Town of Thompson
Transfer Station Advisory Committee
Minutes – Meeting January 23, 2020

The Transfer Station Advisory Committee held a Meeting on Thursday, January 23, 2020 in the Merrill Seney Community Room, Thompson Town Hall.

Meeting Moderator: Lynn volunteered to moderate the meeting and called the meeting to order at 7 PM. Karen volunteered to record the minutes.

Approve Minutes: Motion made by Al Landry and seconded by Kevin Racine to accept the minutes of August 21, 2019 as presented. All in favor, motion carries.

Changes to Agenda:
Added to #6, Information from Selectmen: review ordinance
Added to Other Business: nip collection proposal

Correspondence: email from Tyra (nip collection proposal); annual report submission; Town meeting date calendar

Financial Report: no analysis; DPW continuing work to reduce any deficit

Information from Selectmen: Request to review “Garbage, Rubbish, Refuse and Recycling Ordinance.” Corrections and clarifications made that are needed since the 2010 update, to bring ordinance into alignment with current TS conditions and with TS pamphlet. These will be submitted to Selectmen and a “Special Meeting” scheduled with DPW Supervisor Rich Benoit and First Selectman.
Selectmen need to review fees also, then bring amended Ordinance to their meeting before scheduling a vote to accept Ordinance at a Town Meeting.

Information from Director of Public Works:
• Sheet rock & demolition materials are not accepted in Bulky Waste; suggestion was made to offer permit holders a list of options for disposal.
• Kevin Racine reported on some upcoming changes to acceptable items at the Transfer Station. (Changes will be reflected in any rewrite of the TS pamphlet for the next November permit renewals, but will only be an addenda, if needed, until then.)
• A Hazardous Waste Day is planned for spring but no date as yet.
• Tires are now in a covered container, avoiding the weight of rainwater.
• TS still needs new signs and would like businesses to underwrite.
• Uncovered loads need to be written up; warnings issued, permits pulled at second infraction. Possibly sell covers at cost.

Report on NECCOG Sustainable Waste Management Presentation:
Karen reported on speakers and said seminar was worthwhile but didn’t really offer any new information we can act on now. Highlights were discussions on expanding the CT bottle bill; recycling programs; DEEP efforts to monitor PFAS contamination; an effort underway to establish a regional “Environmental Depot” to handle hazardous waste and house a facility for education on waste reduction and management.

Recycling, Education and Trash Reduction Effort: Lynn will draft a letter from the Committee supporting an expanded bottle bill.

Comments from Committee Members: Paul initiated discussion on recycling useable materials that end up in Bulky Waste and items in the swap shack.
Other Business: Proposed nips collection program discussed: agreement on problem but no solutions agreed on for collection points or funding. Objections to collection at Transfer Station include the time it would take for record keeping and that dirty plastic bottles with rings and caps would contaminate a load of clean recyclables. Also allowing TS access to nip collectors who don’t have TS permits.

Set next meeting Date and Agenda: Next regular meeting is August 27, 2020. “Special Meeting” needed in February with DPW Supervisor Rich Benoit and First Selectman.

Adjournment: Kevin made a motion, seconded by Linda, to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 PM. Motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Durlach