

Town of Montville
Public Works/Solid Waste Standing Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 22, 2024, 5:15 p.m.
Montville Town Hall – Conference Room 102

1. Call to Order
Chairperson Caron called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call (Councilors Caron, Lathrop, Southard)
Present were Councilors Caron, Lathrop, and Southard. Also present were Public Works Director John Carlson and Mayor Leonard Bunnell, Sr.
4. Alterations to the Agenda
Motion made by Councilor Southard, seconded by Councilor Lathrop, to move Item 8, New Business, follow Item 6, Remarks from the Public Regarding Items on the Agenda.
Discussion: None. Voice vote, 3-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
5. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Regular Meeting Minutes of Wednesday, March 27, 2024
Motion made by Councilor Southard, seconded by Councilor Lathrop. Discussion: None.
Voice vote, 3-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
6. Remarks from the Public Regarding Items on the Agenda – *none*
7. New Business
 - a. NexTrex Project – Collection and Bailing of Plastic Film
Lions Club Member Bruce Engleman, 8 Bayberry Lane, Uncasville, stated that NexTrex, which collects plastic film/bags, will pay the Town 0.14 cents per pound for plastic film. The company will pick up the film, free of charge, when 20,000 pounds has been collected and lease-to-own a bailor that can be paid off with the funds received from the collection of the film. The bailor, which must be stored indoors, costs approximately \$14,000.00 to \$18,000.00 and each load will total \$2,800.00. A 20-yard dumpster that is no longer in use can be moved and a storage building with electrical access to house the bailor can be constructed on the existing concrete slab. The program would decrease the amount of garbage being deposited into the waste stream and the applicable hauling fees.

Transfer Station Employee Flo Turner also reported that the contract for the cardboard collection expires this year and Rand-Whitney Containerboard has agreed to collect loose cardboard in a tractor-trailer box, supplied by Rand-Whitney, and pay \$115.00 per ton.

The possibility of utilizing the Town's Nip Funds to fund the storage building and the logistics of bailing, storing, and accessing the material for pickup was briefly discussed.

A storage building that could, in the future, house two (2) bailors for the plastic and cardboard would be ideal. Public Works Director Carlson recommended the Town invest in an outdoor bailor that could bail both plastic and cardboard, rather than purchasing a building and an additional bailor. He also recommended purchasing a connex box(es) to store the bailed material, a ramp, and a skid steer to load the material onto the truck. A method to scale the bail might also be necessary. The necessity and expense of a loading dock were also discussed. He also recommended the Town contact SCRRA (Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority) before considering recycling the cardboard through a different company and consulting with CT DEEP (Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection) regarding their ability to conduct the onsite processing of the material. It should also be determined who is authorized to approve the allocation/expenditure of the Nip Funds. The labor and time to collect and process the material should also be considered. Additional information will be collected and the item will remain on the Agenda for further discussion.

b. Informational Recycling Flyers

Public Works Director Carlson proposed the possibility of creating and mailing double-sided flyers educating the public on proper recycling practices from the Public Works Department and WPCA mailed to each household utilizing the Nips Fund. The flyers are estimated to cost approximately \$3,000.00, including postage.

Motion made by Councilor Southard, seconded by Councilor Lathrop, to send a recommendation to the Town Council to send allocate funds from the Nips Fund for the creation, production, and mailing of double-sided informational recycling flyers from Public Works and the Water Pollution Control Authority. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 3-0, all in favor.

8. Old Business

a. Raymond Hill Church – *no updates*

b. Road Improvement Program: Drainage & Paving Schedule/Road Improvement Bond
Work on the catch basin(s) and paving of Old Colchester Road from Hunters Run to Black Ash Road and paving Maple Avenue from I-395 to Route 32 is being scheduled. Councilor Lathrop plans to approach the WPCA (Water Pollution Control Authority) regarding the possibility of funding the paving of Maple Avenue. In addition, SCWA (Southeastern Water Authority) Liaison Chuck Longton will be contacted regarding the replacement of the water lines on Connecticut Blvd. A preliminary list of roads for a new bond will be provided to the Councilors.

c. Youth Services (Montville Community Center) Bathrooms

Public Works Director Carlson is in the process of breaking down the project to decrease the costs.

d. Allocation of COVID-19 Funds

The remaining items include:

- Large Pavilion Repairs – *in progress*
- Senior Center Generator – *awaiting invoice*
- Old Town Hall (Social Services Building) Renovations
- Tractor – *awaiting radio installation*

e. Cleanup of Schofield Pond – *no update*

f. Public Works Garage Clean-up & Breakroom – *no update*

g. Tree Clearing

Weekly calls are received requesting the removal of a tree. The truck will be rented next Fall/early Spring. Trees are being removed monthly by local contractors, who are also clearing the wood.

h. Road Standards – *no update*

i. Road Clean-up Policy, a.k.a. Adopt-a-Road Program

The Boy Scouts, Lions Club, and Millstone have taken advantage of the program. The inmates also helped clean the roads before the recent parade.

j. Future Capital Projects

The future Capital Projects were provided to the Town Council. One item not included on the list is the Senior Center Furnace, which is not functioning and is obsolete. Estimates ranging from \$44,715.00 to \$46,818.00 were received for two new furnaces.

k. Large Pavilion

The columns are scheduled for completion by the end of the week. Electrical Outlets will be added to the second phase of the project which will consist of the roofing, siding, and lighting. Items that need attention, as noted by one of the Parks & Recreation Commissioners during a recent walkaround, will be provided to the Director.

l. Painting of Stop Bars

Ninety-eight (98) stop bars, including Old Colchester, Raymond Hill, Fitch Hill, and Chapel Hill Roads, were painted.

m. Boat Launch

The CT DEEP permitting is in process.

n. Basketball Courts

The project will be sent out to bid, pending the approval of the FY2024/25 Budget.

o. War Memorial Cleanup

The monuments have been pressure washed.

p. MS4 General Permit

The Public Works Director will be working on consolidating their system with the GIS system to help keep track of the status of each of the Town's basins.

q. Surplus Equipment

Surplus equipment includes the Mohegan Fire Company Truck and a Golf Cart.

r. Purchasing Policy

The Councilors discussed the issues related to Item III(E), The Request for Quotation, of the Town's Purchasing Policy, which states that:

For all Town purchases of goods and services not utilizing State or Federal funds, any responsible Town Bidder that has submitted a bid not more than 15% (fifteen percent) higher than the low bid provided such Town based bidder agrees to accept the award of the bid at the amount of the low bid...

The Policy discourages local contractors from bidding on Town projects and is hurting the Town and hindering the bidding process.

Motion made by Councilor Lathrop, seconded by Councilor Southard, to recommend eliminating Section III(E) of the Town's Purchasing Policy to the Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Standing Committee. Discussion: The Policy will be sent to Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Standing Committee Chairman Joe Jaskiewicz. Voice vote, 3-0, all in favor.

9. Remarks from the Public

Mayor Bunnell reported that he was contacted by Representative Holly Cheeseman regarding an upcoming Bond Commission meeting and will be notified regarding the status of the funding for the Animal Control Facility by the end of next week. The Councilors will continue to speak with their Legislators regarding the matter.

10. Remarks from the Councilors – *none*

11. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Southard, seconded by Councilor Lathrop, to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Agnes T. Miyuki, Recording Secretary for the Town of Montville