

TOWN OF ASHLAND
WASTE TO ENERGY COMMITTEE (WTE)
COMMITTEE FORMATION AND MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2023 5:00 PM
UTILITY CONFERENCE ROOM 6 COLLINS STREET

I. CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Alan Cilley called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm. In attendance: Alan Cilley, Selectman Charlie Bozzello, Bonnie Bethune, Harry Gallien, and Mike Myshrall. Craig Moore in attendance at 5:23pm. William Hess in attendance at 5:32 pm.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Alan Cilley made a motion to accept minutes from the 11/01/23 WTE Committee meeting with amendments.

SECOND: Charlie Bozzello

VOTE: 4-0 approved as amended.

III. OLD BUSINESS:

- Plan visit to WIN Waste/Wheelabrator Waste-to-Energy Incinerator in Penacook, NH postponed due to 11/11/23 fire at the facility. Bonnie Bethune to reschedule for mid- December.
- Fred Welch continues to research road ownership and right-of-way to Town land (Site #2)
- Committee continues to focus on financial benefit to town and where will tonnage come from

IV. NEW BUSINESS –

1) Win Waste – Wheelabrator Concord facility fire:

On Saturday 11/11/23, there was a fire at waste-to-energy facility in Concord believed to have been caused by a lithium battery although it started in two places on the tipping floor. The facility was operational the following Monday. Incident led to discussion of back-up plan for proposed facility. There would be 1 week of MSW (municipal solid waste) storage on tipping floor. Older plants have 1 or 2 combustion chambers (Wheelabrator has 2) and the proposed Ashland facility would have 4 separate chambers; a fire on the tipping floor may limit the ability to “fluff” material and feed

chambers. The Town would get Business Interruption Insurance in case of facility shutdown to pay to take material elsewhere until operational again.

2) Life Expectancy of Ashland Facility:

Mike Myshrall asked about life expectancy of facility; Jeremy Smith said the furnace would be about 50 years; he would get back with more info. about steam turbine, transformer and generator. Babcock/Wilcox will stand behind their products.

3) Waldron Presentation:

Jeremy Smith provided electrical prints and stated that if this facility is not considered a “renewable energy” by the NH Site Evaluation Committee (SEC-<https://www.nhsec.nh.gov/>) the Town could consider accepting post-recycled along with pre-recycled material which includes construction and demolition debris (C&D) at the Ashland facility. C&D would first be processed in a Vermeer tub-grinder but could include wood, asphalt shingles, sheetrock, etc. Increased use of lime would eliminate emissions to meet air quality standards. Town could also consider accepting only mixed C&D or “clean” C&D which consists of untreated wood and pallets.

Craig Moore stated that Ashland produces 1 compactor of MSW and 2 containers of C&D per week.

Bonnie Bethune asked about scrap metal separation and Jeremy Smith stated there will be a rolling magnet that will remove scrap metal after material is burned. Scrap metal will then be sold at market pricing.

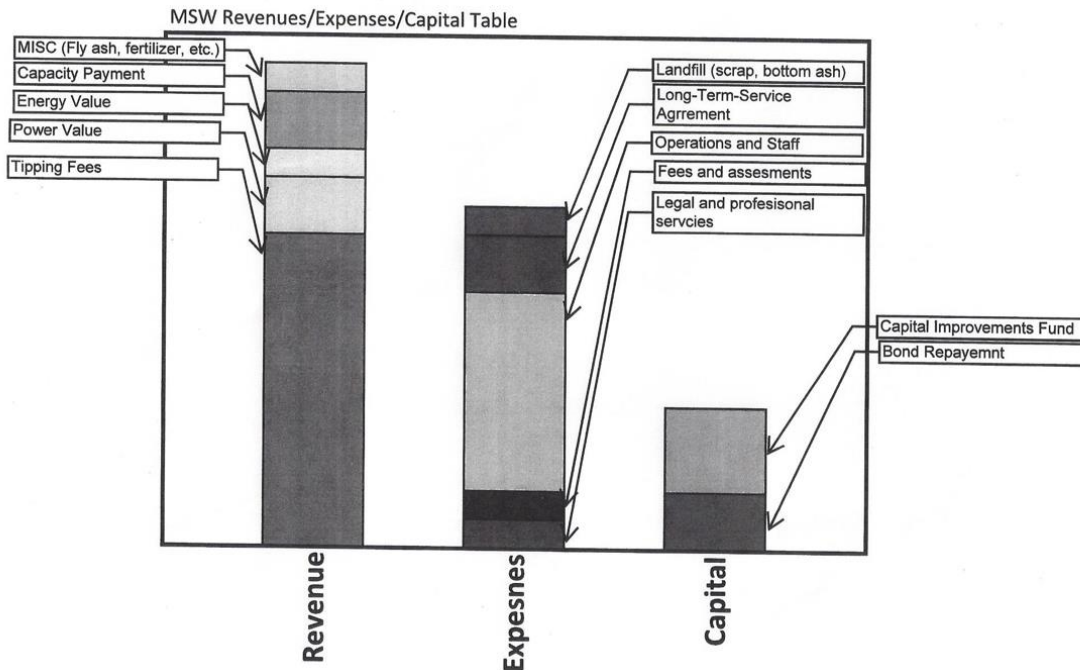
Charlie Bozzella mentioned that even if the facility is not deemed a renewable resource, it will still meet air and water quality standards with waste treated like any other fuel source.

Will Hess’ has a client that ran a remediation company in MA and client was selling wastewater (greywater) as coolant for nearby waste-to-energy facility.

Jeremy Smith presented the following info.

- Site #2 facility layout
- Minimum technical requirements of the facility
- Facility capability notes
- What does 1 ton of MSW bring in and where will the revenues go?

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Discussion continued:

- how the town would use facility profits – general fund, build infrastructure (bridges, etc.)
- as facility loan is paid off; capital increases
- Monday – Friday heavy burn of material; Saturday – Sunday light burn to get tonnage caught up
- Capacity – Town gets paid for a 12 megawatt plant even if not running 24-7 as long as energy is available 85% of time
- Town sets rules for facility as is town-owned
- ISO New England, a Regional Transmission Organization, covers the six states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont regulates power generated by facility
- Basic facility premise – burn MSW (potentially C&D) to generate steam to run the turbine to produce electricity
- Glass removal would be a cost reduction in tipping fees for incoming msw (post – recycled)
- Town Manager Fred Welch spoke let Waldron know that draft proposal ok with town council and it is ok for Waldron to issue a formal proposal to town

- At last Waldron requested \$50K for work in November/December to keep project moving forward i.e hiring Waldron; Selectboard said no \$ available; still in negotiations
- Jeremy Smith noted that other town departments may look at their equipment and staff and determine additions may have to be made with the addition of this facility to the town
- Charlie Bozzello said town needs to per risk management pros and cons
- Initial startup of facility would not be at 500 tons per day; would take 6 months to get qualified to come online
- Town would finance with a bond

III. OLD BUSINESS:

- Scheduled next WTE Committee meeting - Wednesday, 11/29/23 at Utility Conference Room 6 Collins Street at 5pm.
- Scheduled walk-through of facility site – Thursday 11/30/23 at #2 facility site at 9am
- Waldron to present with WTE Committee to Selectboard on Monday, 12/04/23

V. ADJOURNMENT: Charlie Bozzello made motion to adjourn meeting.

SECOND: Will Hess

Motion Passed unanimously; meeting adjourned at 6:37 pm.