

**Town of Thompson**  
**Transfer Station Advisory Committee**  
**Minutes – Special Meeting August 21, 2019**

The Transfer Station Advisory Committee held a Special Meeting on Wednesday, August 21, 2019 in Room One at the Thompson Public Library/Community Center.

Those in attendance: Members Karen Durlach, Paul Horanzy, Al Landry, Lynn Landry, David Ostrowski. First Selectman Ken Beausoleil. Director of Public Works Rich Benoit, Citizens Linda Carli and Michael Dorsey.

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

**Approve Minutes:** Motion made by Al Landry and seconded by Paul Horanzy to accept the **minutes** of January 25, 2019 as presented. All in favor, motion carries.

**Changes to Agenda:** None.

**Correspondence:** None.

**Financial Report:** The revenues and expenditures for FY 18-19 were reviewed. There is less of a deficit than the previous year.

**Information from Director of Public Works:** Rich gave an overview of many of the changes at the Transfer Station.

- He has obtained a shed from Wheelabrator to be dedicated for mercury collection as part of Wheelabrator's mercury recovery program. There is no cost to Thompson. He will announce the program when the shed is ready. Because of our working relationship with Wheelabrator, we can get Mass. state pricing on light bulb disposal. Rich is checking to see if this would be an advantage considering many factors such as cost per square foot and how the bulbs would need to be prepared. Rich has created a DPW Facebook site and will periodically give more information and details about the Transfer Station.
- Enforcement is improving, especially with Bulky Waste Fees. There is the continuing issue of uncovered loads. Citizens Linda Carli and Michael Dorsey described the amounts of litter on their road, Stawicki Road, expressing hope that this issue could be addressed. The committee discussed several approaches, such as charging a fee for incoming uncovered loads, selling tarps at cost to those who bring in an uncovered load, or suspending a permit. Rich suggested preparing people by informing them of the possible consequences before enforcement actions would be taken, and having entering signage that states all loads must be covered.
- Rich is also working on new signage for the various bins and making the Transfer Station more efficient in general. Tires are now in a covered container, avoiding the weight of rainwater. He plans to have more covered containers in the future. There is a need for a heated shelter with water and an eyewash station. He is exploring the benefits of hiring contractors to haul loads, versus doing it ourselves.

**Information from First Selectman:** Ken discussed the rate increase last year and asked us to consider looking into streamlining the permit pricing system for the next budget session and would apply to the permit year starting November 2020. There will be no

change for the Permit Year beginning November 2019. He would like to see a fee that is reasonable and noted that our Transfer Station is still a bargain compared to surrounding towns. It is the goal of the Transfer Station to be efficient, not self-sufficient.

**Recycling, Education and Trash Reduction Effort:** Lynn will contact the public school to see if they require any assistance from this committee and if they are planning a Transfer Station tour.

**Citizens' Comments:** See above comments regarding Stawicki Road and litter as well as health concerns.

**Comments from Committee Members:** Al likes the idea of Rich's Facebook page and the value of getting information out. Ken said the town has now launched an Instagram account, and there are links to and from the town website, and Town Facebook page. Rich noted that WINY Radio has also been helpful with publishing information from him. We will give ideas to Rich regarding signs and facts.

**Other Business:** None.

**Set next meeting Date and Agenda:** Our next meeting is January 23, 2020.

**Adjournment:** Karen made a motion, seconded by Paul, to adjourn the meeting at 8PM. Motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lynn Landry