

## MINUTES

### HAZARDOUS WASTE/RECYCLING COMMITTEE

**Thursday, June 10, 2004**  
**Council Chambers**  
**7:30 p.m.**

**Members Present:** David Rathbun, Lorane Black, Thomas Scelfo, Margaret Hrabchak, David Bowen, and Sharon Montesi.

**Members Absent:** Mary Bigelow, Barbara Hutchinson, Kate Fleming, and Patricia Darragh. Also absent was Purchasing Assistant Michael Betz.

1) **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m.

2) **Pledge of Allegiance**

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

3) **Approval of Minutes**

The approval of the Minutes of the May 13, 2004 meeting were tabled to the next meeting.

4) **Correspondence**

David Rathbun read to the members a correspondence dated June 8, 2004 from the Clerk of the Committee requesting a clerk rate increase from \$50.00 to \$75.00, as the clerk fee has remain unchanged since 2000. David Bowen made a motion to approve the rate increase as outlined in said correspondence. Thomas Scelfo seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed, and the motion was passed. This motion will now be presented to the Town Council for their approval.

5) **Report from Michael Betz**

Michael Betz was not in attendance at this meeting; however, he did leave documents with David Rathbun to report on. Mr. Rathbun distributed a copy of the "Quantities Recycled" Report for the time period July 2002-June 2003 for residential and non-residential sources. This report was submitted to the State DEP. It was reviewed by the Committee members, but it was difficult for the members to understand , and it was decided that the report should be further

explained by Michael Betz at the next meeting. Tom Scelfo advised the Committee of the numbers from the reports of 1995 and 2000 regarding commingled containers, corrugated cardboard, newspaper, scrap metal, leaves, etc., and in comparison, the current tonnage numbers are comparable to the 1995 numbers (the 2000 numbers were unusually unexplainably low). In a Memo from Mr. Betz, on the issue of “where and how newspaper should be recycled in the school district”, Mr. Betz’s Memo reports that a check with ADS reveals they are collecting newspapers in the mixed paper bins which are taken by ADS to CRRA Hartford. To answer the question about mixed paper from the Recycling Center being burned, the Memo states that CRRA processes the material at their recycling center and contracts a hauler to transport the paper to North Shore Recycling in Massachusetts where it is marketed. Mr. Betz had left for presentation to the members a copy of preliminary specifications of the bid for the purchase of recycling bids. The Committee held a short discussion regarding the removal of generators, lumber and other Public Works items that are currently in the building in anticipation of the receipt of the new recycle bins which will need to be stored there. Lastly, Mr. Betz’ Memo advised that John’s Refuse of North Branford has been awarded the curbside municipal solid waste and recycling pickup contract, to begin in July 2004.

#### **6) HazWaste Report**

Mary Bigelow was not in attendance at this meeting; however, she did leave a Memo with David Rathbun to report on, and it stated as follows. The sign for HazWaste Central is now available. It was reported at the last meeting that thermometer handouts will now only be at satellite locations, not at Long Wharf. The Planning Committee will be starting to look at a new direction which would include using less toxic alternatives. (This was unclear to the members – perhaps it references daily living activities such as cleaners, soaps, etc.) The new IKEA store opening in July will be generating an extreme increase in traffic; and HazWaste Central is concerned they will be affected by this traffic and are considering leaving that Long Wharf site. Lastly, at the Town Council meeting, it was learned that the new trash hauler would like to use automated garbage pickup which would allow one driver to make the rounds in a truck using an automatic “arm” on the truck to pick up special trash bins and dump them directly into the truck at curbside. This poses concerns that there will be virtually no way of drivers to determine if recyclables are being placed in with garbage.

#### **7) Discussion of “Uncovering Barriers & Benefits” From the Book/Website “Fostering Sustainable Behavior”**

David Rathbun felt it would be beneficial to table this line item to the next regularly scheduled meeting due to the absence at this meeting of half of the Committee members. He encouraged the members to visit the website [www.cbsm.com](http://www.cbsm.com) and do the Matrix on the website in preparation for discussion next month.

#### **8) Open Items**

**Update: Replenishment of Recycling Bins:** This was discussed under “Report from Michael Betz”.

**Question: Is Mixed Paper From Our Recycling Center Taken to CRRA's Recycling Section, Or Is It Ending Up in the Burn Plant?:** This was discussed under "Report from Michael Betz".

**Question: Where and How Should Newspapers Be Recycled in the Schools?:** This was discussed under "Report from Michael Betz".

## 9) Other Business

**Volunteers for July Paper Collection & HazWaste Central on July 31, 2004:** Lorane Black and David Rathbun volunteered for the July 3<sup>rd</sup> paper collection. David Rathbun then committed to being available for HazWaste Central on July 31<sup>st</sup>. Three additional volunteers will be needed.

**Future Articles for Totoket Times:** Barbara Hutchinson stated that the next article will cover the North Branford Intermediate School Recycle Club's involvement with refurbishing and clearing out the courtyard with two advisors. They have received a \$500 grant from Wal-Mart. They hope to apply to become a "green school". The next article would need to be submitted by June 18, 2004; and if anyone has something to publish, they could send it to Barbara Hutchinson for her submission before that date.

**Miscellaneous:** Margaret Hrabchak read from the school curriculum that she received from Kate Fleming regarding where in the K-12 science curriculum recycling is addressed. In the K-5 grades, it is: physical, life earth, technical sciences. Each grade level visits one strand. It is not directly taught as a unit until the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. If necessary, Mrs. Hrabchak can ask the science representative to the Curriculum Committee for further information. Lorane Black reported that Nancy Lappie is now in possession of a video camera from the Public Access Cable Television channel, and will be filming various Town events. It was suggested that Mrs. Lappie be used to provide some coverage on behalf of this Committee; i.e., the paper and/or hazardous waste collection, the NBIS Recycle Club's courtyard clean-up, etc.

## 10) Citizen's Statements

As a citizen, Jeanette Marshall presented a suggestion to the Committee members that they consider forming a group to participate marching in the Town's Memorial Day Parade in 2005 to increase the awareness of recycling to Town residents. Banners could be made, and information could be distributed to viewers from the parade procession in a fun and creative way.

## 11) Adjournment

There being no further business, David Bowen made a Motion, seconded by Lorane Black, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. All were in favor, none opposed or abstained, and the Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jeanette M. Marshall, Clerk

