

Town of Montville Public Works/Solid Waste Sub-Committee
310 Norwich New London Turnpike, Uncasville, Connecticut 06382
(860) 848-3030

Meeting Minutes
Town of Montville Public Works/Solid Waste Sub-Committee
Wednesday, February 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 were Public Works Director, Don Bourdeau and Program Coordinator, Sandi Gregory.

4. Consider and Act on the Approval of the Minutes of the January 27, 2010 Regular Meeting

Motion made by Councilor Buebendorf, seconded by Councilor Beetham. 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

Motion made by Councilor McFee, seconded by Councilor Beetham to add agenda item 7 (h) under Old Business, Update and discussion regarding the Montville Road Bridge. Discussion: none. Voice vote: 3-0, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Beetham, seconded by Councilor McFee to add agenda item 7 (i) under Old Business as follows: Discussion regarding sidewalks in from of Palmer Academy. Discussion: none. Voice vote: 3-0, all in favor, motion carried.

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

Sandi Gregory, Program Coordinator, indicated there have been no issues with the program and everything is going well. She stated items to be sold at the tag sales are

brought to the Transfer Station and the groups scheduled to hold the tag sales go through the items and pull out the items they would like to sell at their sale. She discussed discouraging people from donating directly at the Fair Oaks site. She stated the program generates approximately twenty five thousand dollars a year for local charities and the room is booked through 2011. She indicated any items not sold at the sale go to the free items area at the Transfer Station and are available for residents to take home at no cost.

Don Bourdeau stated he has not had any complaints and the program is a successful one.

b. Update and Discussion Regarding Disposal of Town Vehicles

Councilor McFee stated he contacted the New London Day newspaper for a quote for advertising the vehicles for and it will be costly to go this route. He requested a quote for a line item ad in the classified section of the newspaper. Councilor Buebendorf suggested the items be advertised on free sites such as Craigslist and the local TV channel and on the Town's webpage. A discussion was held regarding Channel 22 not working for the past two weeks.

c. Discussion Regarding Adopt a Road Program

Councilor McFee indicated he has not had the opportunity to speak with Flo Turner regarding the program but will try to look into this further prior to the next meeting. A discussion was held regarding liability issues and Don Bourdeau will look into this. Councilor Beetham suggested this program should be up and running by spring and hopes there is a good turnout. Councilor McFee suggested this item stay on the agenda for discussion and updates next month and Don Bourdeau will compile an updated list of organizations that currently participate in the Adopt a Road program.

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

Councilor McFee stated he would like to see the metal clean up takes place during the spring months. He hopes a free pick up will encourage homeowners to clean up their blight properties. He expressed concern regarding the scavenging that may take place if there is a town wide metal pickup. Don Bourdeau expressed concern regarding who would be responsible for picking up items off the street that were left after the scavengers picked through them. It was the consensus of the Councilors to compile a list of vendors that are willing to go the residents in Montville and pick up metal for free and to place the names of these vendors on the Town's website, Channel 22, the Montville Times and the Norwich Bulletin.

e. Update and Discussion Regarding Road Repairs/Paving

A discussion was held regarding a paving schedule and when it will begin. Don Bourdeau discussed the priority jobs and stated they will try to get as much done as they can with the amount of money budgeted to do so. He discussed keeping up with the

maintenance program to avoid larger, costly repairs in the future. Councilor Beetham discussed a guard rail in need of repair on the corner of Lathrop Road and Pink Row and on Route 163 and Bridge Street. A discussion was held regarding liability for fixing them, and Don Bourdeau stated it is the responsibility of the operator of the vehicle only if there has been a police report filed and the accident was reported.

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

Don Bourdeau discussed the need to educate the public regarding the benefits of recycling. He discussed various ways to do so, including educating adults at the Transfer Station and children at the schools regarding what can be recycled and the benefits of doing so. He stated recycling is the responsible thing to do and if it is done it can save the town a significant amount of money over the course of a year. A discussion was held regarding how many households do not recycle because it is easier not to do so. Education regarding recycling is critical if it is going to get done. Councilor Buebendorf suggested looking into implementing the trash "paper bag" system where residents purchase paper bags and dispose of their trash in them. She stated when people are held accountable for what items they dispose of they tend to do a better job recycling objects. Councilor McFee spoke in favor of implementing the town wide trash pickup and Councilor Buebendorf stated the town wide pickup would discourage residents from recycling because they would be allowed to throw anything into the trash bins giving the town less control over recycling. She stated there would be no initiative to recycle if the bins are not checked and they most likely would not be.

g. Update and Discussion Regarding Town Wide Trash Pickup

Discussions were held regarding the pros and cons of implementing the town wide trash pickup. It was the consensus of the Councilors to authorize Don Bourdeau to get an RFP for cost comparisons and to get an accurate depiction of costs to do so. A discussion was held regarding costs of requesting the RFP. Don Bourdeau stated there are costs to advertise for the RFP.

Motion made by Councilor Buebendorf, seconded by Councilor Beetham to authorize Don Bourdeau to advertise for an RFP for town wide trash pickup; one number to include tipping fees and the other to eliminate the tipping fees and to send the findings to the Town Council. Discussion: none. Voice vote: 3-0, all in favor, motion carried.

h. Discussion regarding status of the Montville Road Bridge

Councilor McFee asked for an update regarding progress to the repairs to the bridge. Don Bourdeau indicated he is eventually going to have to create a line item for engineering fees for the bridge as they are coming out of his budget. Councilor Buebendorf stated the Finance Committee recommended this does not happen at this time because the Finance Department has sent a bill to the City of Norwich for half of the fees

to date and when they send the check it will re-instated into the line item it originally was taken from. Don Bourdeau stated the Town is still waiting on the Arty Corp of Engineers to approve the box culvert, and until then the Town can not move forward with repairs. He stated the City of Norwich has agreed to pay for half of the cost of the repairs if the box culvert is approved but he does not think they will pay if it is determined a more costly remedy will be required.

i. Discussion regarding sidewalks in front of Palmertown Academy

Don Bourdeau stated the project can begin once the money is approved in the Capital Plan. The costs to fix the sidewalks will be approximately thirty five thousand dollars due in part to repairs required to fix the walls and the sidewalks. He stated depending on the extent of the repairs, it could cost less to repair but this can not be determined until the work starts and the crew can assess the extent of the damage to the walls. He stated he will gather more information and present it to the Sub-Committee at the next meeting.

8. New Business – none.
9. Remarks from the Public – none.
10. Remarks from the Councilors – none.
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