

DURHAM MIDDLEFIELD INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT ADVISORY BOARD

Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 20, 2009

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM by Chairman Dom DelVecchio at the Durham Public Library.

Roll Call: Members present: Ron Capozzi, Bob Czarnecki, Dom DelVecchio, Chris Flanagan, Jim Gibbons, Katie Hughes, Frank Petrella and Al Raczka. Staff present: Site Manager Bob Matuskiewicz and Recording Secretary Trish Dynia.

Site Manager's Report: Bob Matuskiewicz stated that Durham recently lost a wonderful citizen and former member of this Board, Bill Lintz. Members noted that his passing is a great loss for his family and the community.

Bob reported that the tub grinder drive shaft has been repaired, the new fence has been installed, a Durham dump truck was used to bring leaves to the decomposition area and sticker sales as of this morning are 1,480.

Middlefield Town Hall received a complaint from a resident who claimed that a plastic shard containing a nail punctured one of his tires while he was at the transfer station. The man asked if he could be reimbursed for the tire replacement. Members felt that this was no different from puncturing a tire while driving on a town road (which the towns would not reimburse for), and barring negligence on the part of transfer station staff, there was no reason to set such a precedent.

In response to Commission questions regarding wood chip grinding and recycling, Bob explained that the chips go out as quickly as they are ground up. In the past month the Town of Durham has taken off twelve double loads for various uses around town, residents take them for gardens, and what is not removed from the property is used on-site to firm up berms against run-off.

Dom reported that he received a call this week from the newly formed Friends of White's Farm. They will be conducting brush clean up at the farm this Saturday and again at the end of the month, and inquired about bringing the materials to the transfer station. Dom explained the rules regarding dimensions and separation and Bob should be expecting them to bring them to the station Saturday or early the following week.

Old Business: None

Discussion of Equipment and Potential New Truck Purchase: In response to concerns expressed by Ron Capozzi at the last meeting regarding new engine efficiency, Dom received information from the manufacturer regarding reliability and design changes. The engine was last modified in 2007 and it appears that any bugs have been worked out. A new engine will come

out in 2010 to comply with revised emission standards and if the purchase is made this fall, the truck will have the 2007 design, with all the bugs worked out of it.

Dom reviewed figures from the most recent budget, noting that total truck repairs for the fiscal year 2008/2009 on the truck they wish to replace was approximately \$13,000. During the six weeks of the new fiscal year, 2009/2010, repairs are already at \$2,600, which does not bode well for future expenditures. As trucks age, repairs become more costly, and putting off the trade-in for another year would likely result in a much higher annual repair figure.

Ron Capozzi stated he is convinced that a new truck purchase is in order and that it would be prudent to stick with the Kenworth.

In response to several member questions regarding the purchase process, Dom explained that a check is not written from the DMIAAB budget **in one lump sum**. The purchase must be financed through a municipal finance group **over a period of four to five years** and the interest rate would be between four and five percent. In response to questions regarding the difference between lease and **purchase agreements**, Dom stated that he would look into this, and terms such as opting out during the lease vary depending on which finance group you use.

In response to questions regarding DMIAAB maintaining a non-profit status, Dom explained that although the agency receives income, it also has expenses, and at the end of the fiscal year anything left is rolled back into the two towns' general funds.

In response to questions regarding outfitting the truck after purchase, Bob replied that a separate company fits the truck to our specifications and the truck would not be delivered until about two months after it's ordered.

A motion was made by Frank Petrella, seconded by Al Raczka, to move forward with purchasing the Kenworth truck.

Discussion: Katie Hughes expressed concerns regarding purchasing a new truck in the present economy. She also asked what the repercussions would be if the purchase was done later, with the 2010 higher efficiency engine installed. Dom replied that the truck would be under warranty if there were bugs in the system, but it was also inconvenient to have the truck out of service while repairs are made.

Ron Capozzi stated that although the economy is not great, we have the money at hand to offset the financing due to the substantial CRRA rebate and other income. He noted that if tax receipts drop off and a year from now the truck is no longer usable without substantial output in repairs, it would be difficult to make the purchase or receive a good trade in value.

Bob Matuskiewicz added that right now his drivers are using the truck as little as possible in order to avoid further wear and tear and reducing the trade-in value. In order to maintain the trade-in value of \$40,000 the board may be forced to put out money for further repairs that would offset that trade in value negatively.

Bob Czarnecki asked why Kenworth seemed to be the choice even though it represented the higher of two quotes. Bob Matuskiewicz replied that the drivers are familiar with the Kenworth

trucks, all trucks could be serviced at the same location and they have been extremely satisfied with Kenworth's service over the past many years.

Chris Flanagan asked if they had ever looked into a Long Term Service Contract with the company. Dom replied that they had not but he will look into this.

Katie Hughes asked where the ten year "rule" had come from. Dom replied that because of extensive dollar output for repairs after the ten year mark, the towns had found it prudent to switch out trucks before the ten year mark.

Chairman Dom DelVecchio called for a vote.

The motion passed seven to one, with Katie Hughes in opposition.

Bob Matuskiewicz will make the call on Friday to Kenworth to order the truck and Dom DelVecchio will have more information on financing options ready for the September meeting.

Driver Drug Testing Program: Since the random drug testing policy went into effect on August 1, 2009, Dom asked Bob to make sure all DMIAAB employees are aware that they can be asked at any time to go to the testing center.

General Discussion of Recycling Efforts: Dom suggested that in October the board form a subcommittee to look into single stream recycling.

In response to several questions from Chris Flanagan regarding containers, Bob and Dom replied that the containers, which are owned by DMIAAB and purchased in-state, contain four types of items: metals, demolition, bottles and cans, and mixed paper.

Frank Petrella noted that there are dates coming up for electronic recycling and Hazardous Waste Disposal. Bob Matuskiewicz added that the transfer station would be closed on Monday, September 7th for labor day and will be open on Tuesday September 8th instead. Also, the transfer station will be closed for the duration of the Durham Fair. Dom asked Bob to make sure these announcements went into the newspaper.

New Business: Dom reported that the most recent water quality test was satisfactory.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Jim Gibbons, seconded by Frank Petrella, to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Trish Dynia
Recording Secretary

cc: Durham Town Clerk, Middlefield Town Clerk, Board Members