

2020 AUG 31 A 10:35

Linda Paradise
TOWN CLERK, ASST

**Town of Thompson
Transfer Station Advisory Committee
Minutes, Regular Meeting 8/27/2020**

Those in attendance: Paul Horanzy, David Ostrowski, Karen Durlach, Kevin Racine, Linda Carli, Al Landry, Lynn Landry.

1. **Choose Meeting Moderator and Secretary:** Karen Durlach volunteered to moderate the meeting and Lynn Landry volunteered to record the minutes. Karen called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.
2. **Approve Minutes of January 23, 2020:** Motion made by Al Landry and seconded by Lynn Landry to accept the minutes as presented. All in favor, motion carries.
3. **Changes to Agenda:** None
4. **Correspondence:** Correspondence from First Selectman on proposed fee increase. See Agenda Item 6.
5. **Financial Report:** We reviewed the Financial Report for FY ending 6-30-2020.
6. **Information from First Selectman:** We discussed the proposed increase in fees: Regular Household to increase to \$125 for full year and \$75 for Half year, No change to Senior Households, no \$5 replacement sticker fees, and second stickers may be purchased year-round at \$15 for Regular and Senior Households.
We noted that the rates had been raised two years ago. Items that were formerly fee items, such as electronics and mattresses, are now taken at no charge. Lacking further information or rationale for this proposal, this Committee recommends the following:
Fees should be addressed annually prior to the budget season so that a more accurate projection of revenue is part of the proposed budget.
Rate increases need to be tied to expenses.
Senior rate should be contingent on the overall rate. A suggested formula is that the Senior rate be half of the Regular rate, rounded up to the closest \$5 increment.
There needs to be a plan to address illegal dumping in town and also to increase enforcement at the Transfer Station.
The "smaller" commercial haulers in town need to pay the Commercial Hauler's Fee, or there should be a rate for "smaller" commercial haulers. Kevin noted that there are at least three: Mark's Rubbish, Ralph's Disposal and Boulet.
7. **Information from Director of Public Works:** None.
8. **Plan of Conservation and Development:** Karen brought information from the Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) meeting. Lynn had drafted a section on the Transfer Station, for DPW Rich Benoit's review. Tyra Penn-Gesek had made some additions to the section. We discussed

the changes and Karen will recommend that the section of Waste Management have sub-headings for Transfer and Recycling Station and for litter/dumping. We also discussed our chart of Comparison of Waste Disposal Systems that is referenced in the POCD. We periodically revisit this issue, and how a PAYT system could possibly work in Thompson. We would like to see recommendations for an equipment repair program and exploring automation systems in the future.

9. **Recycling, Education and Trash Reduction Effort:** There was no school tour of the Transfer Station this past school year. We hope to offer this program in the future. A TMHS Senior had contacted Lynn pre-CoVID about recycling information. Lynn will contact TMHS to see if students are interested in recycling this fall.

10. **Citizens' Comments:** No citizens in attendance.

11. **Comments from Committee Members:** No further comments.

12. **Other Business:** None.

13. **Set next meeting date and agenda:** We chose January 28, 2021 and August 26, 2021 as regular meetings and will hold Special Meetings as needs arise.

14. **Adjournment:** Motion by Al Landry and seconded by Kevin Racine, to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 PM. All in favor, motion carries, meeting is adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lynn Landry

The Thompson Transfer Station Advisory Committee is a committee of volunteer residents formed to improve the waste disposal system for the Town of Thompson which will be cost effective, equitable for users of the Transfer Station and environmentally sound. This committee addresses issues facing the Thompson Transfer Station regarding cost, regulation, recycling, recycling education, and options of efficient operations and enforcement. By acting as a forum for Transfer Station issues, we hope to increase awareness of Thompson residents to recycle, to care for the environment and to be responsible citizens for the beautification of our town.