

MINUTES OF MEETING

A meeting of the **Ad Hoc Transfer Station Review Committee** was held in Meeting Room A of the CJH Municipal Center, 1 School St. Bethel, CT on September 15, 2016

Present: A.J. Bernard, Nick Ellis, Kitty Grant, B.J. Liberty, Kevin Sheehan, ex-officio Paul Szakowski

Absent: None

Guests: Transfer station manager Mike Flanagan, Phil Lopresti of Lopresti Carting and Joe Lostocco of Lostocco Services

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by AJ Bernard.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Mr. Lopresti and Mr. Lostocco presented their plan to potentially privatize the Bethel Transfer Station. The property and the permit would remain in Bethel's hands. The town would not incur any operating costs and would be paid a rental fee plus a fee per ton of garbage. Their plans include erecting a new building and separating the residential waste disposal area from the hauler's area to keep the large trucks away from the cars. They would be seeking a five-year lease with an option for another five years. MSW would be compacted in order to fit into 30-yard trucks which would be able to fit under the bridge instead of going through Nashville Road.

Current contractual obligations with HRRR require that Bethel gets credit for their garbage and a second contract with Winter Brothers requires recyclables to be brought to their facility. Both contracts expire in 2018.

Minutes of the August 11, 2016 meeting were approved on a motion by N. Ellis, second by K. Grant, all in favor.

Old Business:

Update on transfer station sign from K. Grant: The sign has not been finalized and was given back to this Committee to approve a design. After discussion, the Committee gave their recommendation to keep the wording to three lines: Town of Bethel (with logo), Public Works, Transfer Station.

Update on transfer station from M. Flanagan: It appears that the solar farm surveyors have completed their tasks.

New Business:

Report on the inspection of Shelton transfer station by BJ Liberty: The group was very impressed with the sorting of recyclables at the Winter Bros. site in Shelton. They employ both manual and automated processes to separate the single stream recyclables into their proper category. Then, all recyclables are bailed with each recycling plant having their own bailing method which makes it easy to differentiate where a bail originated in case of contamination.

Report on compactor cost: Winter Brothers would purchase the trucks and containers from Bethel for approximately \$5000 and provide the compactor. The cost of

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constructing the concrete pad and the trenching for the electricity for the compactor would be about \$20,000, bringing the net cost to \$15,000. This cost could be recouped quickly by reducing the number of pulls (which cost \$250 each) from 6 or 8 a week to as little as one a week.

N. Ellis suggested there was a third option of giving up the Transfer Station permit entirely since the biggest handicap to running a profitable operation is the lack of usage. There are presently 1200 – 1300 household permit holders. Making the Transfer Station usable for haulers would necessitate installing a scale which could cost up to \$100,000.

Discussion followed about the pros and cons of the three options. N. Ellis made a motion, seconded by K. Grant, to present the following recommendation to the Board of Selectman: to proceed with the compactor arrangement, pending clarification of whether or not Winter Bros. would require a lease agreement. The motion passed 4 to 1, with the chairman being requested to draft the presentation of the motion for the selectman. Second was the suggestion that the chairman send the selectman a letter on the former motion on elimination of the permit fees so that could be in place for the next fiscal year.

AJ Bernard made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by K. Sheehan, all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Linda Curtis
Recording Secretary