

**Minutes Transfer Station Improvement Committee
November 13, 2023 6:00 pm, Cook Memorial Library**

Call to Order: 6:01 pm

Present: Steve Schaeffer, Willie Farnum, Richard Doucette, Maud Anderson, Kelly Goodson, Sue Stowbridge, (remote) Ellen Farnum, secretary (remote)

Approval of minutes from October 16, 2023

Motion to approve: Richard D.

Second: Maud A.

Vote: unanimous

Transfer Station Improvement Plan: Next Steps

1. Constructing the bathroom and septic at the transfer station will be the priority and work should be started in spring of 2024. TSIC members agreed on the importance of this work and the need for bathrooms/septic to be completed irrespective of the other parts of the project.

Discussion:

- Consider purchasing a portable building (14x 24 for \$18,000.) This could be set up almost immediately and could be outfitted to work as an office space, bathroom, eye-wash station. This could also be used during the construction phase of the project and then later moved and installed in a permanent position. (Cost does not include insulation, plumbing or electricity.)
 - Global portable buildings offer a unit that is 8x 20, with a bathroom built in. (Would need to get a quote from the company.)
 - Fire extinguishers need to be replaced/upgraded and placed in accessible locations,
 - The eye-wash station should be relocated to be more accessible to employees.
 - Portable building could be sold or repurposed if no longer needed.
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2. Consider purchasing a new piece of property for the improved transfer station. If affordable, appropriate property could be purchased if there is a potential for cost savings. (Sanborn Head should be consulted before purchase)
 - much of the current cost for building on the existing site is because the ground needs extensive excavation. Money would be saved if an appropriate site was found that did not require excavation.
 - The Transfer Station must continue to operate during the construction phase of the building improvement project. This would require setting up a temporary transfer station. If property was acquired for the new building, the old station could continue to operate while construction of the new station occurred.
 - A downside to this idea is that the design already created by Sanborn, Head & Associates which the town has already paid for, could only be partially used.

Additional Funding for the Transfer Station Improvement Project:

1. Become a Regional Hub for Recycling Services

Richard and Willie have met with Matt Rose from Lakes Region Planning Commission (RPC). Matt believes that we will be eligible to receive more funding if we can prove an intent to open our facility to accepting recyclable products from other towns.

- Richard has composed a draft letter for the Tamworth Selectboard to send out to surrounding towns. (See attachment). TSIC members should review and edit before the next scheduled Selectboard meeting on **Thursday, November 16th**. If the Selectboard agenda allows, he will ask for Selectboard approval to send the letters.

Discussion:

- Suggest sending letters to the neighboring communities of Ossipee, Freedom, Madison, Sandwich.
- Maud suggests consulting with NRRA: they have a great interactive map that describes regional recycling partnerships: <https://www.nrrarecycles.org/power-recycling-partnerships>
- TSIC members considered ways to admit residents from other towns to the Tamworth facility if we were to regionalize. One idea would be to use stickers; this method has both pros and cons.
Maud will consult with the Littleton facility that is a regional hub to discuss how they manage this issue.
- Consider enlisting known recycling supporters in other towns to help in regionalization.

2. USDA Rural Development: Community Facilities direct Loan & Grant Program in Vermont and New Hampshire

This money is available to towns in Vt. And NH. This grant could potentially offer between \$70,000 and \$90,000. (It might cover the price of a baler or glass pulverizer.)

3. Direct Congressional Spending Award (CDS)

(if award is granted, USDA paperwork is still required.)

4. Reapply for the Northern Borders Grant

To Do:

All members:

~Review letter and send edits/changes to Richard as soon as possible.

Richard:

- ~Bring letter before the Tamworth Selectboard as soon as possible.
- ~ Schedule a follow-up meeting with Matt Rose from LRPC

? (someone)

- ~Follow-up phone calls to communities one or two weeks after letter is mailed.

Maud:

Contact Littleton recycling facility and gather information on how they manage their facility.

Willie:

- ~ will meet with selectboard members to discuss options.*

Next meeting: December 18, 2023, 6:00 pm

Meeting adjourned: 6:55PM

Minutes: E. Farnum

