

MINUTES

HAZARDOUS WASTE/RECYCLING COMMITTEE

**Thursday, October 14, 2004
Town Hall Council Chambers
7:30 p.m.**

Members Present: David Rathbun, Thomas Scelfo, David Bowen, Mary Bigelow, Kate Fleming, Lorane Black, Patricia Darragh and Barbara Hutchinson.

Also present was Purchasing Assistant Michael Betz

Members Absent: Margaret Hrabchak and Sharon Montesi

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 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 September 9, 2004: Under: Agenda Line Item #7 - Discussion of "Uncovering Barriers & Benefits..." - the fifth line "Other options, such as "pay as you go"..." should read "Other options, such as "pay as you throw" ..." In addition, under Agenda Line Item #8 - Open Items – "Response from CT DEP and Joan Follo, Director of Curriculum at the Board of Eduction, ..." should read "Response from CT DEP and Joan Follo, Director of Curriculum at the Board of Education, ..." David Bowen made a Motion to approve the Minutes, as amended. Thomas Scelfo seconded the Motion. Lorane Black and Patricia Darragh abstained; all other members were in favor and none opposed. The Motion was passed.

4) Correspondence

David Rathbun showed a "Keep American Boo-tiful" paper bag sample that he received for Towns to order for Halloween. The members agreed that it was too late to purchase these bags in time for Halloween.

5) Report from Michael Betz

Status: Replenishment of Recycling Bins and Status: Removal of Generators and Lumber from Paper Recycling Building: Michael Betz stated that there are two issues to report on. (1) The current bid asked for price quotes for quantities of 1,000; 2,000; and 5,000, with a Town logo. The timeframe needed to imprint the bins with the Town logo is too short to accomplish this in. In addition, there is no storage space for the 1,000 quantity. He had a discussion with Town Manager Karl Kilduff, and a proposal was made to order only 500 bins with the standard recycling logo (not specific to the Town of North Branford) which could be delivered in 2-3 weeks. Mr. Betz estimates that the 500 quantity will be a ten month supply. There are currently 50 in stock, which is a ten week supply. The cost, which is approximately \$3,000, could be financed through the solid waste budget. The monies collected for the bins in the future will be put into a recurring fund specifically for this purpose. (2) Warehousing these bins could be difficult, in that the Paper Recycling Building is still storing the very large diesel generators. A discussion was held regarding options of disposing the generators, including contacting Schiavone to take them (however, there would be a fee involved), conducting an auction for the generators and some cars, or moving them to the outdoors if they are not going to be auctioned off. Mr. Betz stated that an electrician has reported that they are useless to the Town, and it is unclear as to their metal components. Mr. Betz will continue to do some research into a cost-free disposal. When the new recycle bins arrive, various quantities will be warehoused at different locations in the interim.

Kate Fleming advised Mr. Betz that there are currently no recycle bins at the Town Garage, and he stated that he would replenish the supply.

The Committee then made a formal approval of Mr. Betz's recommendation to purchase 500 quantity of recycle bins with the standard, non-Town specific logo.

Thomas Scelfo then made a Motion to authorize Finance Director Anthony Esposito to open a Special Revenue Fund for the receipt of monies collected through the sale of recycle and compost bins for the special purpose of financing the purchase of future recycle and compost bins. Barbara Hutchinson seconded the Motion. A roll call vote was taken; all approved and none opposed, and the Motion passed.

A decision will have to be made whether or not to increase the bin price charged to residents, since there is a price increase at the 500 quantity. This discussion will be listed as a separate line item on the Agenda for the November 10, 2004 meeting.

Mr. Betz distributed a document entitled "Garbage Holidays" outlining the previous observation of pickup holidays of Ferraro's, ADS, and the current John's Refuse. For 2005, John's Refuse is requesting the elimination of Martin Luther King's Day, President's Day, and Columbus Day as trash holidays, and then adding Good Friday. This proposed schedule reduces "no service" days from nine to seven days. The Town is recommending this new proposed schedule. If it is approved, the Committee will need to change this information on the new recycle card being developed before the end of the year.

Lastly, Mr. Betz reported that, due to his recent absence from the Town Hall, he did not have the DEP Recycle Report for this meeting; however, he will present it at the next regularly scheduled monthly meeting.

6) HazWaste Report

Mary Bigelow advised that a special meeting was held regarding the purpose of the Municipal Planning Committee. With regard to the contract for 2006, Clean Harbor came in the lowest; however, the household cost which is currently \$34 per household, will be increased to \$37 per household as of 2006. A discussion was held at that meeting regarding the purpose of the MPC, and it was determined it was to educate, to teach people alternatives. Businesses such as Lowe's Home Improvement, Home Depot, and Agway will be contacted to see if they can use alternative products versus hazardous waste products. The Committee will meet two or three more times on how to educate Towns.

With regard to Satellite Day, there will be an increase in cost due to the new regulations requiring that containers that hazardous waste is brought in must be hauled away due to by-products of hazardous waste remaining in the containers. They are then considered contaminated. She will try to get a waiver to keep these containers behind the fence until they can be hauled away, as collections take place on Saturdays when haulers are not readily available.

Lastly, she reported that Finance Director Anthony Esposito has stated that an insert can be put into the next tax bill mailings. (There is not enough room to print anything on the bills). It was agreed that Mary Bigelow and Dave Rathbun will work with Mr. Esposito on creating an insert. This should be completed by May 2005.

Status: Upcoming Fall Electronics Collection: Mary Bigelow stated that the upcoming fall electronics collection will take place on October 30th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Hamden. Flyers should be placed in various places in Town. The collection will include, (but not limited to) televisions, computers, monitors, printers, microwave ovens, stereos, radios, and computer parts.

7) Results of Committee's Research to Determine Why Some Municipalities (Those Listed on Quantities Recycled Report and Those Recognized by DEP for Outstanding Recycling Programs) Had Better Recycling Results than North Branford

The Committee held a discussion regarding the results of their respective research regarding data information from towns comparable to our demographics that had better end results than our Town. Dave Rathbun reported that the towns he contacted have transfer recycle stations that accept mandatory items, plus tires, batteries and scrap metal. Three-quarters of the towns have curbside "pay as you throw" for municipal solid waste. Some of the towns have a staff of trained coordinators. Some towns place recycle information inside their tax and sewer bills. One town requires the trash hauler to monitor compliance; the haulers must jot down addresses of scheduled streets for residents who do not place recycle bins at curbside. They then convey that information to a program manager who then sends a letter to the non-compliant resident. They use the community access channel and local papers to inform and educate the public and to compare recycle information to nearby towns. Patricia Darragh advised that the

Town of New Britain has an Amnesty Day, which is an opportunity to get a recycle bin. They also have a speaker at various church services and synagogues to deliver a homily regarding stewardship of the earth. In addition, homework assignments are given to inspect weeks worth of trash to see if recyclables are being thrown out. They also conduct random mini-phone surveys to determine if residents are recycling, and if not, why they are not. The position of "Waste Inspector" is built into the trash bid. Patricia Darragh suggested that we inform the public that inkjet cartridges are recycled in the school program, whereby the school receives money for them. She suggested we collect them at the Paper Drop-Off Center and distribute them to the schools. Barbara Hutchinson stated that some business haulers are required to report to some towns the amount of recycled poundage. She stated that the Town of Bloomfield allows white paper to be recycled in with magazines. Thomas Scelfo suggested that the members choose the top few topics to be discussed, and include them as a separate line item on the next Agenda. David Rathbun will email copies of his research chart to all members prior to the next meeting. Patricia Darragh presented copies of her "CT Municipal Recycling Honor Roll" regarding her research.

Update: Option of Inserting Recycling Cost Information Into Yearly Tax Bills:

This was discussed under Agenda Item #6, HazWaste Report.

Update: Possibility of Partnering With School Groups, Local Businesses or Civic Organizations to Help Develop and Create Recycling Video: Barbara Hutchinson has been in contact with Kirk Engstrom for assistance in relaying the word that the Committee is seeking assistance and perhaps a Boy Scout troop could earn community service credit. She also contacted Roberta Mack. Patricia Darragh suggested that she contact Donna Lawnsby.

8) Open Items

Response from Pamela Gery, North Branford Recreation Director Regarding Garbage on the School Grounds after Summer Camp Children Have Left for the Day: Patricia Darragh reported that she had written to Ms. Gery regarding garbage being left on the Stanley T. Williams school grounds after daily summer camp sessions, but she has not yet received a response. She will contact her to schedule a meeting to have this remedied prior to the 2005 season. She will suggest that cleanup of the premises be put into the Recreation budget so as to not impact the custodial budget for cleanup. She will also contact Todd Jaramillo in an effort to meet with him.

9) Other Business

Additional volunteers for November Paper Collection & North Branford Recycles Day: The volunteers for November 6, 2004 Paper Collection and North Branford Recycles Day will be Margaret Hrabchak, Mary Bigelow, David Bowen, and David Rathbun. Michael Betz will arrange to have a Public Works employee present to assist with the collection.

Future Articles for Totoket Times: The next cutoff date is October 22nd for publication in the October 30th issue. Barbara Hutchinson will repeat the article on North Branford Recycles Day. Patricia Darragh suggested submitting an article advising that inkjet cartridges could be turned in for collection at the Paper Drop Off Center, as the schools get money for them.

Volunteer Organizations/Individuals for Fall Leaf Drop-Off Center: Lorane Black advised the members that she has secured the following groups and organizations to fill the six week time slots for the Fall Leaf Drop-Off Center: four cub scout/boy scout groups, two women's clubs, the Rotary Club, and some individuals. Mr. Betz will remind Public Works Director Fran Merola that October 23 starts leaf collection, and to be sure the key for the Center is available at the Police Department.

Miscellaneous: David Rathbun stated that the Committee members received an email from Sharon Montesi on this date advising of her resignation from the Committee. The Committee will await her formal written resignation to be read into next month's Minutes. Patricia Darragh then advised that the Social Studies curriculum is currently being revised, and she has discovered that "Science and Technology" for Grades K-12 addresses the study of ecology and the need for conservation, so it will be addressed at every grade level. A letter can be written to Joan Follo, Director of Curriculum at the Board of Education, to see how it is being addressed, as they are re-writing the curriculum now.

10) Citizen's Statements

There were no citizen's statements at this meeting.

11) Adjournment

There being no further business, Patricia Darragh made a Motion, seconded by Barbara Hutchinson, to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m. All were in favor, none opposed or abstained, and the Motion passed.

The next monthly meeting will take place on a Wednesday (November 10th), as the Town will be in observance of Veteran's Day on the second Thursday of the month. In addition, an Amended Schedule of Monthly Meetings will be filed with the Town Clerk for the December meeting and all future meetings to now be held in the Town Manager's Conference Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanette M. Marshall, Clerk