

OUTLINE OF PLAN FOR REMOVAL OF LARGE SCRAP METAL FROM BEAVER ISLAND

Version 2, Jan. 2021 (first draft Nov.2020)

General Description of Needs and Implementation:

When the Beaver Island Master Plan was adopted by both island townships in 2017, one of the top priorities of the Master Plan Action Plan was to “Explore options to improve the Transfer Station to process large metal items, like cars”. In 2019 the St James Township board identified this as a goal and set three outcomes to move toward achievement of the goal: 1) research the cost of bringing a crusher to the island, 2) research how other municipalities dispose of large items/cars, and 3) research grants and other funding for processing large items.

Prior to the township setting this goal, it was a topic of conversation and concern at the community level. The last time a significant project for crushing and moving scrap vehicles off the Island was around 2002. Since that time, much has been accumulated around the island. At least two St James Township vehicle collection spots were cleared of vehicles which ended up at a salvage yard in Peaine Township. The Beaver Island Transfer Station has also been accumulating large amounts of metal, mostly small appliances, of which they have no good way to dispose.

In the past year, the Waste Management committee (a committee of both townships) researched the issue and reached out to regional scrap metal processors and found no real interest on their parts to tackle the Beaver Island issue. Discussions were held with Darrell Butler, Jr. of Beaver Island about the likelihood of him bringing some piece of large equipment to the Island to deal with the large metal objects, mostly cars, which have accumulated on his property as a result of cleaning up other areas of the Island.

The plan outlined below is based upon a plan to work with Darrell Butler, Jr. to bring a used OVERBUILT BALER/LOGGER to the island in 2021 to handle metal at the transfer station and for other interested individuals and businesses to dispose of their accumulated metal. The plan outlined is general and needs more attention to build out the details of the operation and actual costs.

Details of the Implementation:

1. Equipment to be Used:
 - a. OVERBUILT BALER/LOGGER. According to their website, The OverBuilt baler/loggers are the fastest, most efficient baler/loggers any scrap recycler can own. Compressing scrap metal and vehicles into denser, stackable forms results in more efficient loading and transport. [Bailer sample https://www.overbuilt.com/baler_logger](https://www.overbuilt.com/baler_logger)
 - b. Loader would be used at transfer station to push piles closer
2. Timeline
 - a. Summer of 2021
 - b. Baler on island for 6 – 10 weeks or until all need is exhausted
3. Logistics of getting equipment to and from BI
 - a. Baler delivered from Wyoming to Ironton MI and Fogg Towing to deliver to the Island

4. Location of Baler Operation on BI
 - a. Transfer station: 2-3 days
 - i. Materials to be baled should be onsite at least 2 weeks prior to equipment
 - ii. Transfer station personnel and Waste Management Committee to organize this
 - b. Darrell Butler, Jr. Licensed Junk Yard: several weeks
 - i. Darrell Butler to determine which large metal items and vehicles to receive and set timeline for receipt

5. Items to be accepted
 - a. Accepted at Butler Location - Most metal items including cars with clear title
 - i. Darrell Butler to determine process with individuals including fees for transporting non-running vehicles
 - ii. Vehicles would need to be onsite in advance of equipment to allow for cleaning out of fluids and confirming title work
 - b. Accepted at Transfer Station – Most smaller metal items, but no refrigerators because of freon, no whole propane tanks, no batteries
 - i. Transfer station personnel and Waste Management Committee to organize this and inform public about options and costs. Try to establish incentives for individuals to bring in scrap metal objects
 - c. Possibility for “Joe’s Junk” private initiative to assist residents with costs associated with removal of metal items.

6. Process for removal of items from BI
 - a. Items will get crushed and stacked and stored at Butler’s licensed junk yard until iron prices go up, then shipped to mainland
 - b. Baled Items from transfer station go to Butler

7. Insurance
 - a. Insurance would be the responsibility of Darrell Butler, Jr

Cost of the Operation:

1. Estimated Cost of Moving Equipment to and from BI – Estimates
 - b. Round-trip cross-country transportation estimate including barge transportation: \$20,000.00. Amount requested of townships to support the project is approximately \$10,00.00 each from their general funds. This is still to be determined; as the desire of taxpayers is to resolve this issue and ‘clean up’ the island, public input will be sought to determine amount of tax dollars to commit.

2. Estimated Costs of Operation
 - a. \$200.00 - \$800.00 per hour for operation at the Transfer Station, this is wide range because it would be dependent upon the amount of the transportation costs could be covered by townships, donations and/or grants; if townships split the cost of transportation, the hourly cost would be \$200.00 and this would be paid by the Transfer Station.

Tentative Timeline for Decision-making:

- *November 2020 – January 2021: Townships complete further research and fine tune plan for boards to decide if they wish to pursue the project.*
- *February 2021 – Proposal to Townships for Review. March 2021: Township Boards make Final Decision*
- *Summer 2021: Baler on Beaver Island and work commences*



Image of OverBuilt Baler

Document prepared by K McNamara based upon preliminary discussions in the fall of 2020 and more detailed discussion on January 21, 2021 two township supervisors, Waste Management Committee chairperson and Darrell Butler.