

**Town of Cape Elizabeth
Solid Waste & Recycling Long Range Planning Committee**

Meeting Minutes
June 2, 2015

Present: Bill Brownell (BB), Anne Swift-Kayatta (ASK), Jamie Garvin (JG) & Charles Wilson (CW)

Absent: Jessica Sullivan (JS)

Staff: Robert Malley, Director of Public Works (RM)

Consultants: Randy Tome (RT) and Megan McDevitt (MM) of Woodard & Curran (W&C)

Public: No members of the public were present.

Call to Order: Acting Chair Bill Brownell (BB) called the meeting to order @ 12:02 PM.

Citizen Opportunity for Public Comment

There was no public comment

Meeting Minutes

The May 20, 2015 meeting minutes were approved as written. (3 Yes, 0 No)

Updates from Consultants:

RT started with a presentation of a new site improvement plan with the committee. The proposed plan shows medians across from the Swap Shop to calm and segregate vehicular movements along with an enlarged grass island. Paved areas have been added to allow for access to the two “drive through” options under consideration.

CW arrived at 12:10 PM and RT quickly reviewed the site plans for his benefit.

MM reviewed proposed options for parking at the Swap Shop and Bottle Redemption Building. The costs associated with the proposed site plan improvements are included in the spreadsheets handed out (dated 5/29/15). She also shared some building elevations with the committee for the “drive through” options and discussed building material options that the committee may want to consider. There was a short Q &A about the overhead doors being shown in front of the compactor connections on the plan and the ultimate need (and cost) for them.

RT reviewed the updated spreadsheets (dated 5/29/15) with the committee that included “conceptual capital costs” and “costs per year”. There have been some downward adjustments to the “structural” estimates to account for sales tax, which was no longer being included in the amounts shown.

CW was concerned about the cost estimates associated with “Option 1” and “Option 2”. He is concerned about the amount of the estimate and how it will be received by the community. He expressed concerns if a “drop-off program” using a Transfer Station is how the Town should be handling MSW for the next 20+ years. He was also concerned about the satellite “blue bullet” compactors and their ability to accept large sections of cardboard without compromising the “level-of-service” on a busy day. He did not want to commit to a large investment in a Transfer Station if the technology on how MSW is handled will be changing in the near future. He thought that the negative attitudes about curbside collection in the community could change in the next 5 to 10 years and that a major capital investment in a Transfer Station will commit the Town to that model for an extended time period. He feels that a former option once under consideration (Option 3) would buy the Town some time until

the delivery of the service can be looked at again. He still has some concerns with “Option 3”, especially the traffic pattern, the user friendliness of the satellite compactors and the methodology of how users get MSW into the hopper.

BB suggested that larger satellite compactor units could be used to accommodate the inclusion of large sections of cardboard.

JG likes CW’s thoughts and observations, but feels that is a longer-term discussion that the committee may not be charged with. ASK felt that the committee’s charge is to recommend what they feel is the best way to handle MSW and recycling in the community for the next 20 years. She felt strongly that the committee should “focus on a long-term solution”, but should include a “base” option to the Town Council. CW again expressed his concerns about the estimated costs and does not feel comfortable committing to a program that locks the town in for an extended time period.

There was a general discussion with the consultants and RM about the trends in MSW management. Both RT and RM didn’t foresee many changes on how MSW is handled in the region as long as the EcoMaine waste-to-energy model continues to work well for its members.

Both BB and CW would like to revisit “Option 3”, but felt more work needs to be done on it to address traffic, access to the hopper and resolve the issue with how cardboard will be handled effectively by the proposed satellite compactors. There was a general discussion about streamlining the options down to 3 or 4.

Discussion about Final Report Outline:

Given the number of issues still to be resolved, BB suggested that the committee should request an extension from the Town Council. An extension would also provide more time to compile the final report. After a short discussion, it was voted to request an extension to August 30, 2015 to fulfill the committee’s charge. The vote was approved 4 to 0.

BB handed out an outline for the committee members present to consider. It is based on the format that was used in the 2003 Refuse Materials Planning Committee Final Report. CW commented that the report should have a consistent format and flow.

Other Business:

The next committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 17th @ 3:00 PM.

Citizen Opportunity for Public Comment:

There were no citizens present.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert C. Malley