

MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE TOWN COUNCIL SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 24, 2012, AT 7:30 P.M. IN ROOM 207,
TOWN HALL, 84 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CHESHIRE CT 06410

Present

Andrew Falvey, Chairman; Thomas Ruocco. Absent: Patti Flynn-Harris.
Staff: Michael A. Milone, Town Manager; Joseph Michaelangelo, Town Engineer
Guest: A.J. Wallinger, A. J. Waste Systems LLC.

1. ROLL CALL

The clerk called the roll and a quorum was determined to be present.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The group Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

3. AMENDED RESIDENTIAL RECYCLING COLLECTION CONTRACT

The committee was given a handout from Mr. Milone about the solid waste contract.

Mr. Milone, Mr. Michaelangelo and the committee reviewed the contract for solid waste and recycling 2009-2019. Mr. Milone informed the committee that the Council would have to waive the bidding procedures and award the contract.

Page 2 of handout – shows the elements of the cost of the service, and the only change is extension of the contract FY 13 to FY 19; the current contract has two years remaining. In the first two years, 2013 and 2014, the curb side pickup is changing; the non-curb side for condos, C-Town buildings and D-Schools is not changing because they are already in the existing contract. This handout has the actual costs built into the contract, and is an addendum.

Page 3 of the handout – is a summary of savings; the current contract per month cost, FY 12-13 is \$77,915 and per year \$934,980 for trash and recycling, houses and condos. Under the proposal for automated recycling with continued manual trash pickup, the cost is \$71,915 a month and \$862,980 annually. The per month savings is \$6,000 with annual savings of \$72,000. There is an assumption of a normal increase of 3% per year on the current contract, and with the new base the 3% is built on that number.

It is estimated there will be a 10% tonnage savings, 740 tons, in terms of refuse currently being burned and being taken out of the waste stream. At \$68 per ton tipping fee, this is a savings of \$50,320 a year. With the savings of \$72,000 and \$50,320, the yearly savings will be \$122,320.

Mr. Milone said it will take about 3 months to get the program off the ground, so the actual savings will be 75% of \$122,320, or \$91,740. He noted that the tip fee could increase 3% annually.

Mr. Wallinger reported that the City of Bristol saw a decrease of 34% in recycling in the first year of their new program.

Page 5 of the handout – a report was compiled by Pat Wallinger on the PILOT program which ran from March 19th to May 4th, 2012, for 10 homes. During that time period, 2000 gallons more recycling took place with the larger toters. The data shows that using the smaller 18 gallon bins only 1260 gallons more of recycling would have been realized. This equates to 740 gallons more of recycling or an increase of 58%.

Mr. Falvey commented on it being safe to say there will be more recycling with the new, larger, toters.

With regard to how much more recycling will be done and tonnage reduction, Mr. Michaelangelo stated that in the industry standards there is no finite number.

According to Mr. Wallinger, 10% reduction in waste is very conservative.

Mr. Milone also believes 10% reduction is conservative, and noted that Plainville CT realized a 30% reduction in tonnage. He commented on the fact that Cheshire is starting with an active group of recycling activity, and over time there will be month to month comparisons of the numbers.

Toters – Mr. Falvey said they have a 10 year life cycle, and the Town will have payback, without a reduction in recycling, in 7 years. These toters will come in 96 gallon and 64 gallon sizes.

There are two changes in the contract. Mr. Milone said the contract adds 5 years and changes the method of collection on a biweekly, automated pickup. The rest of the changes in the contract are minor language changes. The changes are being done to save money.

Mr. Milone commented on the excellent service provided by A.J. Waste to the Town of Cheshire, including immediate response and response to concerns and problems. This service is provided to 9,000 households on a weekly basis. It is an excellent service, and we are asking that this service be continued. The trash and recycling program must be done well, and it is done well in Cheshire. With extension of the contract there is the security and assurance that this known, established and quality service will continue.

Mr. Milone said that if Cheshire had to go out to bid and award this contract to a new vendor the learning curve would be steep, there would be disruptions and problems, and the service delivery would be very different.

Mr. Wallinger informed the committee that he will need to acquire a new automated recycling truck, and spare truck. Both should be available in 3 months.

The committee was told by Mr. Milone that the sooner the Council makes its decision the sooner this program can be implemented. His recommendation is to move on waiving the bid and awarding the contract.

Mr. Michaelangelo said there is an October 1st delivery date for the toters. In reviewing the bids for the toters, he advised that four vendors can make an October 1st date, and one can make a November 1st delivery date.

The committee held a brief discussion on when the Council should discuss and vote on the A.J. Waste contract.

Mr. Milone hoped for July 31st during a special meeting. However, Mr. Falvey said he did not want to rush this to a meeting next week, as it would look like the Council is doing it too fast. He prefers the matter be on the agenda of the August 14th Council meeting.

In looking at the contract, Mr. Falvey pointed out Article 1 – changing the word “Contract” (as needed) to “Contractor” in the Statement of Work paragraph.

MOTION by Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Falvey.

MOVED that the Solid Waste Committee approves the amendment to the existing contract between the Town of Cheshire and A.J.Waste Systems LLC, and forwards the matter to the full Town Council for approval; and approves a resolution to waive the bid process for awarding the automated recycling program.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

4. AUTOMATED RECYCLING PROGRAM

Mr. Milone referred to page 4 of the handout which outlined the operational issues for the automated recycling program.

Time Line – On August 14, 2012 the Town Council will decide on awarding of the contract, and will have the opportunity to approve other elements of the contract.

November 15, 2012 – this is the date on which A. J. Waste Systems is ready to start the program. Mr. Wallinger said, if all goes according to plan for truck delivery and toter delivery, and the Town is ready, he would like to start on November 1st.

Mr. Milone commented on the fact that he would like this program in operation for the holiday season.

Page 7 of the handout – reflects the information on the toters as a result of the RFP opened on June 24, 2012. The toters from each vendor were on display on the 2nd floor of Town Hall.

Mr. Michaelangelo explained that the bid was for 9,200 toters, and the division of the toters (96 gallon and 64 gallon) was a guestimate. In the RFP there were performance measures which the companies had to meet, and Cascade Engineering indicated it could not meet the October 1, 2012 criteria.

The bid also stated that the toters must be made in the U.S.A. IPL, Inc. toters are manufactured in Canada; the company met all the other criteria; and the toters are more sturdy than some of the others.

Between vendors 1, 3 and 4 there was no difference in the quality of the toters. The larger and more broad toter comes from CESCO. Sanitary Equipment is based in West Haven, with the toters manufactured in North Carolina. Cascade has an office in Connecticut.

Out of the five companies, Mr. Michaelangelo said that Cascade has the most experience in Connecticut towns. He would confirm delivery date of November 1st for the toters, and if this company could not meet this date, he would go with Rehrig Pacific.

Mr. Michaleangelo said that in the informational packet there was indication of one-half delivery of toters on one date, and one-half on a separate date.

The committee discussed households initially using the 96 gallon toters for two automated pickup cycles, and having the option to reduce to a 64 gallon toter.

Mr. Milone does not want to have problems with people swapping toters as this could become problematic. People will be given a toter; this is what they have to use; and implementation during the holidays is a good idea when people need more room for recycling needs.

The implementation of the program will be worked on after the Council's approval of August 14th.

The distribution of the toters was discussed and the idea is to stagger the distribution with 5,000 of the 96 gallon toters given to households. If 500 people then want 64 gallon toters, they will be given out, and there will be 500 more 96 gallon toters for the 2nd distribution.

Mr. Michaelangelo displayed a map of Cheshire showing how collection routes are divided throughout the Town for the weekly and bi-weekly collection. The automated collection would start on the Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday of the first week of the program – for 4 weeks. Following this 4 week period of time, the automated recycling collection would be implemented for five days a week, on a bi-weekly basis. The trash pickup would continue to be a manual collection on a weekly basis.

With the staggered automatic pickup Mr. Milone said there is time to look at problems, and manage and resolve them. The first group of households for pickup will have the 96 gallon toters.

Mr. Wallinger stated that for driveway stops, the people can utilize the 64 gallon toters and the existing service will be continued.

The committee discussed ways to determine the statistics on the number of people in households in Town as this would provide the information to know whether a 96 gallon or 64 gallon toter would be suitable.

After reviewing the map of the routes, Mr. Wallinger noted that Tuesdays is a very heavy trash and recycling day, with Wednesday being a little lighter. He suggested putting some of the Tuesday pickups to Wednesday pickup. He agreed with staggering the program and said the logistics will be worked out.

There was a discussion on how information regarding the automated recycling pickup program on a bi-weekly basis can be disseminated to the public.

At this time, Ms. Talbot (Exec. Asst. to Town Manager) is developing an information piece with a calendar for households to know which weeks are trash collection only, and which weeks are trash and recycling. For trash only the days will be printed in black; and for trash and automated recycling the days will be printed in red.

Mr. Milone showed the committee and Mr. Wallinger the brochure compiled by Plainville CT for its households. The plan is to have a similar brochure for Cheshire along with the guidelines on what can and cannot be recycled.

Communication Plan – Mr. Milone reviewed the strategies for communicating information to the public. These include using the website, local government channel, the brochure, public displays of the toters, public information session, print media, stickers on the toters, Email and direct mail.

It is expected that 100% of the automated recycling collection will be operational by December 1st. The toter company delivers the toters to each household or business.

Mr. Wallinger restated that his goal would be to start the automated program by November 1st, with full implementation by December 1st.

5. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Falvey.

MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Attest:

Marilyn W. Milton, Clerk