

DMIAAB Task Force

Regular meeting
September 1, 2011

Minutes

(Not approved at time of filing)

1. Call to order

Chad Spooner called the meeting to order at 7:20 with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present are Chad Spooner, Jim Hempil, Dom DeVecchio, Howard Weissberg, Frank Petrella, Jon Brayshaw, Geoff Colegrove

2. Agreement discussion

Geoff Colegrove noted section 4.2 had changes made to it, and there were still outstanding issues regarding representation. It was suggested if the task force cannot agree on representation, they can simply include that fact in their report/recommendation.

Board members discussed the pros and cons of changing the representation to five for Durham and four for Middlefield. It was noted that would eliminate a tie vote on budget, and would move the vote to the boards of finance. It was stated Durham would have the higher representation because they finance a higher portion based on population. Board members debated the issue and compared it to the Board of Education representation. Some board members did not think that was working well either. It was noted the property is owned 50/50 between the two towns. Requiring a vote of 6/2 to pass a motion was discussed versus changing the representation.

A motion was made to table the discussion regarding representation to allow the selectmen to handle. This motion was seconded and approved by all voting members.

Marianne Corona noted based on the history, if they do not keep the representation at four and four for both towns, it will likely be voted down in Middlefield. She also noted that Middlefield bears the environmental impact of the transfer station site.

Geoff Colegrove provided a draft of the agreement and noted he needs to include the description of the Strickland property that was added to the property of the transfer station. There will be a cover letter that will discuss the representation issue as well. It was noted there will be a public hearing and town meetings, tentatively scheduled for October. It was noted that the document will have its legal review prior to providing to the public. Geoff Colegrove was asked to provide both the working final copy of the agreement that will include what they had and what changes were made, as well as a final copy showing only what the final copy will be. Geoff Colegrove confirmed that all the definitions were consistent with both DEEP and CRRA and when there was a conflict, he went with CRRA.

Section 3-4- one member discussed the acceptance of human and animal intestinal waste. It was stated that what is not listed on the allowable list, is therefore prohibited.

Board members discussed how they will manage when DEEP or CRRA changes their definitions. Geoff Colegrove suggested adding language under 6-17 to include this situation.

Board members discussed whether they do or do not want to accept commercial waste. It was agreed it was defined under MSW so they will accept commercial/industrial waste.

There was a typo in 6-10 in the first line that was noted and will be corrected. In 6-14 / 6-15 it was suggested to add the term mixed recyclables to the mixed municipal solid waste. Board members reviewed the definitions and noted to add recyclables to 6-13 and 6-14 and anywhere they use the term mixed municipal solid waste, including 6-15 and 6-16.

Section 7 was reviewed- with no changes suggested.

It was noted there may be some potential for mining of methane gas in the original landfill area.

Board members discussed how they want to present this to the townspeople, including both sides of the representation issue. The representation issue was compared to the Board of Education for discussion.

Board members agreed they were done discussing the agreement and Geoff Colegrove was to create the final draft as agreed to and send copies via email to all members. It was agreed they will meet one more time to make a motion to accept and forward the new agreement to the selection. Chad Spooner agreed to draft a cover letter indicating the areas the selectmen need to agree on. It was stated that if any member has comments to make regarding the draft, they must reply to all on the email in order to be sure everyone has been copied, and were also asked to do so within 72 hours of receiving the email from Geoff Colegrove.

It was agreed to meet on the 15th for a short meeting to review and vote on the draft.

A recommendation list had been submitted by Laura Francis and there are issues that need to be addressed still, and it was suggested that sub committees be formed to manage those.

3. Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn at 8:23, this motion was seconded and approved by all voting members.

DMIAAB Task Force
Regular Meeting
December 1.2011
Minutes
(Not approved at time of filing)

1. Call to order

Chad Spooner called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm. Present are Jim Hempil, Dom DelVecchio, Frank Petrella, Geoff Colegrove-staff and Bruce Chapman.

2. Board of Selectmen meetings

Chad Spooner provided a summary of the comments received at the two towns' Board of Selectmen meetings.

3. Review of Section 1-4

It had been suggested by a Durham resident to change the duration to 7 years-board members discussed various terms. It was noted that changes can be made at any point prior to the term if there is consensus. Board members considered adding a requirement for a review midway through the term.

It was agreed in section 1.4 to add to the last paragraph – subject to

A motion was made that the last paragraph 1-4, be amended to read “Whichever comes first, subject to section 1-5 and 7-1 which follow.” This motion was seconded and approved by all voting members.

4. Section 1-5

A resident indicated that 6 months seemed a short term to exit the agreement-and questioned if it should be extended to a year. Board members discussed.

A motion was made to add the phrase “Durham or Middlefield by vote of its legislative body no later than June 30 in any year elect to withdraw from this agreement; such withdrawal would become effective on the first day of July the year following such vote.” This motion was seconded and approved by all voting members.

5. Section 4-1

There had been a request for further definition of proportionate share. Board members read and reviewed this section as drafted.

It was agreed that in the seventh line down, the phrase ‘prorated cost’ should be changed to ‘proportionate share,’ and elsewhere ‘prorated ratio’ should be changed to ‘proportionate share.’

A motion was made to change 1.7 and 4.1 to remove the words “prorated” and substitute “proportionate share”. This motion was seconded and approved by all voting members.

6. Section 4-2

A comment had been made to further define surplus. Board members agreed no changes were needed in this regard.

7. Section 5-1

A Durham resident questioned why they pay 60% but only have 50% of the seats on DMIAAB board. Board members agreed this issue had been thoroughly discussed and decided on during previous meetings.

8. Section 5-3

It had been requested by a Middlefield resident that the phrase “whose election shall be confirmed in writing by the First Selectman” be removed from the document. A Durham resident had suggested it be changed from First Selectman to Boards of Selectmen, and it had been suggested to add back “by secret ballot” to that section.

Board members discussed and debated the issue of control over the board by the selection to this degree.

Board members discussed requiring a supermajority for vote passage.

A motion was made in 5-3 that “by secret ballot” be reinserted and the “whose election shall be confirmed in writing by the First Selectman of each constituent municipality” be removed, so it reads “...shall choose by secret ballot from its membership a chairman, a secretary, and a treasurer...” This motion was seconded. Three members approved and one member opposed.

9. Section 6-17

Board members debated which descriptive phrases they would use consistently throughout the document for the waste materials.

A motion was made to change Waste in 6-17 to MMSW, bulky waste, and recyclables. This motion was seconded and approved by all voting members.

10. Section 7-3

A resident had asked about removing the text “assume full responsibility” Board members noted they removed it because it was redundant and unnecessary, and agreed no changes were needed.

11. Representation

A Durham resident voiced strong opposition to equal representation due to unequal cost sharing; a Middlefield applauded the decision to maintain equal representation. It was noted that population does not necessarily provide a true representation of use at the site. Board members discussed various local businesses that they have witnessed using the site and what can be done to control how much commercial use.

Board members agreed while the 60/40 may be flawed somewhat they would not make any changes.

12. Final Motion

A motion was made to move this document, as revised at this meeting, to the First Selectman of Durham and Middlefield; this motion was seconded and approved by all voting members.

Board members discussed what issues this task force would like to continue to address and ideas they would like to support, including the pay as throw idea, commercial usage of the site, the use of the scale. It was agreed there were members willing to continue to serve but they declined to form any sub groups at this time. Chad Spooner will contact the members who were not present to see if they wish to continue or to resign so they could be replaced.

13. Meeting schedule

It was agreed to set a meeting schedule after the new year. Board members discussed what days/times worked best, noting that the sub committees should choose one topic and meet until that issue is resolved.

It was agreed to meet next on Tuesday, January 10, with the understand that this date would be emailed to all the members and is subject to change.

14. Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn at 8:25 pm; this motion was seconded and approved by all voting members.