

MINUTES

HAZARDOUS WASTE/RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 10, 2005
Town Manager's Conference Room
7:30 p.m.

Members Present: David Rathbun, , Lorane Black, Thomas Scelfo,
David Bowen, Kate Fleming, Patricia Darragh,
Mary Bigelow and Barbara Hutchinson
Also present was Purchasing Assistant Michael Betz

Members Absent: Margaret Hrabchak

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m.

2) Pledge of Allegiance

The Committee faced the flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3) Approval of Minutes

The following amendments were made to the Minutes of the Meeting of February 10, 2005: Under: Agenda Line Item #5 – Discussion with Representative from John's Refuse - (6) the last line should read "No, the Town doesn't have a policy, but if a resident has trash in a wooden or cardboard box, the trash will be left at the curb and stickered." In addition, (10) the following should be added: "Ripped paper having white paper fiber constitutes white office paper." Lastly, under Agenda Line Item #7 – HazWaste Report – "...Electronic Satellite Collection will be held on Saturday, October 1, 2005 ..." is amended to read "...Electronic Satellite Collection will be held in the spring ..." Also, the last sentence "Mary Bigelow will be contacting the schools to see if the schools are interested in participating" should be removed from the Minutes.

Thomas Scelfo made a Motion to approve the Minutes, as amended. David Bowen seconded the Motion. Kate Fleming abstained; all other members were in favor and none opposed. The Motion was passed.

4) **Correspondence**

David Rathbun presented to the members a correspondence he received from Bayhead Products wherein they are offering a 20% discount to municipalities on the purchase of in-stock second quality Tilt Trucks, and a 10% discount on second-quality Poly Trucks. He also presented an insert sent in the UI bills offering a \$50 payment from UI to haul away refrigerators or freezers.

5) **Report from Michael Betz**

Update on the Budget Process: Michael Betz reported that the budget is near completion and will be ready for printing in a week. He will run the printing and binding portion of the budget and give it to David Rathbun with respect to the printing of the tax bill insert. He believes the printing cost for that insert is \$1,050.00. He gave a narrative of the Annual Budget of this Committee and the highlights for the current fiscal year 2004-2005. He requested that David Rathbun provide him with the objectives for the fiscal year 2005-2006.

Miscellaneous: With regard to this Committee's request for a recycling report regarding commercial accounts, he stated that he received a letter from John's Refuse dated March 4, 2005 which states that commercial vehicles go into multiple towns so it is impossible to be precise, but the estimate average per week for North Branford is 3.75 tons per week (2.5 tons of paper, and 1.25 tons of co-mingled) for recycling in commercial accounts. He also read from a letter from John's Refuse dated March 4, 2005 regarding scrap metal. Scrap metal is collected twice a year at curbside and taken to CRRRA; and in addition, the Public Works Department processes scrap metal when metal is picked up for safety purposes, ie. metal in the roadways, etc. One drop off to Metal Management for North Branford generated 5.7 tons.

6) **HazWaste Report**

Mary Bigelow reported that the trash must be removed from the Satellite Collection site at the end of the collection. Lori from HazWaste Central had suggested to Mary Bigelow the use of a backloader, but John's Refuse would have to man it. The roll off containers must sit at the trash hauler's site on the truck. The plan to forge ahead with this is to have two roll off containers kept on the site on trucks over the weekend.

Electronics Satellite Collection: The town at which this collection will take place is still being decided on.

Satellite HazWaste Day: This will be taking place on June 11, 2005 at Totoket Valley Park.

Central Education Committee "Green Grant" Program: The topic will be Toxic Reduction. Anyone who has names of any groups who might be interested in applying should provide them to Mary Bigelow. The grant will be up to \$5,000. Patricia Darragh and Kate Fleming can create slides regarding the Grant Program to airing on the public access cable television station.

7) **Discussion of “Welcome Kit” for New Town Residents**

This item will be tabled to a future meeting.

8) **Updated Progress of Tax Bill Insert**

Thomas Scelfo distributed two drafts of the proposed tax bill insert. Each contained identical information; one was set up in a vertical format and one was in a horizontal format. A general discussion was held regarding the presentation of the set-up, and of the contents of the insert. The Committee was in agreement that the vertical format would be used, as it provides space for additional information not already listed. It was agreed that some of the items that should be printed in the existing blank space are: the Hotline telephone number, the HazWaste Central address, information on the Paper Recycling Building, information on purchasing compost and recycle bins, the media sources where updated information is published or broadcast, and/or the words “Brought to You By the North Branford Hazardous Waste and Recycling Committee”, and “printed on recycled paper”. In addition, some grammatical and formatting changes will be made to the insert. The insert, once in final form, will be presented to Town Manager Karl Kilduff for his review prior to going to formal printing.

9) **Questions Regarding the April Opening of the Leaf Drop-Off Center**

The Leaf Drop-Off Center is scheduled to open on April 16, 2005. This Committee would like to accommodate the public to some level with regard to accepting leaves and/or brush. The Public Works Director has advised that the brush continues to build up, and it will be costly to get rid of it. There is nothing in the current budget to dispose of the current stock, let alone future brush collections. A lengthy discussion was held by the members, and it was decided that for this spring, leaves only will be taken in, and no brush will be accepted. A meeting will be held with the Town Manager prior to the fall leaf collection. Lorane Black made a motion for this spring, to continue to accept leaves only, and not brush, and the Committee will study the possibility of solving the problem in the future. David Bowen seconded the motion; all were in favor, none opposed, and the motion passed. Michael Betz will have the Town put up signs at the Drop-Off Center immediately, and Lorane Black will notify the groups who will be volunteering at the Center of this decision.

10) **Open Items**

North Branford Recycles Day: The date will be May 7, 2005; tires, oil and batteries will be collected. Purchasing Assistant Michael Betz will be sure that a roll off container is provided.

Status of Committee Member Vacancy: Liz Boissard and Eric Johnson attended the previous month’s meeting. They had expressed that they didn’t feel that this Committee needed an additional two members. Patricia Darragh will provide David Rathbun with the telephone numbers of both individuals, and Mr. Rathbun will contact them as a follow up to last month’s meeting.

11) **Other Business**

Future Articles for Totoket Times and The Sound: Margaret Hrabchak will publish the information contained in the UI insert discussed under “Correspondence”, the Committee’s

decision for the need to no longer be able to accept brush at the Leaf Drop Off Center in April, and information on the upcoming Satellite HazWaste Day. She will also provide this information to Patricia Darragh and Kate Fleming for them to create a presentation to be submitted to the cable access television station.

Volunteers for April Paper Collection: David Rathbun and Kate Fleming volunteered for the April 2, 2005 Paper Collection.

Miscellaneous: Lorane Black reported that she is in the process of soliciting volunteer organizations for the Spring Leaf Collection. She also stated that 62 people attended the March 5, 2005 paper collection, and one composter bin was sold. David Rathbun advised the members that with regard to the June 11, 2005 Satellite HazWaste Day, he has sent correspondences to the Chief of Police, the Fire Chief, the Fire Marshal, and the Parks and Recreation Director stating that the use of Totoket Valley Park is needed on that day until 4:00 p.m. and that Police Department and Fire Department apparatus or equipment should be present. Mr. Rathbun left the need for police supervision for traffic congestion to the discretion of the Police Department.

12) Citizen's Statements

Jeanette Marshall stated that she felt this Committee should be a participant in the upcoming Memorial Day Parade in May, as an opportunity to distribute flyers or other informational materials, as the Town Libraries do.

13) Adjournment

There being no further business, Lorane Black made a Motion, seconded by Patricia Darragh, to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 p.m. All were in favor, none opposed or abstained, and the Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanette M. Marshall, Clerk