

**The September 2, 2015 Regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Tollisen in the A. James Bold Meeting Room at the New Town Hall with the following members present:**

Kevin J. Tollisen, Supervisor  
Paul L. Hotaling, Councilman  
Daphne V. Jordan, Councilwoman  
John P. Wasielewski, Councilman  
Jeremy W. Connors, Councilman  
Lyn A. Murphy, Town Attorney  
Cathy L. Drobny, Deputy Town Attorney  
Lynda A. Bryan, Town Clerk

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE and MOMENT OF SILENCE**

### **TOWN BOAD RECOGNITION: ZONING REVIEW COMMITTEE**

**Supervisor Tollisen:** The first thing on our agenda this evening is recognition for a committee that was formed and tasked to do a pretty difficult job. What we are doing tonight is to publically thank the actual members of the Zoning Review Committee. Just to give you a little bit of background, the Zoning Review Committee was formed in May 2013 by Town Board resolution. The town sought individuals that were interested in volunteering their time to look at the town's zoning and Master Plan and make recommendations and suggestions on how to move the town forward in a positive way. There were 24 meetings that these Zoning Review Committee members attended. Each of the individual members came from different backgrounds, different talents, came from different perspectives and walks of life, you really couldn't have asked for a better Board. I am sure that they didn't agree on everything and I am sure that there were some diversity of opinion and sometimes it got a little heated, I am told. All in all, this committee needs to be publically thanked for a job well done. They have submitted their final recommendations to the town and now it is the Town's responsibility to take a look at those recommendations, view them and make a final decision. I will tell you that this Town Board is committed to that committee and the work that they have done. We have taken the suggestions and summaries that have been provided and have hired our town engineers Clough Harbour & Associates to look at those and tell us the things that make sense and that don't make sense in their minds, but to look at every single item that they've suggested and come back to us. While their job is officially done, the job is just beginning because once we get started here; we will have a series of public workshops with respect to changes to our town zoning.

I want to publically thank the following members and I think that Mr. Harris our Planning Director for providing this list and I am going to add a few to it Wayne Allen, Fred Bahr, A. James Bold, Jeff Burdyl, Jason Dell, Brian Knowles, Brenda LaMere, and Eli Taub. We have a Town Board resolution for you and when we are done here, Mr. Harris and our Stormwater Director Paul Marlow will take you to the foyer where we have a reception for you. There is something out there as well from the Town Board with our thanks.

**WHEREAS**, the Zoning Review Committee was created by the Halfmoon Town Board by resolution dated May 15, 2013 and

**WHEREAS**, the Zoning Review Committee was formed to review and make recommendations to the Town of Halfmoon's Master Plan and Zoning; and

**WHEREAS**, the Zoning Review Committee performed countless hours of service to the Town of Halfmoon by reviewing, discussing, debating and coming to consensus on a number of recommendations for the Halfmoon Town Board to review and analyze; and

**WHEREAS**, the Zoning Review Committee met twenty-four (24) times with each member bringing forth his or her own talents and unique perspective regarding Zoning issues in the Town of Halfmoon; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Halfmoon recognizes the time and effort put forth by A. James Bold as a member of the Town of Halfmoon Zoning Review Committee and his willingness to volunteer and utilize his abilities and unique talents to serve our community by participating in the Zoning Review Process; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board wishes to recognize and express gratitude to A. James Bold who demonstrated an extraordinary dedication to the future of our community together with a willingness to put the needs of the community first in participating in the Zoning Review Process and acting as an advisor to the Town Board on matters dealing with zoning and development in the Town of Halfmoon; and

**WHEREAS**, the Halfmoon community, and the communities around us benefit greatly from your choice to provide such exemplary service to our community and your willingness to review the existing Local Laws related to Zoning in the Town of Halfmoon and suggest modifications that will benefit the health, safety, and welfare of our community; and

**WHEREAS**, such service, which is truly the lifeblood of the community and the Town, so often goes unrecognized and unrewarded; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:**

1. That the Town Board of the Town of Halfmoon hereby recognizes and commends A. James Bold for his participation as a member of the Halfmoon Zoning Review Committee demonstrating his service and dedication to our community.
2. That a copy of this Resolution be presented to A. James Bold.

DATED: September 2, 2015

KEVIN J. TOLLISEN  
TOWN SUPERVISOR,  
TOWN OF HALFMOON

**RESOLUTION NO. 275**

**Offered** by Councilman Connors, seconded by Councilman Wasielewski: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board honors Wayne Allen, Fred Bahr, A. James Bold, Jeff Burdyl, Jason Dell, Brian Knowles, Brenda LaMere, and Eli Taub for their participation as a member of the Halfmoon Zoning Review Committee and demonstrating their service and dedication to our community

**PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING: RESIDENTIAL COLLECTION DISTRICT  
FOR SOLID WASTE AND SINGLE STREAM RECYCLABLES**

**Supervisor Tollisen:** The next item on our agenda is a public information meeting for our Residential Garbage Collection. Before we start our power point presentation for everyone to look at, I will tell you that we set this meeting because we have done some homework on this, but there will be no decision made by the Town Board this evening. The Town Board has not made a decision. There have been some reports that we have and that is absolutely not the case. We want to hear from you and there is quite a few of you here which is a good thing. We are not going to make a rash or a rush decision on this. I can tell you that me as a Supervisor, it is my responsibility to look at the budget and I am currently looking at the budget and some of the things that we are looking at are the number of items that continue to press the town budget. In conversations with the Highway Superintendent, our Transfer Station to be very blunt loses money each year. I have lived in Halfmoon my entire life and my parents still live on Lower Newtown Road so I remember the old landfill and I remember the Transfer Station that has been open for a number of years. We realize that this type of change if it was to be made is something that is very unsettling for people. Tonight, our job is to present what we have researched so far and to go from that research and hear from you. What is your position on this? I have given the Clerk emails, correspondence from 8 town residents who have emailed me and I have emailed each one of them back. Those 8 emails are part of the town record and if you want a copy of any of their correspondence, you are certainly entitled to that.

Again, we are going to ask Ken Gallagher from Clough Harbour & Associates to come up and do a power point presentation. Again, there is going to be no decision by the Town Board this evening. The town Board wants to take your comments. We have passed around a couple of notepads and if you want to be on the email list for notification when we have future discussions about this, we will make an email group and send it out. I know that there are some people from Sheldon Hills that are aware of the email group as we have been doing that with the traffic light. If you want to be part of the email group for any further discussions that the Town Board has of workshops, we want you to be notified of that. This is an information meeting tonight and we are

**STARTING: at 7:16**

**Ken Gallagher from Clough Harbour & Associates:** I have a brief power point presentation to go over the status of the evaluation of CHA consulting has done thus far on the town in connection with evaluating the feasibility issues for the residential waste district and I am sure that there will be questions that we will endeavor to answer.

First step that we did on the project is conducted a feasibility study and that feasibility study basically has established a district to encompass single and multi-family (up to 4 units) in a building to comprise the residential district. We estimated 6,100 eligible residents in the town would be part of that district. Most of the residents in the town are currently served by a subscription service whereby you contract with the private company to collect your waste and recyclables typically on a weekly basis.

What we found was the typical resident on subscription basis is paying between \$27.50 and almost \$39.00 for their service. This is a type of service that you would have with a dedicated container for your waste and recyclable collection. We also found that some residents use the town Transfer Station. We used some reliable data from 2014 and estimated that about 615 separate individuals purchased the town ticket books. The feasibility study also estimated how much it would cost for the town to self-perform the residential waste collection and disposition. We found that cost to be between \$21 and \$25 per residence on a monthly basis and that did not include yard waste. We also speculated that private sector might be able to provide that service for a little bit less.

I will talk a little bit about the bid process in a minute. As the Supervisor mentioned it would also avoid costs associated with the operation and upgrading of the existing Transfer Station which is another potential economic benefit identified. That feasibility study concluded that the formation of a residential district would for most residents represent an economic benefit for household waste and recyclables collection from the subscription service that they are paying now. There would be long term savings to the Town of Halfmoon in connection with reduction of services at the Transfer Station.

The considerations for that study were that the town should take the next steps and consider a local law to establish such a district and also to solicit bids from private companies to provide for the collection and disposition of both the residential and solid waste and single stream recyclables.

What I am going to talk about next is the request for bid that was submitted in May 2015. Three bids were submitted in response for that bid, County Waste, Republic Services and Waste Management, all very big reputable companies. The low bid was submitted by County Waste. That low bid was less than the lowest reported subscription rate for residential service and lower than the cost of our estimated cost if the town could self-perform the work.

County Waste bid per unit was \$17.37 per month in their base bid which did not include yard waste. Including yard waste collection, that bid was \$22.05 a month in the first year. That compares with the town's estimated cost to self-perform and not including yard waste of \$21.00 to \$25.00 a month.

In summary the cost to a typical resident right now is paying between \$27.50 and \$38.00 or \$39.00 per month for weekly waste and recyclables collection in a containerized service. The town wide district with a private hauler service would be about \$22.00 per month. The next steps would be the town considering the County Waste bid to providing these services including yard waste collection and consider proceeding with a residential garbage district and if that district is formed, entering into the contract with County Waste to perform those services. Now, I may not have mentioned that the RFB was for 3 years' worth of service commencing on or around January 4, 2016. It was separate pricing with a slight escalation for each of the 3 years.

Thank you very much for your attention and I would be happy to take some questions.

How much is slight? Let me look up the number for you, \$22.05 in the first year, \$22.39 the second year and the third year \$22.73.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Just for a second, please. I am going to let everyone talk and in order to get everyone's comments and where they are from. I am going to let the Board ask questions first and then we are going to go to individuals. We would be happy to answer any questions and like I said there is going to be no decisions on this tonight. First, John (Highway Superintendent) do you have any comments that you would like to make?

**Highway Superintendent, John Pingelski:** Some of the things that I would like to mention we are losing money every year close to \$40,000 to \$50,000 a year. Rates haven't been increased in some time. I actually went to the Board awhile back and explained to them that we were at a crossroads at the Transfer Station where we either needed to dump money into it or look at other options. We are not reinventing the wheel here. There are several municipalities that have town wide garbage pickup which caught my eye and directed me that way to look at the options, City of Mechanicville, Town of Schaghticoke, and City of Amsterdam are

some of the places around here that have it. The problem is the recyclables. That is where we are losing a lot of money. For those of you who are using the Transfer Station, for example the plastic, the tin and the glass all goes in that bin. When we go to dump that it weighs about 1 ton. Our return on that is \$10.00 a ton. Between the trucking and the driver to haul that out of there, which averages \$100.00 for every bin, because we back charge 2 hours for every bin that goes out of there. As an example, a couple of weeks ago it costs us \$91.00 to dump that bin. Cardboard is another thing that we are losing on newspapers we are barely breaking even. The only thing that we are making money on and even that is only \$.05 a pound is metals. Between the loose of the recyclables, the TV's have been a big hit. The recycler that was taking our TV's for free started charging. In turn, we tried to absorb a lot of those costs and TV's were coming in out of the woodwork. We had no option but to start charging for TV's.

Without even increasing the fees at the Transfer Station which are going to have to happen, if it does not go through or even in the short term, the \$22.05 a month comes out to \$5.00 a week. That is pretty much 2.5 bags. You would only have to drag the can to the end of the street, and which has not been mentioned yet, the Board is still on favor of doing the Spring/Falk Cleanups, you would not be losing that either. If it is to stay open, I do not know if Mike's here. Mike Ruff has been doing an amazing job since coming on in June. The place has gone from 2 people to 1 person to save money but Mike is very busy up there and really could use some help so if it were to stay open the payroll would have to double from what it is now.

A couple weeks ago we had a bin rejected because the metal had mixed stuff in it. We are constantly pulling stuff out of bin that can't be in there. Mike can only be in so many places at the same time. That would be another increase going back to 2 people. That is all that I have right now unless the Board has anything.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Can you talk to the age of the Transfer Station?

**Highway Superintendent, John Pingelski:** All of the equipment we have is original. Some of it I believe is from when we were running the Transfer Station at the old landfill. I got a rough price for replacing the dumpsters and it was close to \$50,000 and the truck alone is close to \$200,000 to replace the truck that hauls everything out of there. We are only charging \$25.00 an hour for the truck. Divide \$25.00 into the \$200,000 that is 8000 hours we would have to get out of that truck just to break even. That truck is also aged. Like I said, we are at a crossroad. I went to the Board sometime back to get them to look at other options. We either need to dump money into the Transfer Station, raise the rates and hopefully not push the 615 people to private service and now we would be in even worse shape with less people paying in. We need to keep in mind the other 5,000 plus people. I had the middle sized can and I pay \$40.00 a month. So this service comes at a 95 gallon can for garbage, a 95 gallon can for recyclables at \$22.00 a month.

If some of you don't think that you have the room to store the cans, it is in County Waste's contract that they would provide smaller cans but still at the same price. The reason for that is and I'm not speaking for them but the reason why they are able to keep the rate is because everyone is paying the same and there is not a lot of accounting involved. That is how they were able to keep the prices low. As far as increases, it was a 3 year bid that did go from \$22.05 first year to \$22.73 the third year and it was encouraging to have 3 bidders. If this was to go through and it came time to bid again, I'm confident that it would be very competitive again. Not like the cable company, switch in and then raising your rates. We do have a current 3 year bid and like I said with the 3 companies bidding, it will keep it competitive for the year 4, 5, or 6 if it goes that way.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Any questions from the Board?

**Councilwoman Jordan:** I don't know if this question can be answered. I know that we have 614 residents that use the Transfer Station and we know that from the punch cards that are purchased. However, the unanswered question to me, that I started asking a year ago, is how much does the average person spend per year at the Transfer Station for those that use it solely for their garbage? I am hoping maybe some people here might be able to answer that.

**Highway Superintendent, John Pingelski:** Anyone that has emailed me and rather than get into an email frenzy, I have actually gone to their house and answered their questions. Another thing that I want to mention is that on the Town's website, sign up for the e-alerts. I sent out an alert about this meeting, a reverse alert on the Transfer Station. I am constantly sending things out for the highway. So when you go home, if you are not signed up for the e-alert, click onto that and sign up. It is a good way to get information.

**Councilwoman Jordan:** I was just asking about and I don't know if the town has this information and that is about how much does

**Highway Superintendent, John Pingelski:** OK, that is where I was heading. Out of the 6,000 residence that could possibly be picked up, there are at least 615 that are possibly saving money and even more that may only have one bag a week. So, absolutely there's going to be people that are affected on the lower end. We also have to keep in mind the other 5,000 that are going to have their rates cut more than half also. If we keep going with the Transfer Station, the rates haven't been increased in quite a long time. I wanted to look at other options rather than raising the rates and people figuring out that for almost the same amount of money I can go and hire a private company and lose them and not have the money come in and pay for our investment.

**Councilwoman Jordan:** I understand that. I would ultimately love to hear from someone and they say "oh, we spend \$22.00 coming to the Transfer Station every month" and I don't know if anyone is going to say that.

#### **People commenting from the audience**

**Supervisor Tollisen:** OK, we are going to let you talk but we want to do it orderly so that we can be sure that it gets put on public record. We just want your name and address.

**Councilwoman Jordan:** Yes, that is exactly what I am asking to hear when you all take your turn. That will be good because that's an important factor in weighing all of this. Thanks.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Does the Board have any other comments?

**Councilman Wasielewski:** Yes, Mr. Supervisor, I just want to make it abundantly clear that if we change the way we currently do refuse collecting in the town, that we are not looking to the town to provide the service, the town to buy garbage trucks and hire town employees

**Highway Superintendent, John Pingelski:** That is correct. That is not my intention. We are looking at this because we are looking at ways of saving money and we don't have the money to put into the Transfer Station now so to go even bigger is not the direction

**Councilman Wasielewski:** I just wanted to make that plainly clear. Because I wouldn't support that if it was the case.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** That has not been any part of the discussion.

**Highway Superintendent, John Pingelski:** Early on when I first started looking at it and said that the City of Schenectady and Albany own all of their garbage trucks, but no that is not

**Councilman Wasielewski:** Residents in the City of Schenectady pays many times more property taxes than we do in Halfmoon.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Any more questions from the Board? I do want you guys to stay up here to answer any questions because I do want to open it up to the public for comment.

**James Bly, Lower Newtown Road:** I have lived here for 20 years with a family of 5 and have used the Transfer Station from day 1, averaging a bag of garbage a week at \$2.00. It's cheap, it's a great deal. The idea of paying a lot more is not attractive. Now that my kids are gone and we are down to a 2 person household, it's even less than that. I can certainly understand that the town is losing money and that is not a good thing. I am certainly open to paying more to continue the use of the Transfer Station, but \$20.00 or more a month is a lot more than I am paying now.

The other thing that I would like to understand is how this would be implemented. Are you going to increase taxes on us to cover the costs of this garbage collection? Because I will tell you right now, I'm a republican and I'm not interested in tax increases. Thank you.

**Mike Hurtt, 9 Plank Road:** I have a few questions. I am one of the 615 and have been doing it for 30 years. I remember using the dump and just dumping it on the ground as many of us do. I pay about \$10.00 a month for my household garbage. Has an analysis been done on what it would take to increase to make the Transfer Station at least cost neutral? Right now we pay \$20.00 a punch card, if it were \$30.00 a punch card would it be cost neutral?

**Highway Superintendent, John Pingelski:** It's kind of hard to charge for the recyclables where we are losing the money. If you went to \$30.00 a card then it would be \$3.00 a punch.

**Mike Hurtt, 9 Plank Road:** Would it be cost neutral?

**Highway Superintendent, John Pingelski:** We can look into that

**Mike Hurtt, 9 Plank Road:** OK, again, I'm not opposed to higher fees and I guess I'm not too opposed to paying \$22.00 a month for household garbage pickup. I am more concerned about yard debris. Every fall I have at least 4 trailers full of leaves that I bring to the Transfer Station and at least 1 or 2 in the spring. Now if I have to bag those leaves for County Waste to pick up, that would be an extreme inconvenience for me for the amount of debris and leaves that I have on my property. How would yard debris be handled if we do this and what would be the cost?

**Highway Superintendent, John Pingelski:** The yard waste is in the \$22.05 for the first year and as far as spring and fall, we are still continuing our free cleanups.

**Mike Hurtt, 9 Plank Road:** and you need to make the fall one at the end of October when the leaves are down, and the question is how do they pick it up tem up, just rake them to the side of the road and will they suck them up like Ballston Spa does or do we have to bag them? Can I just put them in my trailer and they will take them?

**Highway Superintendent, John Pingelski:** Like I said, fall and spring cleanup continues.

**Mike Hurtt, 9 Plank Road:** I am saying if I have County Waste pick them up in October when my leaves come down, how do I put them on the side of the road?

**Highway Superintendent, John Pingelski:** Biodegradable bags.

**Mike Hurtt, 9 Plank Road:** I can't do that. 4 trailer loads of leaves is a little bit too much to be bagging in my opinion. So I'm opposed to that. Lastly, the Town partner's with Clifton Park with the library, the school system, has there been any thought to partnering with them on their Transfer Station for residents that want to use a Transfer Station for yard debris, recyclables or for garbage?

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Yes, the answer is yes. Supervisor Barrett and I have had those discussions and that is certainly something that the town is looking at as an alternative. The cost of that would obviously be different than what it currently is.

**Mike Hurtt, 9 Plank Road:** It would be Clifton Park's cost pretty much.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Well, that's the problem with that type of scenario, but the town is looking into that with Supervisor Barrett, by using their Transfer Station would require more travel to go there. That is something that we have actively looked at. I spoke with Supervisor Barrett extensively today as well.

**Mike Hurtt, 9 Plank Road:** I would be very much in support of partnering with Clifton Park for the yard debris because I cannot bag them.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Shared services is an essential component in this day and age. We share services on a number of items with Clifton Park with respect to our Animal Control, dual transportation with a lot of traffic issues that we are experiencing. That is a realistic option that we are looking at.

Is there a representative from County Waste here? You guys can come up here too, you don't want to come up?

**Ron Clapper, Lower Newtown Road:** I have not yet heard if this is going to be a town wide mandatory and you will have your garbage picked up by County Waste, can you opt in or opt out? Will you be forced to join the service?

**Supervisor Tollisen:** My understanding of it is that we have not broached that issue of the opt out provision. What we have researched so far that if it went to all of the town residents and not multi family or commercial type as they have dumpsters and things of that nature. That is something that the Town Board has been discussing amongst themselves. With the report that we have gotten so far but the opt out provision is something that the Town Board has discussed because we do know that this affects some residents. Our legal team has to look into that #1, and #2 we need to talk with the hauler about that.

**Ron Clapper, Lower Newtown Road:** I think it makes a big difference and I think that these 2 gentlemen know now that it is going to take X amount of customers for it to be profitable to make it worthwhile to roll their trucks on our highways. We have 6,100 residents here; we have 615 that are using the Transfer Station. To me it doesn't make a lot of sense to force the rest of the town to go with County Waste if they have other providers. If we have 615 people using this service now it doesn't make a lot of sense to me to force everyone else in the town to go with County Waste. Halfmoon shouldn't be in the garbage business as far as I'm concerned. Were there any studies done on how many people have the waste haulers compared to the 615 who are using the town?

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Ken, can you answer this please?



**Ken Gallagher, Clough Harbour & Associates:** The question is how many families are using the waste haulers versus going to the Transfer Station. Our assumption is everyone who is not going to the Transfer Station is using a waste hauler to collect your waste. I don't see how there would be another option that we are aware.

**Ron Clapper, Lower Newtown Road:** My point is Kevin that 615 people are using the service now and you are going to force 6,100 into something that they necessarily don't want.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** 615 use the Transfer Station

**Ron Clapper, Lower Newtown Road:** That's right and 6,100 in the town. You can do the math the same as I can. If you got to close it down, you got to close it down. The 615 will have to get services the same as everyone else does, If you are losing money, you are losing money but I don't think that the rest of the town should be forced in to this waste hauler for 615 people who are using the Transfer Station now. Thank you.

**Highway Superintendent, John Pingelski:** You are saying that we shouldn't be in the garbage business, correct? We should close the Transfer Station?

**Ron Clapper, Lower Newtown Road:** 615 compared to 6,100. They are all taking care of their garbage somewhere right, they're happy right?

**Highway Superintendent, John Pingelski:** What we could have done was close the Transfer Station and said you need to go find somebody else. We decided not to do that and look at other options and if we had done that and everyone individually went and got their own prices, and I actually do. I am paying \$40.00 a month to County Waste right now. We got that price of \$22.05

**Someone speaking from the audience and could not be heard**

**Attorney Murphy:** I am so sorry. We want your comments on the record and if you are out there and they don't get picked up and they are not on the permanent record for our review

**Highway Superintendent, John Pingelski:** What I am saying the reason why it is \$22.00 is because they are going to pick up every single resident. Depending on how you look at it

**Ron Clapper, Lower Newtown Road:** I don't feel the town has the right to force all of its town residents into a waste hauler

**Highway Superintendent, John Pingelski:** The City of Mechanicville has the same thing. They have

**Ron Clapper, Lower Newtown Road:** Mechanicville is Mechanicville and we are the Town of Halfmoon

**Highway Superintendent, John Pingelski:** I understand that. There are a lot of towns that don't even have a Transfer Station. We are one of the few

**Ron Clapper, Lower Newtown Road:** You got 615 people

**Supervisor Tollisen:** OK, let's not debate this tonight. We will talk some more about it, but I want to get as many people in as we can who want to talk about it and have questions.

**Laura Perrault, 5 Werner Road:** We go to the Transfer Station every Saturday and it is about \$106.00 a year. Another thing is my kids grew up going there and knowing that it is garbage. You have to sort it and take ownership of it. I think that it is a good learning experience for your kids to see. I also think that it is pride in Halfmoon that we have this facility to use. I also think that it is good for business because you don't just sit in your house; you are into your community and I think that it is good for business to have it. Yes, some services in town are going to cost money, they are not all going to break even; you do have a town for that reason. I certainly am willing to pay more money for the service but am strongly opposed to getting rid of it because I think it is a real good thing for the town and right now it's employing town people rather than sending employment out to a company that's not in our county.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Ma'am, I will note that we did get your email and that is part of the public record as well. Thank you for sending that in.

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Kevin Tollisen

From:

Sent:

To:

Cc:

Subject:

Kevin Tollisen [ktollisen@Townofhalfmoon.org]

Monday, August 31, 2015 10:56 AM

'jwasielewski@townofhalfmoon.org'; 'Daphne Jordan'; 'Paul Hotaling'; 'Jeremy Connors'

'John Pingelski'

FW: [Halfmoon NY] Transfer station public comment publicity

Attached please find an email from a resident opposed to the closing of the transfer station and my response. FYI.

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent:

To:

Subject:

Kevin Tollisen [mailto:ktollisen@Townofhalfmoon.org]

Monday, August 31, 2015 10:37 AM

'laura perrault'

RE: [Halfmoon NY] Transfer station public comment publicity

Ms. Perrault:

Thank you for your email. I will pass your email to the other Town Board members. The meeting on Wednesday is a public meeting to discuss whether or not we will go to municipal garbage collection. At the meeting there will be a presentation and public comments is welcomed.

The issue that the Town faces is the transfer station is quite aged. If we continue to operate, we will need to make some substantial improvements. In looking at this, we looked at what other alternatives there were to provide residents this service at the best cost. We sent out a request for proposals and County Waste came back as the best hauler price at about \$280 per year. This includes trash removal, recycling and yard waste.

Even if the Town were to do this, it is unlikely it will happen next year. Again, we are seeking public input.

We would still continue to have our annual spring and fall cleanup and hazardous waste day.

If you have any further questions or if I can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you again for your comments and concerns.

Saturday, I read the Community News article about the proposal of closing the Transfer Station. I think it is a terrible idea. Your public comment meeting this is week very unpublicized. Please put signs up for Tuesday at the Transfer station. Saturday the staff said they had run out, yet I go every sat and had never been offered any info. There are no notes to read about the Aug 19 presentation and no announcements on the Halfmoon home page to know about this important meeting. It's buried under the Planning board agenda.

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Message sent by: laura perrault

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**Laura Perrault, 5 Werner Road:** Yes, because I do wish that they had put signs up at the Transfer Station that we were having this discussion. When I went there Saturday, there were no notices there to let people know. Thank you.

**Councilwoman Jordan:** Excuse me, could I ask you a question? I appreciate your comments but when you said that you would be willing to pay more per year, how much more would you be willing to pay?

**Laura Perrault, 5 Werner Road:** If the bags went up to \$2.50 I would still want to have a Transfer Station. I think that it is a great service to the community.

**Highway Superintendent, John Pingelski:** With that, as far as employees, we have 1 part-time employee there and County Waste isn't only in Saratoga County but part of their property is in the Town of Halfmoon and they do employ local.

**MaryBeth, Pineview Lane:** I moved into town about 12 years ago from Ballston Lake with my ex-husband for many years. I was able to buy my home in foreclosure. I am a single parent. I've had to work 2 jobs for many years and put 2 kids through college. There's very few ways I can save money. This is an option that I have had that saves me money. I am one person now and maybe I bring 1 or 2 bags down. I know that you don't want to lose money and I would pay more but it has been a nice option to have and a reason why I appreciate living in this town. I understand everyone's comments, but for me it's personal. I've had to lose several night's sleep on how am I going to stay in my home. I work for South Colonie schools for 6 years and got laid off along with 100 others. Then I moved to California for a travel position for a year so I could keep my home. My mother was sick and I had to come back because she passed a couple of months ago. It has been a struggle to stay in this area and I know that it doesn't seem like a lot of money to most people in town, a lot of people with nice homes, but for me it makes a difference month to month. That is all that I have to say.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Thank you.

**Marty Brier, 1 Pall Mall Drive:** Thank you John for coming over the other day to talk to me. That was impressive. I thank you so much. To answer your question, \$40.00 a year, can't beat it! I was so happy when the Transfer Station opened up and I could do the pickup. It's made a nice difference and I don't mind traveling to Clifton Park to take my recycling stuff and I conserve a lot. For there to be a slight and reasonable increase, I don't know what that increase should be, I would like to see some figures. I did some calculations in my head real quick John, and it was astronomical. Maybe I was too quick but I wouldn't mind a small increase. The \$30.00 per punch card sounds OK. I don't know if that is going to make a dent in the budget though. That would be an issue.

The idea of options; if more options could be presented that we could see on line or the Community News, but if more options could be shown to us that would be appreciated. Again, I do like the idea of having the option to opt out of a fee or a higher tax. I am going to be retiring soon and to go from \$40.00 a year to \$20.00 a month is \$200.00 a year. Again like the lady said, it's not a lot to some people but when you start to think about retiring, maybe it is. I know that I am in the very small minority of the 615 people. I am surprised at how much some people are spending and I hope it is not going to be mandatory. Thank you so much for your time.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Thank you very much.

**Tim DeeDee, Route 236:** Two things that I would like to say to you. This is what is going to happen here. \$22.05 first year, goes up second year, goes up third year. After the third year, we do a bid again and you know what's going to happen? No offence to County Waste, you are going to take 3 bids and that lowest bid is going to

be \$30.00 and we are going to go with that one. 3 years goes and the lowest bid is going to be \$35.00, 3 more years after that the lowest bid is going to be \$40.00. And guess what we are going to be paying \$50.00, 55.00, \$60.00 a month because they've got us. They got exactly where they want us, we have no Transfer Station, and we have no way to get rid of our garbage, so we are stuck.

The Transfer Station is different. Do you know why we have Halfmoon? Do you know what's great about Halfmoon? It's a small community. That is the reason why we have the parades, and the fireworks. The Transfer Station is not to just dump garbage. The Transfer Station is where you see and catch up with people. It's our little hometown Mayberry. It's our Barber Shop; it's where we get to communicate with people too. Don't get rid of the Transfer Station, it's a lot more than you think.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Thank you, sir.

**Charlie Keyes, 34 Plank Road:** I have been a resident of the Town of Halfmoon for 3 years. Particularly I would like to address Daphne and the cost of certain things and the fact that we moved from the Town of Malta 3 years ago to this Town of Halfmoon, wonderful. At the time 3 years ago, my cost per County Waste was a little bit more than a \$1.00 a day. I was so glad that I had the chance to participate in the Transfer Station with a punch ticket. I'm using 4-5 punch tickets per year versus almost more than \$1.00 a day. You do the math; it's a savings to me and my family. It is also considerable to the fixed income residents of this town. A little bit more taken away from a hauler, bites into their budget. Being that I say that I came from the Town of Malta with County Waste and they sold the local company to a California firm and service went downhill. I couldn't wait to get out of the town. There have been many weeks that County Waste failed to pick up on a routine basis. My trash on the street was left there many, many times. I still get emails from the Country Knolls website and I hear complaints all the time asking does anybody know when County Waste is going to pick up? One day I had a conversation with one of the haulers from County Waste because the man was lost. They came around 5:30 in the evening because he noticed that the trash bins were still left out from hours ago. "What's going on" I said. The company is mismanaged since they have been taken over by the firm in California. They don't know what they are doing; they do not have a game plan; the service is poor, very poor. This particular employee told me one county south of us didn't get picked up for a whole week. I don't want to hear about the animals going into your trash bins on the street during that time, it shouldn't happen. If they were prompt and courteous, it wouldn't happen. The other competitive haulers have gone out of their way to get the trash from Country Knolls because neighbors talk. If I remained in Country Knolls I would have gladly switched my business.

I am glad to be here in the Town of Halfmoon. I hope that you also consider that I also like the Transfer Station. I participate in it on almost a weekly basis. I like the availability of 3 days a week, not once like a hauler. OK? I hope you make a good decision; we have to live with your decision as residents. Thank you.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Thank you, sir.

**Patrick Festa, 6 Hampton Circle: (email is under correspondence)** I had sent in an email comment. My major concern is that I travel a lot during the week and the inconvenience of having the cans out on a given day would be a problem for me and probably there are other people in the same situation. Right now, having the 3 day option to drop my garbage off works out very well. Cost wise, I spend about \$50.00 to \$75.00 a year. The other quick question that I have concerning costs to maintain the Transfer Station. If we are still going to provide the Spring/Fall Cleanup, I think that is a big portion of the annual costs. Are we still going to need to do upgrades and equipment purchases? Thank you.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Thank you, sir. I will note that we did get your email and that is part of the public record as well. Thank you very much.

**Highway Superintendent, John Pingelski:** As far as the upgrades, the Fall/Spring Cleanup we wouldn't need the recycling bins that we currently have up there. We wouldn't need the compactor where you throw the garbage. We would just need open 30 yard bins to put the stuff in. You know the metal goes now. That is all we would need would be them.

**Patrick Festa, 6 Hampton Circle:** I was just thinking of the \$50,000. If you run the Fall/Spring Cleanup, how much is that going to cost

**Highway Superintendent, John Pingelski:** The truck that we are running every week will only run about 4 weeks out of the year and we do use it in Highway a very little. But that wouldn't be running every week and we would save that

**Bob Gallery, 49 Canal Road:** We moved here 6.5 years ago and about 8 years ago I am standing in a wooded lot where we are going to build a house and I checked out the trash situation before buying the land. Our driveway is probably 300 feet long and 100 feet above the road. I have no plans on wheeling a cart down this driveway in the summer or the winter. I may be one of a 1,000 people in this town that have that problem but that was one of the reasons why we moved here by checking out the trash situation before we moved here from East Greenbush that had a Transfer Station that was open 5 days a week and up to 8:00 at night. Maybe the hours is the reason why only 615 people are using it

**Councilman Wasielewski:** How were your property taxes in East Greenbush?

**Bob Gallery, 49 Canal Road:** They were the same as we are paying now, basically.

**Councilman Wasielewski:** You are not paying any town tax in Halfmoon right now. There is no town tax in the Town of Halfmoon.

**Bob Gallery, 49 Canal Road:** Who am I paying the town tax to then?

**Councilman Wasielewski:** There is no town tax. There is a Saratoga County tax and school taxes which kills everyone

**Bob Gallery, 49 Canal Road:** I'm pushing 60. I've had a hip replacement. I don't foresee myself wheeling a can or two down 300 feet at a 30 degree angle. I kind of like the Transfer Station. It is my wife and I and probably 1-2 bags each week. The Community News I think said that it is going to be \$296.00 fee for everybody and now you are saying \$22.00 per month, you are going from a loss to a cash cow here

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Ken, the exact cost?

**John Pingelski:** The first year would \$264.60, the second year \$268.68, and the third year would be \$272.76.

**Bob Gallery, 49 Canal Road:** You know where I live; I am not going down that hill in the wintertime with a herbage can, it's not happening. Thank you.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Thank you sir, very much.

**JoAnn Green, D&R Village:** Although there I do have garbage pickup and recycling automatically done for me living in the trailer park, but I do find that having the Transfer Station just very convenient. It is open 3 days a week. We have trash pickup once a week on Thursday morning, but sometimes if you have extra stuff, it is nice to be able to come up to the Transfer Station. A lot of time I have been out of

town or have garbage accumulate it was great to run up to the Transfer Station. I find it very sad that the Transfer Station is reduced to 1 person. I remember a few years ago they had 3 people there. It seemed that those men were very busy and accommodating if you had heavy trash. It seemed that there was enough to keep 3 people busy. It was a very convenient service. I have recycling twice a week but if you have extra bottles, it is nice to run up there. That is all that I have to say I guess.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Thank you. Good evening Dianne

**Dianne Mincher, 14 Harris Road:** I know that everyone here tonight is very concerned about the extra money that they might have to spend every year, it could be 30 – 40 years for some of us and that is a lot of money. We all try to save money and have a budget that we live within. I grew up in Halfmoon and proud to say that I live in the Town of Halfmoon. I have a couple of questions for John and John; I think that you do a great job with your department. It is hard to believe that you have County Waste pick up your garbage when you can take it to the Transfer Station 3 days a week. That just baffled me, OK. There's an expense right there for your household, #1. No offense, John. I asked the town, have they promoted the fact that we have new houses being built every month, every year with new residents coming into this town. Have we promoted the fact that we have a Transfer Station and you can save money, no offense to County Waste but you can save money by not using County Waste or Republican or whoever is out there? It is very affordable to use, so maybe we need to look at that. Send a letter to every household and let them know how much it will cost. Maybe people don't know that the Transfer Station is open 3 days a week. Everybody is looking to cut costs these days.

County Waste is local and employs local people in the Town of Halfmoon, but it is owned by a conglomerate in California. We want to keep the money local and I like what this one woman said how she is saving money, I'm saving money, I probably spend \$60.00 a year on tickets. Sometimes I don't even have my ticket so I give my \$2.00. How much revenue is paid on a weekly basis to the Transfer Station with people who forget their tickets and pay cash? I don't know what revenue is there

**John Pingelski:** That's recorded.

**Dianne Mincher, 14 Harris Road:** OK, that wasn't talked about tonight. Also, you mentioned that the truck would cost \$200,000 and that is 8,000 hours

**John Pingelski:** That's at \$25.00 an hour. Currently, Highway is back charging the Transfer Station 2 hours for every bin that gets hauled out of there and we are charging \$25.00 an hour. That \$25.00 is what I divided into the \$200,000 truck to replace that to break even on that is where I was going with that. I am my own worst enemy. The reason why I have County Waste is because I don't have to worry about anyone, and as I said I am my own worst enemy, saying that he's probably getting rid of his garbage for nothing and that is one of the reasons why I have County Waste.

**Dianne Mincher, 14 Harris Road:** OK, it just came to my mind. I have a long driveway and the thought of me when I'm 75 years old hauling that trash can down my driveway, I don't want to do it either and I know a lot of people don't want to do it. You know what, how many people have driven down a road in the Town of Halfmoon when there is a snow storm and the snow plows knock over the cans and it makes the roads a mess, it really is an eyesore. Another eyesore is how many people stick their County Waste cans in front of their \$350,000 home? I just can't believe that! I feel like it is an eyesore in the Town of Halfmoon and the County Waste cans are in front of their house versus in back of their house or garage. I just think that that is going to bother me.

You said 6,100 households in the Town of Halfmoon and 615 households are using the Transfer Station OK? If we raise the taxes maybe \$4.00 or a little bit so we can keep the Transfer Station and maybe make people aware that we do have it that is very affordable versus using a public vendor. Thank you.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** I am going to give a little kudos to Dianne. Those of you that know that the Halfmoon Navigator has been coming out, this is the lady that sells the ads for us and she has done a tremendous job, so while we are talking about municipal garbage, I just wanted to take the opportunity to thank Dianne publically for her work on the Halfmoon Navigator. So thank you Dianne.

**Christine Messier, Allan Drive:** I have lived in this town for 21 years. I grew up in Rotterdam, got married and moved here. My husband uses the Transfer Station on a regular basis and it does save our family money. I do have a few questions that I would like answered. The money that you are talking about are to go to County Waste at \$22.00 a month, how will this be billed? Will we get a monthly bill from County Waste or be in our taxes? Will somebody at the town send bills out to every residence and collect the money? Will somebody else be responsible for that? Will that be another cost on top of everything that you have to pay a salary for somebody, the mailings, the postage, the bills, somebody to take the money in and deposit it and cut a check to County Waste? If they are not doing that end of things, what is the plan on that aspect?

**John Pingelski:** It would be the same as your fire tax. The town collects all of the taxes and then they cut a check.

**Christine Messier, Allan Drive:** The tax in January it is added on to the county bill. Even though you say that there is no town tax, we pay for the fire department, library, and ambulance and now we are going to add on there for garbage.

**Councilman Wasielewski:** Ma'am, I totally agree with you. The reason why I got involved with service is because I am as fiscally tight as they come. I get that same bill. I am paying \$600.00 a year for the library that I don't have time to go too, fire department, and ambulance. I totally hear you and I agree with you.

**Christine Messier, Allan Drive:** So everybody as residents, whether you opt in or opt out of County Waste you are going to get a tax bill every year with an additional tax. So hypothetically if you pay for the sewer bills and bonds on there too, you add all of that up you are paying \$1,200.00 a year property taxes to \$1,500 and even more.

**Councilman Wasielewski:** That is why we are here tonight and I am glad that this room is packed with people because this is exactly what we

**Christine Messier, Allan Drive:** People don't want to see any more on their tax bill. I mean enough is enough. As families, we cut corners to be able to survive and do whatever we have to do to get by to pay for things for our kids and 10 -15 years I would like to retire. Will I be able to stay in this town? I'm guessing probably not. I will be selling and moving to a state that doesn't have all of the taxes or all of these added on things, food for thought. If you go from \$2.00 a barrel, go to \$4.00 a barrel, promote it. Thank you.

**Councilman Wasielewski:** Thank you

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Thank you very much.

**Mike Meyer, 37 Whitney Drive:** I am one of the new residents that were mentioned and moved over also from the Town of Rotterdam and was really thrilled when my 2 friends sitting over there told me that the Transfer Station existed and garbage could be brought there, mainly because County Waste is generally a very sterile and unforgiving kind of service. You have to have your cans out on a certain day, off the

street because they do get knocked over. The Transfer Station does provide a choice. This is one nice thing that I saw from the Town of Halfmoon when I came here is that we have a choice to get a hauler or to go to the Transfer Station. I choose to use the Transfer Station. Yes, it does cost me about \$6.00 to \$8.00 a month. It occurred to me when we were talking about the budget here and doing the math; the Residential Garbage District if it were to include a Transfer Station option, and again, we don't like to have choices eliminated, we like to have options. By closing the Transfer Station, you lose an option. If you take the \$50,000 every year loss that the Transfer Station is now incurring and amortize that over the 6,100 residences that comes to a little less than \$9.00 per year. Wouldn't there be a way to raise \$9.00 a year and be able to include the Transfer Station in the Garbage Collection District? Thank you.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Thank you, sir.

**Mr. Lynch, Summerfield Circle:** I'm a newbie to the Town of Halfmoon from Wilton and just sitting in the back taking notes. I've used the Weibel Avenue in Saratoga and when I left there I think it was \$3.00 a bag. I could live with an increase. I am one of the 615 that use it. A point was made earlier that a lot of people did not know about this meeting. A lot of the 6,100 who don't use the landfill could have cared less about coming here. I think that they will find out that what I hear you are proposing that this will be town wide and where I live we have a lot of snowbirds. I don't think that the snowbirds are going to be very happy paying for a service while they are sunning themselves in Florida, but that's their problem. I've always had a problem with privatization. I like to be able to have a pick and I appreciate you having a meeting tonight. I would like to say to keep the station. I appreciate that you went out to get a price. It is a lot less than what my neighbors are paying for right now. I wish that you would look at Weibel Avenue. Before we had the downturn, they were turning almost a profit at that place. But I am assuming the price of cans and cardboard, the profit is gone out of it now. Everything is changed, but if you look at that maybe there is something that we can learn from there. Thank you for your time.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Thank you.

**John Pingelski:** I believe that the Weibel Station site was one of the county recycling centers and the county within the last 9 months after losing money has closed, not closed but got out of the recycling business and bid it out and I believe that County Waste is running all of the county's recycling centers currently. In fact it was because the county was losing money that is why they decided to go that way.

**John Gorski, Upper Newtown Road:** Lifelong resident. I just want to know why don't you do a questioner because I do not think it is fair for everybody to get charged the same amount of money whether you have 1 bag of garbage or 20, you are going to get charged the same amount on your tax bill. It is not fair for everybody. That is why I am in favor of keeping the Transfer Station open. That way if you go over there with 1 bag, you pay for it. If you go with 5 bags, you pay for it. The way you want to do it is to charge everybody the same amount whether they have different amounts of garbage. By the way, I use 2-3 punch cards a year, so that is \$40.00 to \$60.00 it costs me for a year. And if I'm too lazy to go, I bring it to work and throw it in.

**Bob Lawrence, 11 Leslie Court:** I moved here 32 years ago from the Town of Colonie and I have been using the Transfer Station ever since. Having been an educator for over 42 years, I always taught my students to recycle. I see my neighbors recycling cans and everything is thrown into it. I question that. I am in favor of keeping the Transfer Station open and I am willing to pay more.

**Councilwoman Jordan:** How much more would you be willing to pay?



**Bob Lawrence, 11 Leslie Court:** I only use about 2 bags a month because it is only my wife and I. I would be willing to double it, \$5.00 a bag. I feel the transfer station is, I meet a lot of people at the Transfer Station. We don't have post office as you know

**Supervisor Tollisen:** We do but we don't have a zip code, despite trying.

**Bob Lawrence, 11 Leslie Court:** Well it's not Halfmoon, sorry you couldn't get it through. I feel like it is a meeting point, some Stewart's are meeting points. I feel that the Transfer Station is where family brings their kids there and show them how to recycle and I have met a lot of people over the years. I don't have any kids in the school system, so where else do I meet them but at the Transfer Station, Stewart's. I do love living in the Town of Halfmoon.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Thank you, sir.

**Kathy O'Neil, New Castle:** I spend about \$12.00 a year going to the recycling center so I agree with the woman who suggested the opt out feature. I would also approve of going to the Town of Clifton Park which I do because they have better hours. I think that they are open every day. I think that the people who are paying for service already approve of making that payment. So, if you have at least 3,000 people, half of what is already paying at \$40.00, my suggestion is to have them pay \$22.00 to County Waste and send the other \$20.00 to the town and you raise \$60,000.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Would agree to that County Waste? Ma'am, thank you for your comments. I appreciate them.

**Hennrietta O'Grady, Churchill Road:** First of all, I would like to say that John, you do a wonderful job. My husband is the one who goes to the Transfer Station and when he comes home he is always complimenting the helpful people that are there and I wanted that stated. Presently we spend approximately \$100.00 per year to use the Transfer Station which is approximately \$8.00 a month and sometimes a little more or less. If we are on vacation, we are not here. What I believe is that we should pay for what we use and not pay for service that is not needed. I am in favor of keeping the Transfer Station open. I am also in favor of raising the fees if necessary. I would say for example if you are charging \$2.00 a bag perhaps \$2.50 could be looked at. I think that we need further study about approximately what should be charged to cover future expenses. With that being said, I do support the Transfer Station and I encourage you keeping it open. Thank you.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Thank you.

**Larry Koniowka, 15 New Castle Road:** I am also for the opt in opt out option. I wouldn't mind going to Clifton Park and trying to merge with them. The Fall/Spring cleanups are when I use it the most. Me and my brother, 2 different households, we piggyback on our garbage. The 615 or the 6,100 can be a different number because some people, they merge households and combine the garbage. Most people are willing to pay more for the bags, the registration is free. I would not be opposed to pay a registration fee for the year and pay my part when I use it for the Fall/Spring cleanup too to help with costs. Thank you.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Thank you very much.

**Susan Sheridan, Guideboard Road:** Like the previous gentleman, my son & I have houses next to each other. I dump the garbage, he works and I dump the garbage. If you go to this new system with County Waste does that mean that we each have to pay \$22.00 a month for garbage or are we going to be able to continue with one garbage fee for the 2 of us because there is only 2 individuals in 2 separate houses.

The only time that I do extra garbage is when I have company or holidays. My garbage for the year is between \$80.00 to \$100.00. When I was still working, I worked for 30 years at the Post Office we had Waste Management for my garbage. When I retired and knew that I was going to have the time to do it, I cancelled them. 11 years ago it was going to cost me \$111.00 for 3 months and I figured that is way more garbage than I want to pay for. I am in favor of keeping the Transfer Station open or even combining with Clifton Park. I enjoy going there. John, they are always good, if I can't lift the bag from the trunk, they come over and lift it for me. I have no problem with it. I will pay extra, I do not care if I have to pay \$4.00 a bag. It would still be cheaper than paying County Waste or whoever else because like Waste Management, they started out low but it increased every year. Thank you.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Thank you, ma'am.

**Reese Burnell, 2 Red Maple Lane:** This is my first time here, I read about it in the paper. I am a newbie in this quite nice town. I just want to say that if it had been publicized I would have been here sooner. The reason why I use the Transfer Station is because I have recently dealt with County Waste and I was frustrated. When I dealt with that frustration, you pay and the service is not delivered. When you are charged on a quarterly bill whether you are there or not, you are still charged. You expect that from a conglomerate, but with the Transfer Station it is the local small town business, personable. You are not a number, you are a person. You know what you are paying for. You said yourself, how much are you willing to pay for, it is like asking someone; well you are paying this amount of money for the use of the Transfer Station, you are going to get that service whether the amount is \$40.00, \$50.00, you use that \$40.00 or \$50.00. You are not being charged by a service if you were out of state or the weather is bad, you are still being charged for that and that is frustrating. Especially with people that really pinch pennies it's frustrating and you get on the phone to say you didn't pick up the garbage or the weather was bad or you haul that can all the way down to the street and you come home from work and they haven't picked it up and you are frustrated and you are charged for that and they didn't pick it up. When I go to the Transfer Station, that is my responsibility, it's not someone else's responsibility. If I have a question, I don't know his name but he is always there and always willing to help. I am not a number, it's personable. I know that that money means something more and I am willing to pay for it because it is less frustrating than getting on the phone and calling to say that you didn't pick up my trash. They say that the driver didn't know where to go or the container had more so they only pick up what's in the container. I hear people say that I have leaves, I have this or that, I understand that. If you deal with other large corporations, you are not a person you are a number and you get charged regardless. In this case it is a small Mom & Pop place, you know that money is going to mean something and people are willing to pay more for the satisfaction and less frustration and less agonizing. I had an option; I don't like just being one way. I am in favor of keeping the Transfer Station. I am willing to pay more. We have had this Transfer Station for how long, before I ever existed. These people are here for a reason. It's because we care, not here to yell at you or snide comments, we are here because we care. I am in favor of keeping the Transfer Station.

**Mike Hurtt, 9 Plank Road:** Obviously, we love our Transfer Station. What will we lose by closing the Transfer Station? We lose waste oil, collection, large metal recycling, and yard debris. Those are probably things that we won't get with County Waste with curbside collection. Thank you.

**Supervisor Tolisen:** Thank you. What is going to happen from here folks, again, there 2 notepads going around the room. We do want you to be informed of our next steps of what the Town Board is going to do. We are going to take each of your comments and individually review & discuss them. We are going to do some more homework on them from our end of it. There will be no decision on this tonight. We

do value your comments, we appreciate you being here and we want you to be here. We would hope that more people would come to Town Board meetings. Its summertime and everybody is busy but this is important to us and important to all of you. What will happen is we will generate a group email. When we have future meetings and we discuss this going forward, we will make sure that you are aware of it. As more people make comments to the town, they will be added as well. Thank you again, you are welcome to stay for the rest of the meeting to hear the rest of what is going on in the Town of Halfmoon. John, do you have a closing remark to make?

**John Pingelski:** I do, I want to echo Supervisor Tollisen's remarks and thank you for your time tonight and please understand that it is my obligation to look at options. Other than the Transfer Station and what we can do to keep the Transfer Station going, I am constantly checking prices on metal. Our cardboard and newspapers are going from zero fibers and recycling in Queensbury, I am going back and forth checking who's paying the most. I truly enjoy having 615 less garbage cans out there because it does snow every Sunday night and Monday morning. Please go home and sign up for the E-Alerts. As far as advertising, I had contacted the Gazette and asked them to be here, I don't know if anyone here is from the Gazette. I did the reverse E-Alerts for those that were signed up on the Transfer Station on the website. We made copies to hand out at the Transfer Station. I know that there was one point that Mike ran out of copies and as soon as I had found that out I made up more. I apologize that if you went there and there wasn't any there.

I know myself and the Board are constantly looking at ways of notifying the public. The cleanup, we were actually lucky enough to get on the front page of the Pennysaver. I send this stuff out to the papers all of the time but unless it is bad news, the newspapers just don't like it. We do our best to get the information out. Thanks for your time again.

**Emails submitted from residents:**

Kevin Tollisen

**From:** Kevin Tollisen [ktollisen@Townofhalfmoon.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2015 5:08 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: public hearing about gargage

Danielle:

Thanks for the email. The Town is considering a Townwide garbage pickup. We sought bids for it and do have a quote. For most, it will result in savings to residents. At this point, we are not sure if we are doing this, but have scheduled a public meeting during our Town Board meeting on Sept 2<sup>nd</sup>. We are not hiring more workers and they would not be Town employees. We are NOT trying to hide anything. That is the furthest from what we want. The projected cost per household is about \$267 per year (I am on vacation so do not have this information in front of me so this is subject to confirmation). But anyway, this would be paid once per year and would be the entire garabage pickup from your house for the entire year. It includes all recyclables and yard waste pickup.

Let me know if I can be of further help. BUT, YES we do want public input.

Please note we have been doing public workshops for road improvements and the costs involved. We have some workshops already. The next one is Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm.

Check out the Town website for more information.

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2015 3:56 PM  
**To:** ktollisen@townofhalfmoon.org  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** public hearing about gargage

Hello Gentlemen,

This morning I have been dodging calls and texts about a public hearing on the town and garbage pick up. I told everyone that I had no idea what they were talking about. I understand that flyers have been given out at the transfer station but for those who don't go there, they have no idea. No one around my house or near this side of Halfmoon know anything about an upcoming public hearing. I was faxed a copy of the flyer. I personally cannot attend the Sept.2nd meeting but have concerns of my own. How is this going to be paid for? Is this going to be a tax? If so, are we going to be informed on the percentage at this meeting? Are we going to be hiring more workers? Is the town going to buy/borrow garbage trucks and what happens if we choose to keep our own service with County Waste? This really concerns me. I hope we are not going to be made to pay for others.. This is short notice but all of Halfmoon Residents should be advised. The feeling I am getting from neighbors is that they are not being informed for a reason. Any information is and would be appreciated. Just seeking answers for friends and family.

Thank you,  
Danielle DeVoe

ps- john do we have any meetings upcoming?

**Kevin Tollisen**

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**From:** Kevin Tollisen [ktollisen@Townofhalfmoon.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 28, 2015 8:48 AM  
**To:** 'Alan Kardon'  
**Cc:** 'John Pingelski'  
**Subject:** RE: Supervisor

2

Good morning Mr. Kardon:

Thank you for your email. The Town sent out a proposal to area haulers and the best quote we received was from County Waste. They would provide a large garbage can and recycling pan. They would also take yard waste. I am on vacation this week and don't have the documents in front of me but I believe the cost is about \$270 per year per household. Even if we decided to move forward with this, I am not sure it could be done this year as the time constraints are very tight. But, we wanted to have a public information meeting on it anyway.

The background of this is that the Transfer Station continues to age. If the Town were to keep this open, we would need to make some infrastructure improvements to the transfer station. The continued cost is a budget item that we have been really studying closely. And, if we were going to close, we would want to try to provide our residents with the best alternative that we can find.

I hope this helps, but would certainly give you a call next week if you would like. Just leave me your phone number.

I have cc'd our Highway Superintendent on this as he can provide additional information on this as well. Thank you and enjoy your weekend.

---Original Message---

**From:** [info@virtualtownhall.net](mailto:info@virtualtownhall.net) [mailto:[info@virtualtownhall.net](mailto:info@virtualtownhall.net)] On Behalf Of Alan Kardon  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 27, 2015 4:33 PM  
**To:** [ktollisen@townofhalfmoon.org](mailto:ktollisen@townofhalfmoon.org)  
**Subject:** Supervisor

Submitted on Thursday, August 27, 2015 - 4:32pm Submitted by anonymous user: [67.248.161.184]  
Submitted values are:

What does this comment regard: Supervisor

--Please provide the following information--

Name: Alan Kardon

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

City: Halfmoon

State: New York

Zip: 12188

Please include any questions or comments:

In reference to meeting on 9/2 about Town wide trash collection.

Can we get more Information on-

Who supplies trash cans?

Cost of trash collection?

Requirements for handling yard waste, empty cartons, branches,  
ETC?

(3)

Kevin Tollisen

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From: Doug Gross [mailto:dgross@nycap.com]  
Sent: Saturday, August 29, 2015 6:52 AM  
To: 'Kevin Tollisen'  
Subject: RE: [Halfmoon NY] transfer station

Thanks for getting back to me so quickly. Maybe there can be an opt out provision for those of us who don't want the service and can find other means of garbage disposal. The community news said the fee would be \$290 the first year and drop to \$260 the second year but based on our past experience with County Waste I have to believe the rates would raise in the future. We'll try to make the meeting if we are in town.  
Thanks again,  
Doug

-----Original Message-----

From: Kevin Tollisen [mailto:ktollisen@Townofhalfmoon.org]  
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 5:13 PM  
To: 'Doug Gross'  
Subject: RE: [Halfmoon NY] transfer station

Mr. Gross;

Thank you for your email. I will be sure to send this to our entire Town Board.

On September 2nd at 7pm, the Town will be holding a public information meeting. The Town is at a crossroads with regard to the continuation of the transfer station. If the Town was going to continue to keep the transfer station open, we would need to invest a considerable amount of money as the infrastructure is aging and in need of replacement. The continued cost of the transfer station is a big concern for the Town. As such, we undertook the process of trying to find the best alternative for our residents.

With the process that we have undergone so far and the process we need to go thru IF the Town Board wants to do this, it is unlikely it will happen this year. However, we want the public's input on this. With the County Waste proposal that was submitted, it would cost about \$270 per year per household (I apologize for an estimate on these numbers as I am currently out of Town on vacation with my family and going by memory). In any event, the cost would include garbage removal at each home, recycling and yard waste. The Town would still plan on having its spring and fall cleanup as well as hazardous waste day.

I do appreciate your thoughts and concerns. Again, your email will be sent to the entire Town Board. If I can be of further assistance, or if you would like to further discuss by phone or in person, just let me know. Have a nice weekend.

-----Original Message-----

From: Doug Gross [mailto:dgross@nycap.com]  
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 4:44 PM  
To: ktollisen@townofhalfmoon.org  
Subject: [Halfmoon NY] transfer station

Hello Mr. Tollisen,

I'm writing in regard to the plan to close the transfer station and force Town residents to use County Waste. We have been using the transfer station for our garbage for years mainly because County Waste is so expensive. I realize we are in the minority and that most Town residents will see a savings in their garbage removal but we will experience a large increase in what will be a tax. I see many seniors at the transfer station probably on fixed incomes and this will hit them hard. I am not happy with this and I know I'm in the minority but I just wanted to give you my two cents.  
Thanks,



**Kevin Tollisen - Re: Public Information Hearing - Residential Solid Waste & Recyclables Townwide Service**

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**From:** Kevin Tollisen  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** 9/2/2015 4:50 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Public Information Hearing - Residential Solid Waste & Recyclables Townwide Service

---

Dave:

Thank you for your email. I know John P spoke with you.

Please be assured that your comments will be brought up at the meeting under correspondence as part of the public record.

I do not believe we are going to make a decision on this tonight as we want to take public input and discuss further.

If you have any questions or if I can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards.

>>> [REDACTED] 9/1/2015 8:38 PM >>>

John,

Thank you for stopping by and clearing some things up for me.

I do understand the impact of 615 residents vs. the overall community.

It would be nice if it were \$20/month, just a nice round number.

I'm not saying I'm for it now, just that I understand what better what we are looking at. I wish I could be at the meeting tomorrow night, I cannot.

Will the meeting be taped/transcribed? Will there be a vote, how does this get decided one way or the other??

I like to stay informed.

Thanks again,  
-dave P.

----- John Pingelski <jpingels@townofhalfmoon.org> wrote:

> Dave,

> I'll stop by and try to talk with you but you are grossly misinformed.

>

> Sent from my iPhone

>

> > On Sep 1, 2015, at 4:37 PM, [REDACTED] wrote:

> >

> > Hello Towns People,

> > As I won't be able to make this meeting, I will submit my concerns, as a resident of our town by E-mail. I truly don't believe this 'idea' is in the best interest of the town's people by any stretch.

> >

> > I feel this is a way for the town to eliminate what I believe is seen as a 'headache' on their part.

> >

> > How could we ask ALL resident's to pay a monthly bill well over what they currently pay?

> > I currently pay \$20 every 2 1/2 months, now I will be paying \$35-\$40 every month? Are the taxes not high enough already? We all wonder why people are leaving NY state? We, by instituting a forced pickup of garbage, are part of the problem.

> >

> > Why are we not seeing what we are doing to our residents? Why are we blinded by engineering reports? This is common sense. Have we lost our common sense??

> >

> > My current breakdown:

> >

> > \$8/month, \$96/year.

> >

> > My New breakdown (Town pickup):

> >

> > \$35-\$40/month, \$420/year

> >

> > I am no mathematician, but I know by looking at those figures, I am getting the shaft.

> >

> > What about the elders in our town that can't come up with that kind of money, or adds another burden to them? That could mean a good number of meals for them, or heating costs in a cold winter, have we even considered them? I don't want to pay that difference, why would they? Granted some in our community will like this, those that can afford it or can't be bothered with the hassle of going to the dump.

> >

> > The bottom line, from my standpoint:

> > Do we want to increase our tax burden to our residents??

> > Are they not already upset enough with government?

> >

> > Thank You,

> > David W. Papura

> > 121 Johnson Rd.

> > Mechanicville



**Kevin Tollisen - Re: Meeting Wed Sept 2**

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**From:** Kevin Tollisen  
**To:** Anne Allen  
**Date:** 9/2/2015 4:55 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Meeting Wed Sept 2

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Anne;

Thank you for your email and comments. I will make sure the Town Board receives this for the meeting and it will be added to the public record.

Again, I appreciate your input on this issue. Have a great Labor Day weekend.

>>> Anne Allen <achocolaterose@earthlink.net> 9/2/2015 3:57 PM >>>

Hi Kevin

Attached please find a letter regarding the meeting tonight.  
Unfortunately we are unable to attend.  
Just wanted to send you my thoughts on this matter.

Anne Allen

Kevin Tollisen  
2 Town Plaza  
Halfmoon, NY 12065

Dear Supervisor Tollisen:

I am sorry but I or my husband will not be able to make the meeting on Tuesday Sept 2 as we have another commitment.

I am writing regarding an article I read in the Community News regarding the Town of Halfmoon Finances regarding the transfer station. I am in total agreement for the Town of Halfmoon Garbage and Recycling Pickup being done through the town. Not only will it help keep the town clean as everyone will be paying for garbage and recycling so they maybe they will use it.

I have a suggestion with all the people getting tickets on the Northway, Rt 9 and the major roads in Halfmoon, perhaps the surcharge from the tickets could be used to help maintain the roads.

Sincerely,  
  
Anne Allen

**Supervisor Tollisen:** I am sure that some of you will stay and some of you will go, but I do want to make notice of other public workshops that are going on. Today was the 4<sup>th</sup> public workshop regarding the town discussing road improvements and how to pay for them. I would welcome you to come. We do have the minutes to the workshops and they will be on our website. I definitely want you to make sure you are aware of that. Our next public workshop regarding road improvements and paving and things of that nature is September the 10<sup>th</sup> next week at 7:00 pm. Also for those of you leaving, I do want to make mention that the Town of Halfmoon will be having a 9-11 Memorial Remembrance Service next Friday at 6:30 pm and that will include our local fire departments, emergency responders. It is a very solemn and reverent ceremony that we have each year. So, please come to that because we don't want to forget those tragic events of September 11<sup>th</sup> so many years ago. For myself with two little kids, they are 9 & 12 and you know what, they don't know any of this and without having something like this for them to remember. Please come next Friday night at 6:30. It is right outside at the Abele Memorial Park at the Gazebo. There will be some speakers, music and some solemn remembrances. Please come if you can.

Good night folks, for those of you who are not staying and thank you Mr. Gallagher for your presentation tonight. John, if you want to out in the hallway and answer some individual questions, you can do that.

Let's precede forward on the agenda with Reports of Board members. I have already mentioned the 9-11 Ceremony next Friday at 6:30. Secondly, with regard to the road improvements, tonight was our 4<sup>th</sup> discussion. I believe that the Board in our pre-meeting had a discussion to set additional workshops. I need a motion from the Board to set two additional workshops and I will defer to the Town Clerk for the dates.

**Clerk Bryan:** The next meeting is September 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** The next public workshop is scheduled for September 10<sup>th</sup>. What additional dates would the Board like to use? Would you like to use the next Town Board meeting date at 6:00 pm? Would you like another workshop the following week?

**Councilwoman Jordan:** I would, because no one comes

**Councilman Connors:** Mr. Supervisor, just for the record, I will not be in attendance at the next scheduled Board meeting. I will be out of town for employment.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 276**

**Offered** by Councilman Wasielewski, seconded by Councilman Hotaling: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board approves scheduling 2 workshops for September 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm and September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 pm to discuss strategy and planning for both short term and long term road improvement and infrastructure improvements and their budget impacts for Town residents.

#### **COMMUNITY EVENTS:**

**Patriot Day Ceremony** will be held on September 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at the Abele Memorial Park.

**Good Karma 5K Walk/Run** September 12<sup>th</sup> - 9:30 AM at Halfmoon Town Park for All India Movement for Seva, Inc.

**Fall Cleanup** at the Town of Halfmoon Transfer Station dates: September 15, 18, 19, 22, 25, & 26. This service is FREE (some restrictions apply) to Halfmoon residents. Please pick up your FREE permit sticker at the Town Clerk's Office.

**Clifton Park-Halfmoon Library** will be holding an election at the library at 475 Moe Road on September 7<sup>th</sup> from 7am until 9pm for the budget and the election of Trustees.

**Fall Cleanup** at the Town of Halfmoon Transfer Station dates: September 15, 18, 19, 22, 25, & 26. This service is FREE (some restrictions apply) to Halfmoon residents. Please pick up your FREE permit sticker at the Town Clerk's Office.

**Fall Festival** in the Town Park September 19<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**Great American Pet Fest & Home Show** – Saturday September 26<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 3pm at Shen Methodist Church Grounds, Route 146

**Nick's 5K Run** – 2015 Fight to be Held in honor of Kendra Sisco on September 27<sup>th</sup> at the Clifton Commons. Registration

**First Annual Fundraiser "Family Fun Day" through the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society for Blood Cancer Awareness Month on September 27, 2015 12-5pm at the Grecian Gardens.**

**TOWN MEETINGS:**

**Town Board Meetings:** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of month at 7:00 pm except May 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm

**Zoning Board of Appeals:** 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of month at 7:00 pm.

**Planning Board Meeting:** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of month at 7:00 pm.

**Board of Assessment Review:** 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday in May

**Senior Center Business Meeting:** 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of month at 1:00 pm

**Halfmoon Historical Society:** Last Tuesday of month at 7:00 pm

**Open Space & Trails Committee:** February 9<sup>th</sup>, April 20<sup>th</sup>, May 18<sup>th</sup>, July 20<sup>th</sup>, September 21, & November 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Resident Relations Committee:**

**Business & Economic Development Committee:** Conference Room

**REPORTS OF BOARD MEMBERS AND TOWN ATTORNEY**

**Kevin J. Tollisen (Town Supervisor)**

**Paul Hotaling (Deputy Supervisor):** (1) Chair of Parks & Recreation, Infrastructure (Water, Highway, Building & Maintenance), (2) Co-Chair of Character Counts, (3) Chair on Committee on Baseball/Athletic Organizations, (4) Chair of Personnel Committee, (5) Co-Chair of Zoning Review Committee

**Councilman Hotaling:** September 12<sup>th</sup>, we are partnering up with Mechanicville and Stillwater for a Breast Cancer Fundraiser and do a Volleyball Tournament at the Town facility. Tournament fees are \$100.00 per team. You need to have 6 women and 2 men or 6 men and 2 women on your team, so it is unisex. It will be a tournament play and a bragging rights trophy given. I hope that everyone can attend.

**John Wasielewski (Town Board Member):** (1) Chair of Ethics Committee, (2) Chair of Committee on Emergency Services and Public Safety (Emergency Corps, Fire Department, Police);(3) Chair of Committee on Resident Relations, (4)Co- Liaison to Planning Board

**Councilman Wasielewski:** I have two items tonight Mr. Supervisor. One is that I will be meeting with the Fire Department Chiefs of the Town of Halfmoon on Tuesday September 8<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Connors and myself have interviewed a number of candidates for the open Planning Board position and the Alternate position on the Planning Board. No decision has been made yet but we anticipate one will be made very shortly. That is all that I have tonight, thank you.

**Daphne Jordan (Town Board Member):** (1) Chair of Business and Economic Development (2) Chair of Insurance (Liability and Medical) (3) Liaison to Open Space and Trails Committee, (4) Co- Liaison to Zoning Board

**Councilwoman Jordan:** Earlier we thanked the Zoning Review Committee for their dedication and their very hard work and due diligence in making recommendations to the Town Board as to zoning changes. I want to mention that the Business and Economic Development Committee met with the ZRC twice this past winter to give its perspective to the ZRC from a Business Development perspective as to what the zoning changes might be. I noticed in the ZRC's recommendations that they were a little different from what the Business and Economic Development Committee

discussed with them so the BECD Committee has decided to also put forth our recommendations from a business perspective as well as to the zoning for the town.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** That is certainly fine. Get that summary together and you can forward that to the Board and to Clough Harbour as well. I believe that they have started the process of that already.

**Councilwoman Jordan:** We will do that very soon. That's all that I have.

**Jeremy Connors (Town Board Member):** (1)Zoning Board Liaison 2) Co-Liaison Planning Board; (3) Co-Chair of Zoning Review Committee (4)Chair of Animal Control Committee (5) Chair of Committee on Not for Profit Organizations; (6) Co-Chair of Character Counts

**Councilman Connors:** I have nothing Mr. Supervisor.

**Lynda Bryan (Town Clerk):** (1) Chair of Senior Programs, (2) Chair of Committee on Historical Archives

**Senior Center** makes a quilt every year that they raffle off at their Fall Bazaar. It is also going to be on display at the Fall Festival on September 19<sup>th</sup>. This is a big fund raiser for the seniors. So stop by their table, see the beautiful quilt and take a chance to have it in your home!

**Historical Society** is going to resume their regular meeting schedule this month. So the monthly meeting will be Tuesday September 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the Society building. They also are going to be participating at the Fall Festival. This year they are going to have a Civil War enactor from Grant's Cottage setting up camp complete with a campfire and tent right by the clubhouse doors. It will be very interesting and informative and he is very willing to chat with you. So come to the Fall Festival stop by and see the folks from the Halfmoon Historical Society.

**Lyn Murphy, Esq., (Town Attorney)** I have no report this evening.

**Cathy Drobny, Esq. (Town Attorney)** I have no report this evening.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT – for items that are on the agenda**

**Mr. Lynch, Summefield Circle:** Does the town have anything to do with the Ambulance fees?

**Councilman Wasielewski:** The town contracts with the Clifton Park – Halfmoon Ambulance Corps which is currently a five year contract with the reduction this year of 2%, next year 2% reduction for a total of 10% that has been reduced over the five year contract. So, yes we do negotiate with the ambulance corps. We currently are in the first year of a five year contract.

**Mr. Lynch, Summefield Circle:** (having a very hard time hearing Mr. Lynch) The reason why I ask is because I have a problem. With the new Ellis Hospital Emergency Room on Sitterly Road, I know that everybody has different insurance. If you go from the Urgent Care to the Ellis Hospital with a non-emergency transfer and my wife has been there four times, it is billed under non-emergency for \$900.00. I am fighting CDPHP, I'm a fighter and got it down to a co-pay

**Councilman Wasielewski:** Mr. Lynch, I would be glad to speak with you after the meeting. Thank you.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Let me just address that too. This issue was brought to my attention previously, and I think it was you who brought it to my attention as well

as two others. I have personally spoken with a representative from Ellis Hospital as well as the Director of the Emergency Corps about this issue. I don't know where the disconnect is but I have made it clear that this is a problem that needs to be corrected. I'm not hearing that it is being billed improperly from the Clifton Park – Halfmoon Ambulance Corps. While they are not giving you a choice at the Urgent Care Facility, it is considered a choice and therefore not allowing the insurance to pick it up. Both of those have been made aware of it and we made that clear to them. John, I know that you sit as liaison to the Emergency Corp and maybe at your next Board meeting you can also bring it up again. This is not only your issue Mr. Lynch; other people have brought it to my attention. We understand that it is a large bill especially when you are covered already in your ambulance district. Thank you.

**Mr. Lynch, Summefield Circle:** Sunshine law with behind the door meetings and I don't refer that you people do but this sunshine law say that there should be no behind door meetings.

**Attorney Murphy:** The Board's having a difficult time hearing you but what he is asking about is if you have something akin to as what he is referring to as a sunshine law which is what is akin if what I'm hearing to our Open Meetings Law. There is an Open Meetings Law and there are obviously some exceptions to that law however, yes we do have something similar to a sunshine law.

**Mr. Lynch, Summefield Circle:** Would anybody know about it with a Homeowner's Association meeting?

**Attorney Murphy:** I don't know if they are subject to Open Meetings Law. I can't answer that for you.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Town government is definitely governed by Open Meetings Law and we do abide by that hence when we are having workshops and things we publish those because even though it is a meeting of the Town Board, in order for the five of us to meet and discuss it with others, that is why we make those public notices public. I apologize that I can't comment on that.

#### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS – month of August**

**1. Senior Express**

**Total # Riders – 299      Total # Meals - 633**

**2. Town Justice Wormuth**

**Total # Cases – 221      Total Fees Submitted to the Supervisor - \$27,012**

**3. Town Justice Suchoski**

**Total # Cases – 214      Total Fees Submitted to the Supervisor - \$26,196**

**4. Building**

**Total # Permits – 115      Total Fees Submitted to the Supervisor - \$23,690**

**5. Fire**

**Total # Permits – 16      Total Fees Submitted to the Supervisor - \$1,200**

**6. Safety Inspections**

**Total Inspections – 34      Total Fees Submitted to the Supervisor - \$1,680**

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

**1. Received** from the Town Planning Board Resolutions approving the following: Change of Use/Tenant for Elevate Cycles Inc., 215 Guideboard Road in Country Dollar Plaza/Salty's Plaza; Site Plan approval for 421 Halfmoon Flex Park in the Parkford Planned Development District, 421 Route 146.

***Received & Filed***

2. **Received** from Richard Harris, AICP, Director of Planning/Zoning Enforcement Officer, a letter to the Hayner Family in response to their letter dated August 7, 2015 regarding the proposed Betts Family Farm Planned Development District by Abele Builders, Inc.

***Received & Filed***

3. **Received** the following email from Patrick Festa, 53 Hampton Circle stating his strong opposition to the closing of the Town transfer station:

Dear Mr. Tollisen,

Please note that I strongly OPPOSE closing the Town transfer station.  
Two main reasons:

1) I travel frequently during the week and do not want to deal with having to arrange to have the garbage out on any certain day. The transfer station gives me the option of dropping off garbage on any of the three days that are convenient for me – and usually not every week

2) We have a two person household and do not generate a lot of waste. The current transfer station option allows us to pay only for the trash that we generate which is usually not sufficient to fill a can or bag every week.

I don't know if I will be able to attend the meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> so please see that my comments are registered with the appropriate people.

Thank you.

PJF 53 Hampton Circle

***Received & Filed***

4. **Received** from John Wojtowicz his letter of resignation as part-time Parks Laborer effective immediately.

***Received & Filed***

5. **Received** notice from the Town Supervisor that the Town of Halfmoon will hold a Patriot Day Ceremony on September 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at the Abele Memorial Park. Harris Road will be blocked for traffic between Stage Run and the entrance of the Town Hall Complex prior to the ceremony to allow Emergency Responders to make procession to the ceremony.

***Received & Filed***

**Supervisor Tollisen:** I will need a motion for this. And please be advised that my office is already preparing a letter to the residents on Harris Road that are affected by that during that short term period.

**RESOLUTION NO. 277**

**Offered** by Councilman Connors, seconded by Councilwoman Jordan: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board approves blocking Harris Road traffic between Stage Run and the entrance of the Town Hall Complex prior to the ceremony to allow Emergency Responders to make procession to the ceremony.

6. **Received** from the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Library a notice of election at the library at 475 Moe Road on September 7<sup>th</sup> from 7am until 9pm for the budget and the election of Trustees

***Received & Filed***

7. **Received** from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation notification that a Mine Permit has been issued to Linda Kakulski, President of CP Landmark Ltd. for the HM Mine Site on US Route 9 North of Route 146, Halfmoon and expiration date of August 20, 2020.

***Received & Filed***

8. **Received** a copy of the letter from the Department of the Army US Army Corps of Engineers to Dr. Gerald Bilinski about the inspection they completed of the project site located on the south side of Route 146 in the Town of Halfmoon.

***Received & Filed***

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **RESOLUTION NO. 278**

**Offered** by Councilman Wasielewski, seconded by Councilman Connors: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board approves and orders paid Vouchers numbered 1814 through 1933 as detailed.

### **===== FUND TOTALS =====**

10 GENERAL FUND	\$280,322.53
20 HIGHWAY FUND	\$42,069.40
25 SPECIAL REVENUE	\$10,482.40
30 CONSOLIDATED WATER	\$582,124.22
50 CHURCHILL SEWER	\$41,982.34

<b>ABSTRACT TOTAL:</b>	<hr/>	\$956,980.89
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### **RESOLUTION NO. 279**

**Offered** by Councilman Wasielewski, seconded by Councilman Connors: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, & Connors  
Abstain: Jordan

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board approves the minutes of Town Board meeting of, August 19, 2015, as presented.

### **POLL OF THE BOARD**

Councilman Connors	Aye
Councilwoman Jordan	Abstain
Councilman Wasielewski	Aye
Councilman Hotaling	Aye
Supervisor Tollisen	Aye

### **RESOLUTION NO. 280**

**Offered** by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Hotaling: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board approves the Supervisor's Report for the month of July, 2015 as presented.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 281**

**Offered** by Councilman Connors, seconded by Councilman Hotaling: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board authorizes scheduling a public hearing for September 16, 2015 at 7 pm, or as soon thereafter as its agenda allows, to consider using the Water Capital Reserve Fund for Water Hydraulic Model Update, replacement of 2 Water Department vehicles, HVAC equipment replacement at the Water Treatment Plant and an emergency bypass connection for Brookwood Road/Hudson River Road for a total cost not to exceed \$200,000.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 282**

**Offered** by Councilman Connors, seconded by Councilwoman Jordan: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board appoint Lyn Murphy as full time Town Attorney at 30 hours per week, effective October 1, 2015 and to be paid an annual salary of \$150,000, prorated to end of year.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** I just wanted to pause and say that for some time with a growing town such as Halfmoon, we need a full time Town Attorney on staff. Both of our Town Attorneys do an excellent job but there are issues every day at the town level that require our attorney's to act. While they certainly act in the capacity that they can bringing Lyn on to be on staff and in the office some of the time is absolutely essential. I will tell you that there are a number of issues that face the town on an everyday basis. We have a number of items that go on every day that are critical such as road dedications, everyday code enforcement issues that need Town Attorney's, there are town courts and we are involved in the EPA dredging and while we have attorney's that we have hired to help us with that, our attorney needs to be very involved with what's going on with the water and the future water for this town. With the dredging stopping, our concern is the EPA will stop funding the town with monies to supplement the water costs and as I am sitting here, I am not going to put the Town of Halfmoon back on Hudson River water until I am guaranteed and certified that the water is safe and healthy for our residents. That entails a number of different legal things that need to be taken care of. I believe that Lyn's expertise, her longevity with the town, she has done an excellent job and I think that it is time that we bring the town forward with this. I highly recommend and thank Lyn for actually accepting this because this is something that I brought to her and asked her to do. It is a different idea for her because right now she is part-time at the town and works full-time at another job Her coming on full-time and kind of switching those things around is somewhat uneasy at times, but I appreciate her willingness doing this and I think that it is for the betterment for the town.

**Councilman Connors:** Supervisor, I echo your statements. Lyn is a true asset to this town and I think that she will do a wonderful job.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Cathy, we are going to keep giving you as much work as well.

## **POLL OF THE BOARD**

<b>Councilman Connors</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilwoman Joran</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Wasielewski</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Hotaling</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Supervisor Tollisen</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Motion passes, congratulations, Lyn



**Attorney Murphy:** Thank you for your kind words.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 283**

**Offered** by Councilman Hotaling, seconded by Councilman Wasielewski: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board authorizes the renewal of Mobile Home Park license for the 2015-2016 licensing year per the inspection and approval of the Director of Code Enforcement for Vosburgh Mobile Home Park.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 284**

**Offered** by Councilwoman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Connors: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board honors Jennie Dahoda, a lifelong Halfmoon resident with a resolution on her 99<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** If you know Jennie Dahoda, she is full of life, a spitfire and she is a great lady. While she wasn't at the senior center today for her proclamation we will make sure that it is personally delivered to her because she's just a woman that has made such a difference in Halfmoon. I don't know, has she lived here her whole life? Yes, she was born and raised here in Halfmoon. Imagine, almost a century old and all of the changes she has seen over the years in Halfmoon. So we congratulate her on her 99<sup>th</sup> birthday on the town level.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 285**

**Offered** by Councilman Connors, seconded by Councilman Hotaling: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board authorizes letting bids for the Brookview Court Culvert Replacement to be opened Monday October 5, 2015 at 1:00pm

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 286**

**Offered** by Councilwoman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Wasielewski: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

**RESOLVED**, to authorize the Town Board authorizes Clough Harbour & Associates to perform Environmental Monitoring for 2015 for the Town of Halfmoon Landfill to be conducted in October 2015 for an annual fee of \$7,500, per review and approval of the Town Attorney

**Supervisor Tollisen:** This is a monitoring fee for the old landfill the town has on Lower Newtown Road. That is a fee that is paid to Clough for that monitoring.

**Councilman Wasielewski:** This is line with prices that we've paid in previous years and in fact might be less than that amount?

**Supervisor Tollisen:** I believe that it is the same amount paid in previous years. It is the same as last year.

**Councilman Connors:** Do we put RFP's out for that?

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Not at this point, no.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 287**

**Offered** by Councilwoman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Connors: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

**RESOLVED**, to authorize the Town Board to approve an extra work authorization for HMA Contracting Corporation for the Champlain Canal Trail Extension project in the amount not to exceed \$65,499.00, and to include a change order for the scope of services for extra work authorization for Clough Harbour & Associates in the amount of \$20,000 per the review and approval of the Town Attorney. This increase is due changing the scope of work to install a permanent culvert from a temporary one.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** I am going to ask the Board to amend the resolution to also include a change order for the scope of services. It is an extra work authorization for Clough Harbour & Associates in the amount of \$20,000 for the extra work from bringing this from a temporary culvert to a permanent culvert.

I will note that per our grants department, the extra work authorization and change order is still within budgeted funds for this project of which the town will pay 50% of that. Mr. Grosso is here from Clough Harbour and I asked him if he would give a very short resuscitation of the need for this with respect to the canal grant.

**Joe Grasso, Clough Harbour & Associates:** Just to add a little background to this. This is the extension to the Champlain Canal Trail from where it ends south of Brookwood Road and an extension of about ½ mile all the way down to the southern boundary of the Town of Halfmoon. The project has been in the planning for the past couple of years. We had an estimated budget for the project of \$265,000. A grant had been awarded to the town by the state to cover 50% of the costs. Access to construct the trail is actually through the Town of Waterford so that we weren't going to disturb the trail that we already built through the past few phases coming down from Brookwood Road. There is an old pedestrian bridge that had been washed out by a storm a few years back. When we originally designed the trail, we were going to put in a temporary culvert at stream crossing and have to rip that out after construction. It was going to eliminate the opportunity for the extension of the trail in the future. We bid that project that way because we were worried about a cost overrun and we were held up in permitting with the Army Corps of Engineers and DEC. When we actually put that project out to bid, the bids came back \$90,000 less than what the budget that we had available, so we weren't going to maximize the grant. After we talked to the town we decided to go back and redesign a permanent culvert installation where that old pedestrian bridge was, and get it reemitted by DEC and the Corps of Engineers, we rebid that work to the selected contractor which was HMA and the bid for that still came in within budget so we're prepared to move forward and allowing for the possible future extension of the trail south of the Town of Halfmoon in the future. Any other questions?

**Supervisor Tollisen:** Very good, thank you.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 288**

**Offered** by Councilman Connors, seconded by Councilman Wasielewski: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board extends the contract with the Town of Clifton Park for Animal Control coverage on an a case by case basis for 1 year until August 31, 2016, subject and approval of the Town Attorney and authorize the Supervisor to sign said agreement on behalf of the town.

**Supervisor Tollisen:** We would just move to amend, Mr. Connors & Mr. Wasielewski for subject and approval of the Town Attorney and authorize the Supervisor to sign said agreement on behalf of the town.

**RESOLUTION NO. 289**

**Offered** by Councilwoman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Connors: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

**RESOLVED**, Authorizing the implementation, and funding in the first instance 100% of the federal-aid and State "Marchiselli" Program-aid eligible costs, of a transportation federal-aid project, and appropriating funds therefore.

WHEREAS, a Project for the Pavement Preservation Sitterly Road, Town of Halfmoon, Saratoga County, P.I.N. 1759.86 (the Project) is eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs such program to be borne at the ratio of 80% federal funds and 20% non-federal funds; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Halfmoon desires to advance the Project by making a commitment of 100% of the non-federal share of the costs of the design phase of the Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town Board, duly convened does hereby

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves the above-subject project; and it is hereby further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Town of Halfmoon to pay in the first instance 100% of the federal and non-federal share of the cost of the design phase work for the Project or portions thereof; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the sum of \$60,000.00 (Sixty Thousand) is hereby appropriated from *Capital Highway Improvements* and made available to cover the cost of participation in the above phase of the Project; and it is further

RESOLVED, that in the event the full federal and non-federal share costs of the Project exceeds the amount appropriated above, the Town Board of the Town of Halfmoon shall convene as soon as possible to appropriate said excess amount immediately upon the notification by the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) thereof, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor of the Town of Halfmoon be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests for Federal Aid and/or Marchiselli Aid on behalf of the Town of Halfmoon with the New York State Department of Transportation in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project and providing for the administration of the Project and the municipality's first instance funding of project costs and permanent funding of the local share of federal-aid and state-aid eligible Project costs and all Project costs within appropriations therefore that are not so eligible, and it is further

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project, and it is further

RESOLVED, this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

**RESOLUTION NO. 290**

**Offered** by Councilman Wasielewski, seconded by Councilman Connors: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to make the attached Transfer between Appropriations and Creation of Appropriations

A resolution is needed to create the following budget amendment of appropriations and revenues in the Special Revenue Fund for engineering fees for on-site quality inspections. These funds are developer’s monies held in escrow by the Town in a regular checking account and used for the payment of costs for that particular project. This resolution is necessary to comply with proper accounting procedures as set forth by NYS Department of Audit and Control.

Debit:            Estimated Revenues            25-510                            \$10,482.40  
                         Subsidiary: 25-4-2189 Home &  
   Community Services    \$10,482.40

Credit:            Appropriations                            25-960                            \$10,482.40  
                         Subsidiary: 25-5-1440.40 Engineering  
   Contractors Inspections    \$10,482.40

Information Only: The above was derived from the following breakdown of charges to be paid on the September Abstract for engineering and related fees

NAME	AMOUNT
Plant Road PDD	\$10,482.40
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,482.40</b>

Transfers between Appropriations

From Account	To Account	Amount	Reason
30-5-9710.71 Debt Service-Interest	30-5-9710.61 Debt Service-Principal	\$9,700	Transfer of appropriations needed for 2015 Bond refunding
20-5-5140.10 Miscellaneous-Personal Services	20-5-5130.40 Machinery-Contractual	\$25,000	To cover expenses thru year end
10-5-9710.70 Debt Service-Interest	10-5-1950.40 Assessment on Property	\$2,500	To cover expenses thru year end

The following creation of appropriations is needed in the General Fund based on money received for newsletter advertising to date. This creation is for the quarterly distribution of the Halfmoon Navigator.

DEBIT:            Estimated Revenues            10-510                            \$4,100  
                         Subsidiary: Other, Misc-Newsletter  
   10-4-2770.10 - \$4,100

CREDIT:            Appropriations                            10-960                            \$4,100  
                         Subsidiary: Public Information & Serv  
   10-5-1480.40 - \$4,100

A resolution is necessary to setup the capital project for the Sitterly Road pavement preservation design phase. This project will be funded by federal, state and highway fund monies. This funding will include milling the existing travel lanes, shoulders and replacing with a two inch asphalt overlay.

DEBIT:            Estimated Revenues            35-510                            \$60,000  
                         Subsidiary:  
   35-4-4589.00            Transportation Federal

		Grant - \$48,000	
	35-4-3589.00	Transportation State	
		Grant - \$9,000	
	35-4-5031.00	Interfund Transfer	
		\$3,000	
CREDIT:	Appropriations	35-960	\$60,000
	Subsidiary: Highway Improvements		
	35-5-5112.21 - \$60,000		

**PUBLIC COMMENT (for discussion of non-agenda items) No one came forward**

There being no further business to discuss or resolve, on a motion by Councilman Connors and seconded by Councilwoman Jordan, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Lynda A. Bryan, Town Clerk**