

Town of Montville Public Works/Solid Waste Sub-Committee
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Meeting Minutes
Town of Montville Public Works/Solid Waste Sub-Committee
Wednesday, March 24, 2010 – Town Council Meeting Room
5:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Chairman McFee called the regular meeting of the Public Works/Solid Waste Sub-Committee to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Present were Councilors Beetham, Buebendorf, and McFee. Also present was Donald Borudeau, Public Works Director and Volunteer Sandie Gregory, Tag Sale Program Coordinator.

4. Consider and Act on the Approval of the Minutes of the February 24, 2010 Regular Meeting

Motion made by Councilor Buebendorf, seconded by Councilor McFee. Discussion: none. Voice vote: 3-0, all in favor, motion carried.

5. Consider and Act on a motion to add items to the Agenda for discussion

There was nothing to add to the agenda for discussion.

6. Remarks from the Public Regarding Items on the Agenda

Ron Benedict, 63 Lisa Lane was present to discuss the town wide trash pickup proposal. He stated the program would not benefit him in any way and is not in favor of it. He is content going to the transfer station to drop off his trash. He explained he has an eight hundred foot driveway and town wide trash pickup would not be any easier for him to participate in because he would have to load his truck with his trash and drive it down to the road for pickup. He expressed concern regarding the impact town wide trash pickup would have on the tag sales program. He stated the proceeds from the tag sales help out many of the town's civic organizations and the food bank. He discussed the Montville Road Bridge repairs and asked if the Town is justified in spending money to fix a bridge that is not widely utilized by the citizens of Montville. He explained the road is a cut

through for residents of Montville to get to the Big Y and thinks money would be better spent somewhere else in town where it would be better utilized.

Sandie Gregory distributed a letter addressed to the Town Council dated March 23, 2010 regarding the possible impact of mandatory town wide trash collection in the Town of Montville. She suggests in the letter to take into consideration the recycling tag sale program that benefits many non profit organizations in the town. This program is a benefit to all and is run by volunteers in conjunction with the Public Works Department. She stated she has been the coordinator of the program for over six years and the program has generated a total of one hundred and forty five thousand nine hundred and fifteen dollars to various non profit organizations in the town. She stated that doing away with the Transfer Station and this recycle program would be a tragic monetary loss to the many non profit organizations in the town. She discussed the costs of a town wide trash collection and stated she pays forty dollars a year for a Transfer Station sticker that equates to seventy seven cents per week to dispose of her trash. She does not believe the town wide trash pickup would be any less than she is paying now and she hopes the taxpayers will continue to have a choice as to paying for a trash collector or taking their trash to the Transfer Station themselves. She is not in favor of a mandatory town wide trash pickup.

Councilor Beetham stated Sandie Gregory has done a great job with the tag sale program and it is a big asset to the non profit organizations throughout the town. He stated the town wide trash pickup proposal will need an RFP in order to determine if it would be cost effective for the town to implement the proposal. He hopes that if there is eventually a town wide pickup option that the punch card system would stay in effect and donations for the tag sale program could be made at the Transfer Station.

7. Old Business

a. Update and Discussion Regarding Re-Use/Free Items and Tag Sales

Don Bourdeau indicated the tag sale program is going extremely well and there have been no problems to report. Sandie Gregory stated the program is popular with the non profit groups and there is a waiting list for Saturday sales.

b. Update and Discussion Regarding Disposal of Town Vehicles

Don Bourdeau distributed a copy of the list of junk cars to be listed for sale or disposal. There are thirteen cars and trucks on the list.

Motion made by Councilor Beetham, seconded by Councilor Buebendorf to forward the list to the Town Council and request authorization to sell the thirteen junk cars listed. Discussion: Councilor McFee suggested the Commission check with the Town Attorney to determine if there are any liabilities to the town if it sells used cars. Voice vote: 3-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

c. Discussion Regarding Adopt a Road Program

Don Bourdeau distributed copies of the Adopt a Road Program Release to the Councilors for review. He suggested they look it over, have it checked by the Town Attorney for wording and to report back to him with any changes before he has it finalized.

Motion made by Councilor Beetham, seconded by Councilor Buebendorf to send the document to the Town Attorney for review and a determination regarding liability issues and wording. Discussion: none. Voice vote: 3-0, all in favor, motion carried.

d. Update and Discussion Regarding Spring/Fall Clean-up

A discussion was held regarding posting names of vendors who are willing to pick up metal from residents free of charge. Councilor McFee stated a discussion regarding the fall cleanup can not take place until a determination is made regarding how much money is budgeted to do so. He suggested talking about this further after the budgets have been approved. The Commission is not in favor of having residents leave their metal on the street for pickup due unsafe conditions and the burden it will place on Public Works to clean up the mess left on the street and recommends they contact the vendors directly to make arrangements for pickup on the property.

e. Update and Discussion Regarding Road Repairs/Paving

Don Bourdeau discussed paving and road repairs scheduled for this year. He indicated he will have to wait to see how much is allocated for maintenance and road repair and will do what he can do with what he is allotted to do so. Discussions were held regarding problems areas throughout the town, flooding issues and catch basins.

Don Bourdeau discussed the Oxoboxo Bridge repairs, stating the contract for repair has been signed and the project is ready to begin.

f. Update and Discussion Regarding Single Stream Recycling and Transfer Station Operations

Don Bourdeau indicated there are no problems to report and the program is doing extremely well. He thinks this form of recycling is encouraging residents to recycle more than they did before. He discussed a mailing from SCCRA to the residents regarding recycling benefits that will go out in the near future at no cost to the town.

g. Update and Discussion Regarding the RFP for Town Wide Trash Pickup

Don Bourdeau distributed a copy of the draft Municipal Solid Waste Curbside Pick Up Service Request for Proposal Service and Performance Specifications for the Councilors to review. Discussions were held regarding incorporating the costs of town wide trash

pickup into the tax rolls, billing issues, administrative support for the pickup, tipping fees, and a timeline for the proposal. It was the consensus of the Councilors to hold off discussions regarding this issue until the RFP has been sent out and responses have been submitted to determine if this proposal is feasible to consider and if it would be a benefit to the town.

h. Discussion regarding status of the Montville Road Bridge

Don Bourdeau stated there has been authorization to construct a bridge with a box culvert. This method will require the town to close the road when there is water over the road.

i. Discussion regarding sidewalks in front of Palmertown Academy

Don Bourdeau indicated the money for this project is in the Capital budget and the town has to wait to see if the money will be approved. Councilor Buebendorf suggested the Committee look back to the minutes of past Town Council meetings to determine if money has already been allocated to do the repairs needed to the sidewalks in front of the Academy.

8. New Business

There was no New Business to discuss.

9. Remarks from the Public

Mr. Ron Benedict, 63 Lisa Lane, discussed various areas throughout the town in need of road repair.

10. Remarks from the Councilors

Councilor McFee discussed the RFP for the curbside trash pickup and encouraged the Councilors to look it over and submit suggestions for changes before it goes out. He stated he is open to discussions regarding rolling the fee for the trash pickup into the taxes in the future. He is hoping the numbers received will be affordable and it will save most of the resident's money. He is in favor of keeping the three dollar day pass available to those who like the service at the Transfer Station.

Councilor Buebendorf discussed problems she foresees with the forced town wide trash pickup and liabilities associated with it.

Councilor Beetham stated it would be best to continue the town wide trash pickup discussion after the numbers are in from the RFP to determine if it is a possibility to move forward with the proposal.

11. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Buebendorf, seconded by Councilor Beetham to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. Discussion: none. Voice vote: 3-0, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Audrey Ulmer, Recording Secretary for the Town of Montville