

MINUTES

HAZARDOUS WASTE/RECYCLING COMMITTEE

**Thursday, July 8, 2004
Town Hall Conference Room
7:30 p.m.**

Members Present: David Rathbun, Lorane Black, Thomas Scelfo, David Bowen, Mary Bigelow, Kate Fleming, Patricia Darragh and Sharon Montesi. Also present was Purchasing Assistant Michael Betz and Town Manager Karl Kilduff.

Members Absent: Margaret Hrabchak and Barbara Hutchinson

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m.

2) Pledge of Allegiance

A flag was not available in the conference room in which the meeting was being held.

3) Approval of Minutes

Lorane Black made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of May 13, 2004. Thomas Scelfo seconded the motion. Sharon Montesi abstained; all other members were in favor, and the motion passed.

The following amendment was made to the Minutes of the Meeting of June 10, 2004:

5) Report From Michael Betz – on Page Two, "... for the purchase of recycling bids." is amended to read "... for the purchase of recycling bins." Lorane Black made a motion to approve the Minutes, as amended. Sharon Montesi seconded the motion. Mary Bigelow, Kate Fleming and Patricia Darragh abstained; all other members were in favor and none opposed. The motion was passed.

4) Correspondence

David Rathbun reported that he received the following correspondence:

(1) An article from the New Haven Register entitled "Kellogg Won't Pull 'Spidey-Light' Toys" regarding Kellogg's refusal to remove cereal with Spiderman novelties powered by illegal

mercury batteries. (2) An insert from customer's bills from CLP / UI regarding a program whereby the customer is paid \$50 for CLP/UI to pick up 10+ year old working refrigerators and/or freezers. (3) An email regarding a six-week electronic (e-waste) collection that Staples conducted in several states, including Connecticut (Old Saybrook, New London, and Norwich) to encourage customers to recycle computers, monitors and business machines. This recycling pilot took place May 30-July 11, 2004. (4) An email stating that the general permit for one day for household hazardous waste collections requires the permittee to remove all waste by the end of the day, including solid waste dumpsters. Towns should cooperate in arranging for the dumpster to be off site by the end of the day.

5) Report from Michael Betz

Michael Betz reviewed the "Quantities Recycled" Report for the time period July 2002-June 2003 for residential and non-residential sources. He stated that this is a "mechanical report" which information is generated by vendors. It's compared year to year to show trends, and it shows CRRA how we promote recycling. A discussion was held regarding page three of the report, "Program or Activity Type" regarding mailing educational material, distribution of brochures, and videos via cable access. The numbers showing on the report were discussed. Thomas Scelfo presented Mr. Betz with a July 23, 1999 State of Connecticut DEP Recycling Office Memorandum regarding FY99 Municipal Recycling Reports enclosing a summary of the FY98 data and the FY99 Annual Municipal Recycling Report Form. Mr. Betz will review this and compare the numbers to the current numbers.

Regarding the update on the replenishment of recycling bins, Mr. Betz recommended to purchase the same amount as the Town did five years ago, and to have them remain constructed from the same material and be the same color. He would like to publish a bid solicitation with this Committee's permission. The Committee approved the proposed Bid #8, '03-'04 Purchase of Recycle Bins previously submitted to them by Mr. Betz. The members asked, however, that he ask for alternates based on quantity purchased. Dave Rathbun made a motion to have Mr Betz move forward with the bid specifications as per his proposed bid. Patricia Darragh seconded said motion. All were in favor, none opposed, and the motion was passed.

6) HazWaste Report

Mary Bigelow stated that the new IKEA store will be opening on July 28th and will be generating an extreme increase in traffic. HazWaste Central will be open on July 31st and will likely be affected by this traffic. She volunteered at that collection, along with David Rathbun, Sharon Montesi, Thomas Scelfo and Margaret Hrabchak. She reported that she has placed the sign at HazWaste Central. She distributed copies of The Regional Water Authority's Annual Report 2003 which includes information on HazWaste Central. She also distributed HazWaste Central 8 1/2 x 11 foamboard signs to be displayed at the Town Hall and at the Community Center. Lastly, she reported that she will contact the Town of Wallingford regarding the electronics collection in the fall.

A lengthy discussion was held with regard to the proposal of John's Refuse 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 (a 90 gallon toter, equal to 3 barrels, is proposed) and dump them directly into the truck at curbside. Karl Kilduff relayed his

reservations regarding unacceptable waste getting into the wastestream. The Town Council has discussed it and they have authorized Mr. Kilduff to meet with John's Refuse, which he will be doing on July 9th. He requested the feedback of this Committee to present to the hauler at that upcoming meeting. The Committee's concerns were those of Mr. Kilduff as well. The time frame to educate the public is too short (a heavy degree of public education would need to be done), contents of garbage cannot be seen and therefore may include yard waste, scrap metal, recyclables, and/or hazardous waste, there is no control over the flow of waste, and the topography of North Branford doesn't always lend itself to proper placement of the barrels (driveways that are not flat, barrels needing to be placed 4'-5' back from the curb, etc.), and there is no financial benefit to the Town for automation. In addition, there was concern that it is too short of a time frame to go to automation right away; the hauler should have at least six months' of performance to track their record of reliability. Mr. Kilduff will convey these concerns to John's Refuse at his meeting on July 9th and report back to the Committee at its next meeting.

7) Discussion of "Uncovering Barriers & Benefits" From the Book/Website "Fostering Sustainable Behavior"

Some of the Committee members had visited the website, and it contained a great deal of information. David Rathbun felt that at the September 9th meeting, the Committee should develop a focused plan from the website information and the meeting that he and Mary Bigelow attended. It was agreed that more cable access should be used for education of the public.

8) Open Items

Michael Betz reported that the generators are marked for strong consideration for the Town's auction in the fall. The lumber and other Public Works items that are currently in the building will be removed when the generators are gone. This will allow space for the receipt of the new recycle bins which will need to be stored there.

Patricia Darragh stated that the school curriculum contains the "Eco-System" in science in the fourth grade. That discusses water pollution, etc., but there was some question as to whether recycling is addressed. Kate Fleming will write to Joan Follo, Director of Curriculum at the Board of Education, on behalf of the Committee. She will also write to the State Department of Environmental Protection to determine school requirements for the K-8 curriculum. She will report back at the September meeting.

9) Other Business

Volunteers for August Paper Collection & HazWaste Central on July 31, 2004: David Bowen and David Rathbun volunteered for the August 7th paper collection. Lorane Black and Patricia Darragh volunteered for the September 4th paper collection (this was determined at this meeting due to the Committee not meeting in the month of August) David Rathbun, Sharon Montesi, Margaret Hrabchak, Mary Bigelow, and Thomas Scelfo will be at HazWaste Central on July 31, 2004.

Future Articles for Totoket Times: The CLP/UI customer bill insert regarding the refrigerator and freezer pickup will be mailed to Barbara Hutchinson for her publication in the Totoket Times.

Budget Line Item Transfers: David Rathbun informed the Committee members that the annual \$275 increase for the clerk fee was proposed to be taken from the '04-'05 Budget as follows: proposed contract services, maintenance, materials and supplies, technical supplies, and heating fuel.

Miscellaneous: The July 3rd paper collection generated 67 vehicles, and 2 recycle bins were sold.

10) Citizen's Statements

Kate Fleming will write a letter to Recreation Director Pamela Gery regarding the conditions of the schools after the summer camp children leave the premises. Garbage remains on the school grounds. She will request that Ms. Gery have the camp counselors pick up the trash before leaving at the end of each day.

11) Adjournment

There being no further business, Patricia Darragh made a Motion, seconded by Kate Fleming, to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. All were in favor, none opposed or abstained, and the Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanette M. Marshall, Clerk