

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, August 25, 2010 – Town Council Meeting Room**  
**5:30 p.m.**

1. Call to Order

Chairman McFee called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call

Present were Councilors Buebendorf and McFee. Absent was Councilor Beetham. Also present was Public Works Director, Don Bourdeau and Program Coordinator, Sandie Gregory.

4. Consider and Act on the Approval of the Minutes of June 23, 2010

Motion made by Councilor Buebendorf, seconded by Councilor McFee. Discussion, none, voice vote, 2-0, all in favor, motion carried.

5. Items to be added to the Agenda – none.
6. Remarks from the Public Regarding Items on the Agenda – none.
7. Old Business

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

Sandie Gregory started by complimenting the plantings at the Transfer Station. She commended the person responsible for beautifying the area and stated they did a great job. She discussed issues she is having with certain organizations leaving the tag sale areas in disarray, and stated the best way to resolve the problem is to meet directly with the person in charge of the sale to discuss what is and is not acceptable. She stated most organizations leave the room in great condition but there are a few that do not and the volunteers take on the responsibility for cleaning up the mess after they leave. Sales have been averaging three hundred dollars and she stated the lower numbers are typical during the summer months when there are so many private tag sales on the weekends. During the winter months the numbers go up when there are not so many other private tag sales going on.

Councilor Buebendorf thanked Ms. Gregory for all the time she volunteers to make this program such a great success. She stated this program is a great resource for the town and hopes it can continue into the future for many years to come.

Don Bourdeau stated he has had no issues or complaints and stated it continues to be a popular and successful program thanks to the efforts of the volunteers that run it.

b. Update and Discussion Regarding Disposal of Town Vehicles

Don Bourdeau stated he has not been able to locate an ordinance that addresses the disposal of unused or unwanted town vehicles. He stated the Mayor has indicated to him the vehicles can not be sold on Craigslist and that past practice has been to dispose of unwanted vehicles through an auction sponsored by the town. A discussion was held regarding the chronology of events regarding the disposal of the vehicles to date and Councilor Buebendorf stated it was the decision of this sub-committee to forward this to Town Administration for review and discussion. Councilor McFee expressed his disappointment with the progress made by this sub-committee since he has been appointed to it. Councilor Buebendorf stated change takes time but feels that they are moving in the right direction. This sub-committee does not have the authority to develop or adopt policies but can make recommendations to the committees that do. A discussion was held regarding scheduling an auction, setting minimum bids for merchandise and the sale of all town surplus inventory. Councilor McFee stated the auction could lose the town money after paying employees to work it if there are no minimum bids set for the vehicles.

Don Bourdeau stated he understands Councilor McFee's frustration and stated policy changes take time to implement and he does not have the authority to sell the vehicles in any form other than an auction unless the Mayor gives him the authority to do so or a new policy is in place. Councilor Buebendorf

c. Update and Discussion Regarding Adopt a Road Program

Don Bourdeau stated he has not met with any of the organizations who have previously been interested in this program and discuss liability issues. He will have more information for the committee at the next meeting.

d. Update and Discussion Regarding Road Repairs/Paving

Don Bourdeau discussed road repairs and paving on Old Colchester Road, Moxley Road and Gallivan Lane. He indicated repairs should be completed by November depending on the weather and contractor. He discussed budgetary restrictions that are keeping him from repairs that are desperately needed. He indicated he forced to be reactionary instead of pro-active with repairs this year because of the lack of funding. He stated he has met

with the FEMA representatives but the town has not received any of the money promised from the floods back in March.

e. Update and Discussion Regarding Transfer Station Operations

Don Bourdeau stated he has not heard any complaints from residents regarding the increase to the yearly Transfer Station sticker pass. A discussion was held regarding the possibility of the town taking over the responsibility for town wide trash pickup and the costs of purchasing trucks and garbage bins for all residents and the costs to hire employees to run the operation. Discussions were held regarding initial start up operating costs, long and short term expenses, union issues, liability, billing, Transfer Station hours, and various options for a town operated, town wide trash pick up.

Don Bourdeau stated he will gather information from surrounding towns that pick up their own trash curbside for residents and will research the costs of purchasing garbage and recycling trucks for the next meeting.

Discussions were held regarding overhauling and improving the punch card system at the Transfer Station to cut down on abuse of the system. A discussion was held regarding recycling education to promote recycling town wide.

Don Bourdeau discussed the possibility of allowing volunteers to work at the Transfer Station. Discussions were held regarding liability of volunteers to the town, training of volunteers to do the job and it was the consensus of the committee to check with the insurance carrier and town attorney for a determination if volunteers are a liability at the Transfer Station.

f. Update and Discussion Regarding Bridge Repairs

Don Bourdeau stated the Oxoboxo Bridge repair has been delayed due to additional drilling and braces required for the coffer dam. The additional work is estimated to cost the town an additional one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The engineering firm will not take responsibility for the additional costs for the drilling and the town has only ten percent of the cost of the project in contingency. He stated the town plans to keep the bridge closed until the work is completed. At this point the estimated completion date is in November, 2010.

A discussion was held regarding repairs to the Montville Road Bridge and how much if any money will come from the State and the City of Norwich to complete the repairs.

g. Update and Discussion Regarding Demolition Projects

Don Bourdeau stated the buildings have been demolished and the lots graded, loamed and seeded and are ready for sale. He stated each lot cost eight thousand five hundred dollars to complete.

8. New Business – none.

9. Remarks from the Public

Sandie Gregory discussed the Blight Ordinance implemented by the town and inquired why there has been no clean up of some of the worst properties in the town.

Councilor Buebendorf stated the Building Official has sent out letters to the owners of the blighted properties but his office is understaffed and doing what they can do with the resources available to them to keep up with the enforcement of the blight.

10. Remarks from the Councilors

Councilors Buebendorf and McFee did not have anything further to discuss.

Don Bourdeau distributed a copy of the Town of Montville Guide to Single Stream Recycling for the Councilors to review and stated the brochure is available to residents for clarification regarding items that can be recycled curbside. The brochure was published by SCCRA and is distributed at no cost to the town.

11. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Buebendorf, seconded by Councilor McFee to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Discussion: none, voice vote, 2-0, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Audrey Ulmer, Recording Secretary for the Town of Montville