

**Draft Minutes Transfer Station Improvement Committee (TSIC)
Feb. 19, 2024, Cook Memorial Library**

Call to Order: 6:10pm

Present: Ian Haskell, Willie Farnum, Maud Anderson, Kelley Goodson, Steve Schaeffer, Ellen Farnum (secretary) Sue Stowbridge (remote)

Members of the Public: Mark and Nancy Debitetto

Approve minutes from January 15, 2024

Motion to approve: Willie Second: Ian H. **vote:** unanimous

Public Comment:

Nancy and Mark Debitetto introduced themselves to TSIC members and asked for background information on the transfer station project.

Discussion:

TSIC members introduced themselves and gave a brief history of the work TSIC has done:

- Exploring options for improving Tamworth's handling of waste,
- Obtaining financial support for upgrading the facility,
- Visits to other transfer stations and discussions on regionalization with nearby towns,
- Work done with Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC), Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRRA), Carroll County Commissioners and Tamworth Recycling Project (TRP),
- TSIC members discussed engineering work, plans, and cost associated with upgrading the transfer station at its current location.

North Country Recycling (Potential Alternative Site for Transfer Station)

Willie, Richard, and Steve Schaffer are still negotiating with the owners of North Country Recycling Center. Discussions have slowed due to the unfortunate and unexpected death of the property owner, John Pusateri. Steve, Willie and Richard have met with Tony Pusateri who will be handling the negotiations from now on.

New developments:

- If an affordable price is agreed on, negotiators are hoping the NCR owners might be willing to accept partial payment with the town's existing funds, along with a lien on the transfer station property. (If town purchases the North Country Recycling property, it will no longer need the current transfer station.)
- Willie has had a preliminary discussion with Road Agent Richard Roberts to see if the town crew could help with site preparation to help reduce costs. (For example: preparing the site for C & D containers.)

Discussion:

Mark and Nancy Debitetto expressed their appreciating of the work done by TSIC. They encouraged us to continue exploring all options:

- Be aware of changing market prices in making recycling decisions,
- If another party purchases the North County Recycling Center and opens it to the public, consider sending our material to them.
- Continue to explore regionalization options,
- Hiring extra employees for the transfer station would significantly affect the town budget. Work on keeping employee costs to a minimum.

Next Meeting: March 18, 2024, 6:00 pm

Adjourned: 7:05 pm