

## **Transfer Station Improvement Committee (TSIC) Minutes September 27, 2021**

**Call to order:** 6:09

**Present:** Gabrielle Watson, Ian Haskell, Kelly Goodson, Willie Farnum, Ellen Farnum (Secretary)

**Approval of the minutes of September 20, 2021**

Willie F.: Motion to approve, Kelly G. second

**Vote:** unanimous

**Future meeting date and time:**

Due to scheduling conflicts with TSIC members, the group will now meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at 6:00 pm. **We will SKIP the meeting on October 5<sup>th</sup>** to give members time to complete monthly work.

**Alternate members:**

TSIC is seeking alternate members to make sure that the quorum requirements are met.

**Discussion:** Alternates would be invited to each meeting and could participate via zoom, unless they were needed in person to fulfill the Town Committee's quorum requirement. They would have access to all information.

Maud Anderson has been approached and is considering the offer. Willie will follow up. Sue Stowbridge has been contacted via email. Ellen will call her.

Richard Ducette has agreed to serve. Willie will put in a request with the SelectBoard for Richard to be a TSIC alternate. **Attendance:** *TSIC members should contact Ellen if they cannot attend a regularly scheduled meeting. She will then arrange for an alternate to be physically present for the meeting.*

**Septic and Well at the Transfer station**

The Tamworth SelectBoard has the authority to put in the septic, well, bathroom, eye-wash station and shower at the Transfer Station in 2022 without voter approval as they have funding available through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) slated for 2023.

**Discussion:** Willie and Kelly suggested that TSIC move forward to support this plan but ask the SelectBoard to make sure that the site picked for the bathroom will not jeopardize the planned renovation. (The planned renovation would still need a bathroom, as safety dictates that shower/eyewash be available in a work area.)

Kelly reported that there are currently 3 proposals for digging the test pits for septic, and three proposals for the well location.

**Motion by** Willie F., Gabrielle 2<sup>nd</sup>:

To have TSIC voice approval for a plan by the Tamworth SelectBoard to install a bathroom, septic, well, eyewash station and shower at the transfer station in 2022 using ARPA funds in locations that will not be incompatible with the future transfer station plans. **Vote:** unanimous

Willie will plan to speak to the SelectBoard during the public session this week September 30.

**Letter to surrounding towns –**

Discussion: Edits and additions to Willie F's draft letter.

The group agreed to broaden the scope of the letter by sending it to Ossipee, Effingham and Moultonborough as well as Freedom, Madison and Sandwich. If other towns show an interest, TSIC members will set up a meeting with a Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA) expert, or someone from Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC).

~Discussion on TSIC visiting other facilities: Willie and Kelly have both toured 5 or 6 facilities with Tamworth Recycling Project Members. They learned valuable information through the visits. Paige Wilson with LRPC could set up visits for other interested members.

**Motion** to send amended letter: Willie F, Second: Kelly G. **Vote:** unanimous.

Ellen will send out the amended letter and will post on Google Documents.

### **Obtaining more information:**

Willie shared graphs and figures on current pricing of recycled goods from NRRA. He also had information on percentages of specific recycled commodities in the waste stream available through EPA. (These are now available on Google Documents). Willie will contact NRRA and find out if the password he uses to access their information could be shared with other committee members.

### **Timeline Discussion:**

TSIC developed preliminary goals for the 2022 Tamworth Town Meeting:

1. Ensure that safety issues at the transfer station are addressed in the first year using the ARPA funds.
2. Create a safe working environment for employees.
3. Describe the total project and estimated cost to citizens: \$1.2 - \$1.5 million.  
Discuss options for phasing the project over time.
4. Describe the steps taken to pursue regionalized recycling with neighboring towns.
5. Show cost savings through deferred cost and have information on potential income gained through recycling.
6. Demonstrate flexibility of the building plan to be modified and changed based on pricing, commodities and other Tamworth needs.
7. Explain how features such as scales would promote fair pricing to residents.
8. Request that \$200,000 be placed in the Capital Reserve for future transfer station renovations. This sum would be added to the sum of \$100,000 previously placed in the Capital Reserve in 2021.

The group discussed phase 2 of the project, and ways to fund the project. Options include:

- a. Ask voters to place a sum of money each year into the capital reserve fund each year,
- b. Ask voters for a multiyear appropriation (the voters would appropriate a sum of money for the current year, and for the subsequent 2 years. This would require a 2/3 vote).
- c. Consider placing the truck scale later in the project; perhaps in 2026. Until then a less expensive pallet scale could be used.

**Grant information:**

Gabrielle has looked at the NH the Beautiful Grant. This grant would cover 20% of the cost of an equipment purchase. She noted the current cost of the project should be adjusted to show the total cost of the equipment. Willie agreed to find this information. Gabrielle went over the Tamworth Waste Management and Cost Reduction document she shared with TSIC members. The information in this document will help with grant writing. Willie recently added information based on 2020 and 2021 data.

**Discussion points:**

- ~Gabrielle tried to list a broad range of options such as composting or a Pay as you Throw type programs.
- ~The group discussed the need for quality assurance (Q.A.) and quality control (QC) over the recyclable commodities.
- ~ Balers can be used for a variety of materials. Two balers would be ideal.
- ~There would be many advantages to having an on-site glass crusher.

**Other Business:**

- ~It is important to send an email and link to group members when posting new information to google documents.
- ~ Suggestion to discuss, organize and review google documents at a future meeting.

**Postponed until next meeting:**

**Clarify TSIC's objective:**  
**Single Stream recycling-**

**To Do List****Ian:**

- ~Work with Willie and Maud Anderson on researching advantages and disadvantages of Single Stream Recycling

**Willie:**

- ~Phone Maud Anderson and discuss the alternate position,
- ~Put in a request with the SelectBoard for Richard Doucette to serve as a TSIC alternate.
- ~ Attend the SelectBoard meeting on September 30 and state TSIC's support of adding sewer and septic; as long as sewer/septic locations do not prove incompatible with future building plans.
- ~Research information on equipment cost

**Gabrielle:** Continue to gather information on available grants, (contact Jim Diamond and Paige Wilson at LRPC if needed)

- ~ Draft of mission statement

**Ellen:**

- ~Contact library to see if meeting space is available,
- ~Notify the SelectBoard of the changes in TSIC's meeting schedule
- ~ Send out revised letter to neighboring towns,
- ~Contact Sue Stowbridge to see if she is willing to serve as an alternate.

**8:00 Adjourn**

Minutes E. Farnum