

DURHAM MIDDLEFIELD INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT ADVISORY BOARD

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 31, 2025

Durham Town Hall

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:23 PM by Chairman DelVecchio.

Members present: Ron Capozzi, Dom DelVecchio, Steven Koerber, Glenn McNamara, Frank Petrella and Charles Zieminski

Members absent: Howard Weissberg

Staff present: Sean Piatek

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Frank Petrella made a motion, seconded by Glenn McNamara, to approve the agenda, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Site Manager's Report

Sean Piatek reported that they started selling stickers on July 14th and are up to 820 as of today. Sean has been going to Guilford to grind on the days the dump isn't open. Dom DelVecchio added that they began in Guilford on June 10th and have about 31 hours of actual grinding time due to issues with Guilford's equipment as well as the grinder. The grinder was down and inoperable for two-and-a-half weeks while the issue was diagnosed and parts ordered. They do hope to schedule the grinding for a different time of year in the future.

Sean Piatek noted that they have received three bids for the chain link fencing that OSHA requested by the demo bin, the metal bin and the ash bin as well as near the clothing drop box. A new air conditioner for the office was purchased today. They have also received a number of applications for part time help.

Discussion – DMIAAB Proposed FY25/26 Budget

Discussion – Recycling Tip Fee Bids Recommendation

Dom DelVecchio reviewed that the board members initially saw three different versions of the budget and the final version now includes DMIAAB opting out of the MIRA contract. DMIAAB and the towns received authorization from MIRA/DEEP/DAS to opt out of the remaining two years of the MIRA contract on June 30, 2025. Mr. DelVecchio believed that when MIRA dissolved, DAS took over the lease agreement for the Essex location, but the permit itself will be

held by the Town of Essex and the facility will be managed/operated by CWPM. At the last meeting, the board voted to recommend and enter into a contract with the Bristol Reworld facility for the disposing of MSW, but the recyclables disposal location was still unknown and under consideration. They did receive bids recently for recyclables for single stream disposal. DMIAAB has done dual stream recycling for years and they have a proposal from a paper outlet who is willing to pay \$20/ton for mixed paper. Recycling of bottles, cans and plastics will cost \$120/ton. Mr. DelVecchio felt that going through MIRA would have been close to \$30,000 (short term) and \$50,000 (beyond the two year subsidized package) but this option will bring DMIAAB recycling costs down to around \$15,000. This, along with the MSW tip fee savings, allowed them to cut the budget quite a bit and allowed for the purchase/lease of the new truck.

The towns have decided to keep the nip money reimbursements and not give it to DMIAAB. Dom DelVecchio believed that Durham is buying a new sweeper with it, but he was not sure what Middlefield will be doing with it. Discussion continued about how recycling is handled in other states and issues with plastics.

Ron Capozzi made a motion, seconded by Charlie Zieminski, to accept the Eastern Transfer Station proposal for recyclables for this fiscal year. Motion passed unanimously.

Dom DelVecchio went back to review the proposed FY25/26 budget and noted there was a \$6,000 to \$7,000 savings from the opt out provision in the proposed budget that was discussed in February. The towns' contributions remain very close to last year's numbers and the budget includes the purchase/lease of the new truck.

Ron Capozzi made a motion, seconded by Frank Petrella, to approve the proposed FY 2025-2026 DMIAAB final budget, as presented, at \$867,930. Motion passed unanimously.

Dom DelVecchio noted that they have not received the invoice from DAS for the June MSW tip fee yet. Dom summarized that by opting out from the MIRA deal, including reimbursement for recyclables, they saved \$60,000. There was further discussion about recyclables vs. returnables.

Dom DelVecchio reviewed that they had a \$41,000 surplus from last year's (FY24/25) budget, but reminded everyone that that does not include June's MSW tip fee which could be close to \$30,000. It may be possible to pay for the fencing with the surplus this fiscal year. If there is any further surplus, it can be carried over to this current fiscal year.

Mr. DelVecchio asked Blue Earth for a price for them to pick up the food compost as they are now up to six or seven containers a week. He will also start pulling together information on wages for a future discussion.

Discussion – Fence Bids/OSHA Concerns

Dom DelVecchio had distributed the bids to everyone and stated that the low bid came in at just below \$6,500. Durham Fence has done the fence work at the site before and it is the same material as proposed in the other bids.

Steven Koerber made a motion, seconded by Frank Petrella, to approve the permanent fencing recommended by OSHA at a cost not to exceed \$6,500. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion - New Truck Purchase

Dom DelVecchio hope to have more information on this soon.

OLD BUSINESS

Composting Units (Update)

Dom DelVecchio asked if anyone is willing to coordinate the composting program. He will talk to Howard Weissberg about it and also thought Durham may have someone interested in filling Brendan's O'Connell's seat on the board.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Glenn McNamara made a motion, seconded by Charlie Zieminski, to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2025 special meeting, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the regular meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Waz

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