

**Town of Montville Public Works/Solid Waste Sub-Committee**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, March 23, 2011 – 5:30 p.m.**  
**Town Hall**

1. Call to Order

Vice Chairperson Buebendorf called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Present were Councilors Beetham, Buebendorf and McFee (5:05 p.m.) Also present was Don Bourdeau, Public Works Director and Sandie Gregory, volunteer coordinator, Re-use/free items.

4. Presentations

a. Mr. Tony Lowe, owner of Lowes Sanitation Services to give a presentation regarding trash pickup in the Town of Montville.

Mr. Tony Lowe was not present to give the presentation to the Sub-committee.

5. Alterations to the Agenda

Motion made by Councilor Buebendorf, seconded by Councilor Beetham to amend the agenda and add item 9 (c), a discussion regarding removal of materials at Camp Oakdale. Discussion, none, voice vote, 2-0, all in favor, motion carried.

6. Approval of the February 23, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Councilor McFee, seconded by Councilor Beetham, discussion, Councilor Buebendorf stated she will abstain from the vote because she did not attend the February 23, 2011 meeting. Councilor McFee requested the minutes be amended to reflect the correct name of the speaker as Mr. John Phettiplace. Voice vote, 2-0-1 (Councilor Buebendorf abstained) meeting minutes approved as amended.

7. Remarks from Public Regarding Items on the Agenda – none.

8. Old Business

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

Ms. Sandie Gregory stated the sales have been netting over five hundred dollars and the operation is doing well. She stated she sorted through a shed full of eviction property and was able to salvage a half a truck load of items to sell in the room. Mr. Bourdeau explained he used to keep eviction items for up to thirty days but because there have been more than usual over the past months he has no place to store the items and he is now keeping them for the required fifteen days before he disposes of the property. He explained the property owners have until the fifteenth day to claim their property and if they do not claim it, he offers it to the re-use/tag sale room before disposing of it.

b. Update/discussion regarding results of the town auction to dispose of surplus town vehicles.

Mr. Bourdeau stated the auction has been scheduled for May and will get back to the Committee with an exact date. A discussion was held regarding whether or not Town employees and Councilors are able to bid on merchandise at the auction. Mr. Bourdeau stated he will try to get clarification to this question from the town attorney and report back with his findings.

c. Update/discussion regarding Adopt a Road Program

Mr. Bourdeau stated there has been interest in the program and organizations have been coming into the office for packets of material to get started with. He is in the process of compiling a list of those who have committed to the project and stated if there are still roads that need trash pickup he will look into the use of the inmates as they still have authorization to utilize their services. Councilor Beetham stated there are piles of trash dumped on Maple Avenue Extension and requested Mr. Bourdeau to send someone to pick it up.

d. Update/discussion regarding road repairs and paving

A discussion was held regarding the poor shape of the roads this year because of the abnormally harsh winter. Mr. Bourdeau discussed options for repairs and discussed a process called “Nova Chip Seal” that is done with angled treated stone for longer lasting results. He explained this process could last for up to twenty years as opposed to the crack sealing used now that lasts ten years. The new process would be more cost efficient for the town. He hopes to get a demonstration from the company on one of the roads this spring. A discussion was held regarding the FEMA reimbursement and Mr. Bourdeau updated the Committee regarding progress to date.

e. Update/discussion regarding Transfer Station Operations

Mr. Bourdeau stated he is looking into making upgrades to the entrance to the Transfer Station and he will be applying for a STEAP grant to help with the costs. He is working with an engineer for a design and discussed changing the Transfer Station permit to a general permit in order to be more flexible in the future. He explained if the town had the general permit it would not have to go to the State for minor changes as it does now. He discussed one of the stipulations regulated by DEP is covering all dumpsters at the facility.

f. Update/discussion regarding bridge repairs

Mr. Bourdeau stated he will be attending a meeting the first or second week of April regarding the Montville Road Bridge. Councilor McFee stated there is no local bridge money available to fix the Montville Road Bridge and encouraged the town to fix it without monetary Federal or State assistance. He encouraged Mr. Bourdeau to get applications in to the State for assistance with fixing the Pink Row and Rt. 32 bridges that are recognized by the State as in need of repair.

g. Update/discussion regarding proposed metal collection ordinance

A discussion was held regarding whether or not an ordinance is required to organize a metal collection service for the Town. Councilor McFee stated the Town could make money on recycling. Councilor Buebendorf indicated the Public Works department is busy keeping up with road repairs and they are down three employees and may not have the time or resources to take appointments for and collect the metals until the fall. A discussion was held regarding compiling a list of local contractors who would be willing to come out to residents homes to collect metal free of charge and to post the list at the Transfer Station and give it to the Blight Officer for distribution. Mr. Bourdeau stated he will work on the list as requested and present it at the next meeting for review.

h. Update/discussion regarding the sand/salt budget

Mr. Bourdeau stated this item can be removed from the agenda because he does not think there will be a need for additional sand or salt until next year and therefore there will be no additional costs.

i. Discussion regarding a sidewalk ordinance.

Mr. Bourdeau suggested looking into an ordinance for sidewalk maintenance and snow removal. He stated they are a liability to the Town and it should be determined who is responsible for the

sidewalks. He discussed a grant for improvements to the intersection in the area around the Murphy School. Councilor Buebendorf volunteered to contact CCM to get samples of sidewalk ordinances for the Committee to review. Mr. Bourdeau stated the Town needs to make a decision as he has been receiving complaints that children are endangering themselves by walking in the streets to get to school when the sidewalks are not cleared and they have to walk in the road. He discussed the disrepair of some of the sidewalks and stated there needs to be a resolution one way or the other.

Ms. Sandie Gregory stated the Economic Development Commission has had discussions regarding this issue and suggested looking at their minutes to see what progress they have made and what, if any resolutions they have to the problem.

9. New Business

a. Discussion regarding an increase in the tipping fees.

Mr. Bourdeau discussed raising the tipping fees for haulers, stating at this time the town pays sixty dollars and charges sixty dollars. He suggested raising the rates for the contractors or charging them an administrative fee. Councilor McFee stated the contractors will raise the rates on the customers if he does this and the fees for trash collection are already too high. Mr. Bourdeau distributed copies of materials to the Committee members regarding the number of tons each hauler is charged for the years 2008, 2009, and 2010 to present, the number of permits and day passes sold at the Transfer Station, disposal fees at the Transfer Station, documentation of revenue from metal and recyclables and he distributed a memo from Tim DeVivo at Willimantic waste explaining he ran a report from October 1, 2009 through February 28, 2011 and there was a total of one hundred and thirty six tons a month recycled combined curbside and Transfer Station, a total curbside collection was approximately one thousand four hundred and seventy tons or ninety one tons a month and total Transfer Station collection was approximately forty four tons a month.

b. Update/discussion regarding the “Pay as you Throw” program.

Councilor McFee stated his experiment with the “bag” program is going well and with a little effort on behalf of his family they were able to get the trash down to one bag a week. A discussion was held regarding what residents will do if there is a public hearing regarding a change over to the “pay as you throw” program. Councilor Beetham does not think the residents will be in favor of implementing the program. Mr. Bourdeau stated there is an inconvenience factor as well, because residents have to remember to purchase bags or risk not getting their trash picked up. Councilor McFee stated the average resident would save a considerable amount of

money if the “pay as you throw” program was implemented, stating his family could cut the cost of trash disposal by two thirds by disposing of one bag of trash per week.

c. Discussion regarding the removal of materials at Camp Oakdale.

Councilor Buebendorf suggested moving this item to the next regularly scheduled meeting for discussion. Motion made by Councilor Buebendorf, seconded by Councilor Beetham to postpone this discussion until the next regularly scheduled meeting. Discussion, none, voice vote, 3-0, all in favor, motion carried.

10. Remarks from the public – none.

11. Remarks from the Councilors – none.

12. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Buebendorf, seconded by Councilor Beetham to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 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