

Town of Montville
Public Works/Solid Waste Sub-Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 25, 2018
5:30 p.m. – Montville Town Hall – Room 102

1. Call to Order
Chairman McNally called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call (Councilors McNally, Pollard, and Caron)
Present were Councilors McNally and Caron. Absent was Councilor Pollard. Also present were Public Works Director Donald Bourdeau, Jr.
4. Presentations
 - a. DEEP Demo on Pay for Bag system
WasteZero Vice President of Municipal Partnerships and DEEP (Department of Energy and Environmental Protections) Consultant Kristen Brown provided a brief presentation regarding the Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT)/SMART (Save Money and Reduce Trash) Program. Having worked for over 30 years with hundreds of municipalities, conducted extensive research, and published numerous articles regarding the program, WasteZero Vice President and Consultant Brown is currently involved in a three-year DEEP project to work with 30 communities to institute the PAYT/SMART Program. Every community that institutes the program cuts their trash by approximately 50% and very few have reverted back to their old system and those that have done so have done so for, primarily, political reasons. Because SCRRRA (Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resource Recovery Authority) Region subsidizes the tip fee, the Town currently pays \$26.00/ton – an amount that is expected to increase in approximately nine to ten years based upon the current rate of trash being generated and the expenditure of existing funds. Should more or all of the municipalities within the region implement the program, the tip fee could last nearly twice as long. Once the funds are expended, the subsidy, along with additional services, will be no longer be offered and the cost to the towns will dramatically increase. The average disposal of garbage is 800 lbs. per capita. In Montville, the average is 700 lbs. per capita. In Massachusetts, those communities with the SMART Rate Structure have 432 lbs. per capita or approximately 44% less waste being produced. Montville is unique in that the Town has a Transfer Station and also provides recycling pick-up for its residents. As such, the program would be reviewed and optional programs would be designed and tailored for the Town. It has been proven that, by instituting the PAYT/SMART Program, a significant drop in trash and an increase in recycling are immediately reflected in the numbers as residents begin to think differently about how they dispose of their waste.

In response to Councilor Pike, she stated that the primary reason behind the various communities' opposition to the change is due to concerns regarding an increase in illegal

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dumping and a fear of an increase in expenses due to the purchasing of the bags. On average, 0.85 bags are utilized per household in one week. In response to Public Works Director Bourdeau, the Town would need to make a final decision by July 1 in order to secure the grant funds, which can be utilized for education, promoting the program, purchasing of compost bins, etc.

Former Town Councilor Dana McFee suggested offering the Transfer Station stickers for \$55.00 (\$45.00 for seniors), \$10.00 of which would be utilized for the transportation of the trash and \$45.00 for the bags.

Information regarding the Program will be sent to the Public Works Director and relayed to the Committee. The Committee thanked her for her presentation.

5. Alterations to the Agenda – *none*

6. Approval of:

a. The Regular Meeting Minutes of March 28, 2018

Motion made by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor McNally. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 2-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

7. Remarks from the Public Regarding Items on the Agenda

Florence Turner, Transfer Station employee, reminded the Committee that, should the new PAYT/SMART Program be fast-tracked and implemented this year, it would occur at the same time as the Transfer Station's major renovations.

In response to Councilor Pike who questioned whether the Transfer Station would be adequately staffed, Public Works Director Bourdeau stated that an additional part-time employee to be hired during the renovation is included in the budget. Ms. Turner added that the Transfer Station is currently down one and one-half employees.

Former Councilor McFee added that once the program is implemented, no new staff would be necessary. In addition, the vendor would provide the storage and shipping of the bags to various locations for sale and the initial offering of bags with the sticker would provide the Town with the time necessary to organize the selling of the bags. He stated the importance of implementing the program as soon as possible.

8. Old Business

a. Road repair schedule update – *no report*

b. Review of the infrastructures of Town-owned properties – *no report*

c. Transfer Station update – *no report*

d. Revisions to Transfer Station Policy – *no report*

1) Fee schedule update

2) Permit Policy

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e. Public Works Facility update

Once the project has been approved by the State, the contract will be signed and the project will begin.

f. Partnership with *Habitat for Humanity*

An enquiry has been sent to *Habitat for Humanity* regarding the possibility of a partnership.

9. New Business

a. Status of the cash bond for roadwork

The Department is currently working with the Engineer to determine which roads are in need of reclamation and which are in need of maintenance. He clarified that, while they can bond for the roads, funds would still need to be allocated for their maintenance.

A meeting is in the process of being organized with SCWA (Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority) regarding the possibility of requiring a cash bond to ensure that any damages to the road caused by companies who are working on the road are repaired at their expense and in a timely manner.

b. Status of Silver Falls Bridge

Discussion ensued regarding opening and repairing the Silver Falls Bridge. Due to the high cost of repairing the bridge for the very few houses located in the area, the project has not been a priority. The Engineers are currently reviewing and investigating the possibility of creating a pedestrian bridge. The project would require the purchasing of property to provide enough room for buses and emergency vehicles to turnaround. The possibility of installing jersey barriers was suggested.

The Councilors requested that the Church located on Raymond Hill Road be made wind- and water-tight.

10. Remarks from the Public – *none*

11. Remarks from the Councilors – *none*

12. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor McNally, to adjourn the meeting at 6:23 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 2-0, all in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Agnes Miyuki, Recording Secretary for the Town of Montville