

MINUTES

HAZARDOUS WASTE/RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 10, 2004
Town Manager's Conference Room
7:30 p.m.

Members Present: David Rathbun, Mary Bigelow, Margaret Hrabchak,
Lorane Black, and Barbara Hutchinson

Also present was Purchasing Assistant Michael Betz

Members Absent: Thomas Scelfo, David Bowen, Kate Fleming and Patricia Darragh

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 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 October 14, 2004: Under: Agenda Line Item #6 – HazWaste Report - the third paragraph, third line, “It was agreed that Mary Bigelow and Dave Rathbun will work...” should read “It was agreed that Dave Bowen and Dave Rathbun will work...” Barbara Hutchinson made a Motion to approve the Minutes, as amended. Lorane Black seconded the Motion. Margaret Hrabchak abstained; all other members were in favor and none opposed. The Motion was passed.

4) Correspondence

David Rathbun reported that he received a letter from Sharon Montesi dated October 19, 2004 formally resigning from this Committee.

5) Report from Michael Betz

Status: Removal of Generators and Lumber from Paper Recycling Building:

Michael Betz stated that this is an ongoing process which he is handling with the Public Works Department and the Town Manager. The question remains whether to conduct an auction for the generator and other Town equipment, or to find a way to dispose of the generator. The Town

does not have the resources to make the generator adaptable for use. A decision will be made shortly.

A discussion was then held regarding the accumulation of books being taken in and stored at the paper recycling building. David Rathbun stated that a resident recently brought in a large collection of books under advice of the Town Clerk. Michael Betz will advise the Town employees that they should tell residents that books are not to be brought in with paper recycling. Lorane Black will check with a member of the Friends of the Library to see where their overage is taken after their book sales, and will inquire as to whether they would like to take the books currently at the paper recycling building. Barbara Hutchinson will also check with the Blackstone Library.

Michael Betz reported that the new recycle bins are now at the paper recycling building. He also stated that he received a mailing from the CRRA regarding the upcoming Recycling Tour in Hartford on November 17, 2004, and some of the members who had previously taken this tour encouraged him to take the tour.

6) HazWaste Report

Mary Bigelow advised that 23 North Branford residents attended the Electronics Collection. A spring electronics collection will be considered. With regard to Satellite Day, she again stated that due to a new state law, the dumpsters for the hazardous waste collection cannot be kept on the site without a transfer station permit after the collection is complete. The permit for the collection itself is taken when the collection hours are over and the waste is removed. However, the dumpsters with the containers the hazardous waste was contained in need to be removed. She inquired whether a waiver could be obtained 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, but was told that was not allowed. Town Manager Karl Kilduff will need to contact John's Refuse to see if they have a permit. Michael Betz will follow up on this.

7) Selection and Discussion of Four or Five Significant Findings re: Other Municipalities' Recycling Programs

David Rathbun had emailed to the members a "CT Municipal Recycling Honor Roll" and Thomas Scelfo had created from that document and emailed a chart entitled "Potential Recycling Program Activities" outlining "activities", "consideration of that activity", and "comments about that action." Due to the absence of four members at this meeting, David Rathbun asked that the members review this document, fill in the tables, and it will be discussed at the December meeting. It should be narrowed down to three or four items to work with to present to the Town Council.

David Rathbun and David Bowen will be meeting with Finance Director Anthony Esposito on November 19, 2004 to discuss the insert to be placed into future tax bills.

8) Open Items

The increased cost of the new recycling bin is \$6.24 per bin (previously \$5.00). A discussion was held for a decision as to whether or not to pass on the cost increase to residents, or have the cost remain at \$5.00. The Committee agreed and were in consensus to have the cost

to the residents to remain at \$5.00, and have the Town absorb the \$1.24 increase on each bin. The current supply of 500 new bins will last approximately two years. The revenue collected from the sales of these bins will be placed in a new account to fund the expense of future bins.

9) Other Business

Update Recycling/Trash Information Card for 2005: Mary Bigelow will obtain the HazWaste dates for 2005. The card will be amended to reflect the new trash holidays which were presented at the previous meeting. Margaret Hrabchak suggested avoiding the weeks of Easter and Halloween for scrap metal pickup. The leaf collection, which was previously every Saturday in April, will be considered to be changed to the last two weeks of April and the first two weeks of May.

Future Articles for Totoket Times: The Sound will now also be used for publication of future articles (simultaneously with publication in the Totoket Times.) Barbara Hutchinson will publish an article regarding the telephone directory recycling bin located in front of the paper recycling building for the deposit of old telephone books, and that it is not to be used for household trash (a current problem). She will also submit an article reporting that curbside leaf collection, leaves in brown biodegradable bags, will take place on December 6 and December 10, 2004; and that the Christmas tree pickup will take place on the day of resident's regular trash pickup during the time period January 10 through January 21, 2005.

Discussion and Finalization of Schedule of Meetings for 2005: David Rathbun stated that in October 2005, the second Thursday of the month falls on the Yom Kippur holiday. He asked if anyone would be in observance of the holiday, and if so, the meeting could be rescheduled. It was not in conflict with any member present. There will be no meeting scheduled for the month of August. The Schedule of Meetings 2005 will be completed for the next meeting, and will then be filed with the Town Clerk.

Miscellaneous: Lorane Black advised the members that the North Branford Women's Club will be at the Fall Leaf Drop-Off Center on November 27th in the morning, but she needs a volunteer for the 12 noon – 3:00 p.m. shift. David Rathbun stated that he will be available. Lorane Black then advised Mr. Rathbun that the terms of Barbara Hutchinson and Patricia Darragh are expiring on December 31, 2004. Barbara Hutchinson agreed to remain on the Committee. Mr. Rathbun will contact Patricia Darragh to inquire if she will agree to renew her term. Mr. Rathbun then asked the members for any suggestions on persons who might be interested in filling the Committee position now vacant due to the resignation of Sharon Montesi. The members will see if they can determine if anyone they know is interested. It was suggested that the appointment be made after December 31, 2004, the time that Sharon Montesi's term expires. Lastly, David Rathbun reported that there were 72 vehicles at the Paper Drop-off Center. He stated that David Bowen had already volunteered for the December 4th paper drop-off, but he needs one more volunteer. Barbara Hutchinson volunteered for that date.

10) Citizen's Statements

Resident Richard Bigelow was present, and he stated that he admires that this Committee has a willingness to do something right, not just to do it the expedient way.

11) Adjournment

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

An Amended Schedule of Monthly Meetings has been filed with the Town Clerk, and the December 9th meeting (and all future meetings) will be held in the Town Manager's Conference Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanette M. Marshall, Clerk