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Council approves plan

By: George Moore , Herald Staff

NEW BRITAIN - The Common Council Wednesday approved spending \$158,000 for design services that will aid the city in determining the future of the abandoned Christian Lane transfer station facility.

The \$158,000 will be paid to Maguire Group, a local design firm, to develop a request for proposals from prospective developers of the transfer station site.

After development proposals come in, the firm will assist the city in determining each proposal's feasibility and would help with the selection process.

Clarence Corbin, director of public works, said at the meeting there are different ways that the site could be developed. The first possibility is to have the city build and run its own transfer station. Another option is to have a private vendor build and operate the station.

Lisa Carver, Mayor Timothy Stewart's chief of staff, said the city is better off partnering with a private vendor to develop the site. The vendor would lease the location from the city.

"Our feeling is that having the city do everything itself would not be as economically advantageous as someone running the business," she said.

A full renovation and building project for the site will cost over \$1 million, Carver said.

Corbin said the region surrounding New Britain might have a need for such a station. The Bristol Resource Recovery Facility Operating Committee, he said, may be interested in buying into additional support at a New Britain location.