

Town of Montville Public Works/Solid Waste Sub-Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes of Wednesday, January 25, 2012
Room 102 – Town Hall – 5:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Chairman Longton called the regular meeting of the Public Works/Solid Waste Sub-Committee to order at 5:35 p.m. after establishing a quorum.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Present were Councilors Caron (5:40 p.m.), McFee (5:35 p.m.) and Longton. Also present was Public Works Director, Don Bourdeau and Volunteer Coordinator, Sandie Gregory.

4. Presentations – none.

5. Alterations to the Agenda

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor McFee to add agenda item 8 (a) Discussion regarding Town building infrastructure. Discussion, none, voice vote, 2-0, all in favor, motion carried and the agenda was amended.

6. Approval of the November 22, 2011 regular meeting minutes.

Motion made by Councilor McFee, seconded by Councilor Longton, to approve the November 22, 2011 meeting minutes as submitted. Discussion, none, voice vote, 2-0, all in favor, motion carried.

7. Remarks from the Public regarding items on the agenda

Mr. Ralph Fargo, Sterling Recycling Company, discussed the town wide pick up of trash in the Town of Montville and inquired if the Town will go out to bid for the service if they decide to switch to this service. He distributed a copy of the bid he presented to the Town of Ledyard for town wide trash pickup for the Councilors to review. He does not feel that the Pay as you Throw program would work well for the Town because bags cost money and the garbage ends up on the side of the road and he stated the town wide pickup would cause an increase in taxes. Councilor Caron stated this year is a tough year for the Town losing revenue and because of the loss of revenue the budget will not allow

extra money to pursue this proposal and he does not foresee the town pursuing town wide trash pickup or going out to bid for the service this year or in the near future.

8. New Business

a. Discussion regarding Town building infrastructure.

Mr. Bourdeau distributed copies of the information requested by Councilor Longton at the last meeting titled "Town of Montville Facility Study Executive Summary 2002" for the Councilors to review. This study evaluates four buildings owned by the Town of Montville and one building owned by the Historic Society (Fair Oaks School, the Old Town Hall, the Youth Services Center, the Social Services building and the Rogers House). The planning goals depicted in the document are to identify a feasible and strategic location for a Community Center and to develop a plan for a downtown and/or a civic district area using existing structures and future streetscapes and design elements. He discussed repairing the roof at the Old Town Hall and the process that needs to be followed to repair it due to the asbestos in the building for approximately sixty thousand dollars. The building will be available for use if the roof is repaired and it would make sense to maintain the building and put it into use for town wide use for activities and/or future office space for Youth Services and Parks and Recreation and their programs. Renovations to the old Town Hall to make it usable would include a new roof, some interior renovations and new carpeting at a cost of approximately eighty thousand dollars. There are ADA approved rest rooms in the old Town Hall to meet the current code but this could change if major renovations are done to the building. Mr. Bourdeau is in favor of fixing the old Town Hall so the building does not become vacant and a liability to the town. He discussed utilizing the Public Works employees for some of the renovations to the building to reduce costs.

9. Old Business

a. Discussion regarding re-use/free items and tag sales.

Ms. Sandie Gregory stated there was no sale on Saturday due to the snow storm and stated this was the first time in eight years a sale was not held on a Saturday.

b. Discussion regarding the Adopt a Road Program.

Mr. Bourdeau distributed copies of the Adopt a Road program release given to the organizations who wish to participate for the Councilors to review and comment. Councilor Longton inquired if garbage bags are supplied to the groups who participate and Mr. Bourdeau stated garbage bags, safety cones and orange safety vests are available for organizations to use during the trash pickup alongside the roads. Councilor Longton inquired if the Adopt a Road program qualifies as community service from the

courts and Mr. Bourdeau stated that it could be and staff could sign off if need be for individuals who request the community service from the court system.

- c. Discussion regarding road repair schedules for repairs and chip sealing/paving.

Mr. Bourdeau suggested this item be removed from the agenda until May when chip sealing and paving resumes.

- d. Discussion regarding Transfer Station operations.

Mr. Bourdeau discussed a proposal from the Montville Union Baptist Church requesting collection of five cent recycling containers at the Transfer Station. They are requesting receptacles for the cans and bottles at the Transfer Station for collection of the recyclable materials to use toward operating costs for the non-profit organization. Mr. Bourdeau stated this program could be utilized by various groups throughout the year by the week and could be collected on Sundays if it is approved by the Committee and forwarded for approval to the Town Council. If it is authorized the town attorney could draft a waiver to limit any liability the town may have while organizations are picking up the recyclables. It was the consensus of the Committee to authorize Mr. Bourdeau to forward the proposal to the Town Attorney to investigate the liability of implementing this program for the non-profit groups.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor McFee to authorize Mr. Bourdeau to forward the proposal to the Town Attorney for advisement. Discussion, none, voice vote, 3-0, all in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Bourdeau distributed copies of a document titled "deliveries to the Preston facility" for the fiscal year 2012. This document depicts the number of Freon units recycled in the fiscal year 2012, electronic tonnage for the fiscal year 2012 and fluorescent bulbs recycled this year. The document compares the recycling usage for fourteen surrounding towns for comparison with the Town of Montville.

- e. Discussion regarding bridge repairs.

Mr. Bourdeau met with Norwich regarding the repair of the Montville Road Bridge and they are looking into the Local Bridge Grant to help with costs. Discussions were held regarding the costs to repair the bridge and test and engineering costs that are required by DEP prior to any bridge repairs. The repairs will require two box culverts to cover the large water shed. Discussions were held regarding a construction time line, the bid process, finalized engineered plans, DOT and DEP approvals, the permitting process and State requirements. Mr. Bourdeau stated the town is continuing to move forward with the preparations for the repairs and he will continue to report on the progress as it is made.

- f. Discussion regarding removal of materials at Camp Oakdale.

Mr. Bourdeau stated he is waiting for an approved area to move the materials. The materials consist of millings and sweepings from the roadways that can be used on jobs and projects that require processed gravel. He does not want to dispose of the materials because they have value to the town and hopes to have a designated area for storage as soon as the land swap to the WPCA is finalized.

- g. Discussion regarding the tree survey costs/ CL&P trimming.

Mr. Bourdeau does not have anything new to report and requested this item be tabled until the February meeting.

- h. Discussion regarding the "Pay as you Throw" program.

Councilor McFee summarized the discussion to date and stated the town is wasting money on the current system and discussed the recycling process currently used, stating the town is losing money with its current operation. He stated the money would be better spent on the Pay as you Throw program as it encourages recycling and generates less trash. He stated he used the Pay as you Throw experiment at his own home and discovered with little or no effort his family of five threw away one thirty pound bag of trash a week. He discussed composting at the Transfer Station to eliminate the amount of trash picked up and he discussed the costs of curbside trash pickup yearly vs. purchasing bags for the Pay as You Throw program. He would like to implement a plan that is in the best interest of the residents of Montville by providing a service to the residents with town wide trash and recycling pickup. Councilor Longton asked Councilor McFee to put together a proposal to present to the Town Council for the town wide trash pickup or Pay as You Throw program for their consideration. Councilor McFee stated he will meet with Mr. Bourdeau to gather information and requested keeping this item on the agenda for future discussion when he reports back with his findings and presents a proposal to the committee for review.

10. Remarks from the Public

Chairman Longton asked three times if there was anyone from the public who would like to address the Committee.

11. Remarks from the Councilors

Councilor McFee thanked the Committee for entertaining the town wide trash pickup proposal and stated he will present a proposal in the next couple of months when he has the opportunity to gather the information he needs.

12. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor McFee 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.