \$1,820,350.

- **Option 2:**

In this proposal, the existing building would be demolished, and a new structure built to house office space, bathrooms and wash station. MSD compacter would remain in its current position. A non-enclosed pole barn 50 x 60 would be built.

Total Cost for Option 2: \$1,168,600.)

- **Option 3.**

Remove the existing office and replace with a new 30x30 office and bathroom. There would be limited new storage space. Total Cost \$835,200

Further Discussion:

1. The biggest expense for an improvement project at our Tamworth Transfer Station is the site work. Richard Doucette will contact Tamworth Road Agent Richard Roberts to see if he has ideas of how to inexpensively purchase fill or proceed with the site work.
2. Could we purchase a prefab portable building to be used for the necessary bathroom and wash station until full funding for the original project or option 1 is obtained?
3. Could the concrete pad already in place at the transfer station be used for a base for the scale?

Other monetary expenses not covered in previous options:

1. If scales are purchased, Transfer Station employees need training and NH State certification. The scales would require yearly calibration.
2. The options do not include money needed for a fire alarm (estimated \$20,000)
3. The options do not include money needed for a temporary transfer station (necessary while construction is occurring)

TSIC Future Plans:

TSIC members will continue to explore possible grants and cost saving measures and will discuss plans again at our November meeting. A decision on how to move forward should be made by January.

To Do:**Maud:**

- Research Recycling Partnership grant opportunities

Willie:

- Discuss applying for a second USDA Grant
- Check on Earmark money from Pappas
- Information for grant application from Northern Borders

Richard:

- Contact Road Agent Richard Roberts
- Contact Town attorney regarding the wording of the 2021 Warrant Article.

Meeting Adjourned 7:15 pm

Minutes: E. Farnum