

## **Transfer Station Improvement Committee**

**August 16, 2021**

**6:00 pm Cook Library**

### **Draft Minutes**

**Call to Order:** 6:07 pm

**Present:** Jim Diamond, Ian Haskell, Kelly Goodson, Willie Farnum

**Objective:**

1. To build a facility that will reduce the cost of disposing of Tamworth's waste,
2. To build a facility that will be able to bale recyclable products for sale to keep them out of landfills, and return revenue to the town.

**Charge by the SelectBoard and Focus for Committee Work:**

1. Review the design engineer Bruce Knox provided.
2. Review cost estimates by Bruce Knox.
3. Gather prices for the equipment needed to operate the facility.
4. Do an estimated cost of operation of the facility.
5. Plan a phased build-out with cost estimates and time line.
6. Find money-granting agencies.
7. Write grants for the Board of Selectmen to review and submit.
8. Hold information sessions on the proposal to inform and get input.
9. Build a power point to be shown at Town meeting.
10. Develop several viable building options. (Request BOS)

**Elect a Transfer Station Improvement Committee (TSIC) chair and vice chair:**

Willie Farnum was nominated to serve as the TSIC chair by Kelly G. Seconded: I. Haskell

**Vote:** Group unanimously elects W. Farnum as TSIC Chair

G. Watson was nominated for TSIC vice chair. Vote was postponed until next meeting when full committee can be present.

**Report on what has been done to date:**

Willie F read the following time line on prior work:

*Work to date on Transfer station Improvements as of 7-29-2021*

~The Tamworth Recycling Project (TRP) conducted a survey on recycling in 2018-2019. The survey was mailed to all the towns in Carroll County and three neighboring towns in Belknap County.

~April 2, 2019: TRP sent the survey results and the following mission statement to the Tamworth Selectboard:

*The Tamworth Recycling Project is a group of citizen volunteers dedicated to finding innovative and economical ways to recycle and reduce waste products at our transfer station. We are also interested in communicating ideas that encourage waste reduction on a personal level. We hope our efforts will benefit the town. We have compiled these surveys, and have included them in this information packet.*

~TRP explored regional solutions with the Carroll County Commission and Lakes Region Planning Commission,

~TRP and Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC) sponsored a workshop for transfer station employees/supervisors, select-boards and interested citizens to look at solutions to manage rising costs and environmental problems at municipal facilities.

~2019-2021: TRP members, SelectBoard Members Willie F. and Kelly G., and Transfer Station Supervisor Glenn Johnson visited transfer stations:

Tuftonboro, Ossipee, Gifford and Madison and a regional model facility: BCEP (Barnstead, Chichester, Epsom, and Pittsfield)

~2020 Selectboard Member Willie F spoke about regional options with the towns of Madison and Freedom

~June 2020: BOS member Willie F developed a rough estimate for a new building/ facility in Tamworth. Estimated cost: \$809,545

~2020 Selectboard member Willie F and the TRP met with the Tamworth Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and asked them to place money for upgrading/building the facility in the CIP. The CIP did not approve the request, feeling that more work with better figures was needed. The group did decide to put in \$36,000 for septic and well at the transfer station.

~June- July 2020 BOS Willie F requested pricing information from HEB and Bruce Knox engineers.

~August 2020 The BOS submitted a grant request to the Tamworth Foundation to hire Knox engineer for \$11,752.50. This grant was approved and received.

~October 2020 Bruce Knox, BOS Willie F and Glen Johnson began work on conceptual plans for the transfer station

~May 2021 received final plans from Bruce Knox (these plans were finalized a few day before Town Meeting).

~May 15, 2021 BOS member Willie F amended the Capital Reserve for the Transfer station from 36,000 to 100,000. This amendment received overwhelming support at Town Meeting with only a few no votes.

~June 3, 2021: Kelly G. requested that the BOS appoint a committee to work on the improvements/renovations to the Tamworth Transfer Station. BOS voted 4 no 1 yes.

~June 2021: Willie Farnum put together a committee outline and found members to serve.

~July 29, 2021 TRP members and Willie F asked for reconsideration of the vote to form a transfer station improvement committee.

Kelly G. Made the motion, and it was approved on the committee 4 in favor, 1 opposed.

~**Discussion:** The group discussed some of the current problems at the Tamworth Transfer Station, costs, and potential sources of revenue:

1. Facility has not had any major improvements since it was built: no running water/septic

2. New contract with Waste Management will increase hauling cost dramatically: from \$306 per haul to \$385 every time the container is hauled to the waste facility.

3. Willie F noted that the town of Tamworth will soon have a cost saving when two bonds are paid off in 2023. (The School bond currently costs the town \$170,000 per year, and the Landfill Closure costs the town 55,000 per year.)

4. BOS Chair Becky Mason recently asked the CIP to place \$100,000 from the Federal Recovery Funds into a fund to support a well and septic at the transfer station.

5. K. Goodson reported that LRPC are offering a workshop on regional solutions for composting in October. She suggested committee members attend.

**Review of the plan by engineer Bruce Knox**

W. Farnum noted that the plan was developed by Tamworth Transfer Station Supervisor Glenn Johnson, BOS member W. Farnum and engineer Bruce Knox.

~Glenn Johnson feels a baler is essential

~Willie also invited Tamworth Transfer Station Attendant Rich Moreau to comment on the plan: Rick recommends a second compactor and also said that the current compactor/compressor is 20 years old.

~Bathroom, shower, eye washing station are all included in the new design.

**Discussion:**

W. Farnum suggested several ways to break down the project into segments, and a draft timeline for the project:

2022: Main building (this would include bathrooms, septic, eyewash, shower and space for equipment such as a baler.) estimated cost: \$700,000 (this is adjusted for 3 % inflation)

2023:Purchase and install scales: Estimated cost:\$ 228,000 (includes 3% inflation cost)

2024: Roll off area for construction dumpsters \$229,000 (includes 3% inflation cost)

**Time line for TSIC work:**

~The committee needs to remain aware of the timeline for warrant articles. Information needs to be presented to the BOS during their budgeting process which begins in November and continues through January 2022.

**Goal(s) for the next meeting.**

~Grant Writing: It will be important to have the grant money amounts in front of the voters when they consider the project in March 2022. J. Diamond offered to help with grant writing: he could also reach out to another committee member (Gabrielle Watson) and LRPC and interested community members. Secretary E Farnum will share contact info for LRPC's Paige Wilson.

~Bruce Knox will be at this Thursday's selectboard meeting. (8-19-21) The selectboard will have an opportunity to comment on the plans. Members of the committee are encouraged to attend the meeting, or review the plans and send comments or questions to K. Goodson.

~W. Farnum will do a draft time line for the project for the next meeting,

~Secretary E. Farnum will contact the committee members to find the time the most members will be available to meet. Perhaps 3rd Monday, and 4th of each month? She will also check to see if the Library is available.

~Discuss 2 recommendations by committee member Harold Cook: he recommends Tamworth adopt a waste disposal model where residents would pay for their trash by weight, and also offer a monetary incentive for recycling glass.

**7:24 Meeting Adjourned** (motion by Kelly G, unanimous vote)

*Minutes Ellen Farnum TSIC secretary*