

MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE TOWN COUNCIL SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2012 AT 7:00 P.M. IN ROOM  
210, TOWN HALL, 84 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CHESHIRE CT 06410

Present

Andrew Falvey, Chairman; Thomas Ruocco, Patti Flynn-Harris.  
Town Council Chairman Tim Slocum.  
Staff: Michael A. Milone, Town Manager

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. AUTOMATED SINGLE-STREAM RECYCLING PROGRAM

Mr. Milone distributed copies of information on the recycling program and the distribution of the containers by size and cost.

At the last committee meeting there was discussion on the criteria for the size of container each household would receive. It was suggested that 1 and 2 bedroom homes receive a 64 gallon container; 3+ bedroom homes receive a 96 gallon container; and all condo units receive a 64 gallon container, with the exception of 35 condo units to receive 96 gallon containers. Mr. Milone believes the exception is related to the Southwick development, which is a multi-level building with more than one unit using a container. He will check on this and confirm for the committee.

The information sheet on distribution by size and cost was reviewed, and it showed that 1,300 - 64 gallon containers and 7,585 – 96 gallon containers would be ordered. The extra containers would be stored at the PW garage storage area.

RFID tag costs would total \$4,442.50; and the gross cost of the containers would be \$425,831.50. The cost of the containers was budgeted at \$477,000. The RFID tags would identify the container given to each household.

The committee discussed the criteria for the two sizes of containers to be given to a household.

Items E, F, and G on the distribution sheet identified senior citizens who will receive containers.

E – Seniors/Tax Relief (more than 2 bedrooms) 433 people;

F – Senior Center Members (more than 2 bedrooms) 1,343 people;

G – Senior Citizens/Registered Voters 1,914 people.

It was noted that there could be overlaps with some people in these groups, and there could be senior citizens living with their children, who would want the smaller containers. Mr. Milone said there is no data base to extend the 64 gallon container commitment beyond the senior citizens, and it is impossible to isolate the number of people per household. The committee must decide on whether all senior citizens get the 64 gallon container, and if so, the list will be worked on to identify these people.

It was recommended by Mr. Slocum that the Town order 8,885 containers, with 25% of the order, 2,221, being the 64 gallon sized containers. He considers 25% to be a reasonable number of the 64 gallon containers.

Mr. Ruocco commented on the fact that there will be discontent with this program, and the fact that he has received many negative, and few positive, calls on the new recycling program. He believes that with a reasonable effort on the part of the Town for distribution of the 64 gallon containers, people will be satisfied.

Once the right criteria are set, Mr. Milone said that there can be placement of the right size container in each household.

With regard to the start of the single stream recycling program, Mr. Falvey stated it would start at the same time for every household – in November. The first 8 weeks of the program will coincide with the holiday season, and afford people the use of the larger containers for recycling materials. He also said that it will start with people receiving a 64 gallon or 96 gallon container, and it is possible that some people may not be able to be accommodated with a swap of containers.

For the seniors identified in E, F, and G on the distribution information, Ms. Flynn-Harris said there will be some cross over of these people.

Mr. Milone summarized the criteria for the distribution of the two sizes of containers.

#### 64 Gallon Containers

Anyone 65 years old, disabled person(s), and a house with 2 or less bedrooms.

Anyone 65 years old living with 1 additional person.

There will be cross reference against 1 and 2 bedroom houses so there is no duplication.

Condominium units.

#### 96 Gallon Containers

Households with 3 or more bedrooms.

Condominium unit of multi-levels (Southwick)

Anyone 65 years old living with 2 additional people.

Regarding exceptions, Mr. Ruocco said that we must be careful about making exceptions with the requests for containers.

RFID Tags – they identify the household receiving the container, and if the program ever goes to having a camera on the truck, pictures can be taken of what is in the containers and identify the household; if there is damage to a container the homeowner can be identified; and the tags are also a better mechanism for inventory.

Based on the criteria for the containers, Mr. Milone said that Town staff will come up with the number of 96 gallon and 64 gallon containers to be ordered.

Mr. Falvey said there will be a certain number of extra containers built into the order, and they will be stored at the PW garage area.

Mr. Milone advised that staff will review the list of households, senior citizen numbers, and this data will be used to place the order for the containers by the end of the week.

The color of the recycling container was discussed by the committee, and the decision was to go with the dark green containers.

Art work on the containers was discussed, and it was decided that the Town seal would be on each container, and if possible the words “Cheshire Recycles.”

Ms. Flynn-Harris informed the committee that she has received a request from a resident for two new recycling containers.

If someone wants a 2<sup>nd</sup> container, Mr. Milone said they would get one delivered.

The issue of “swapping out containers” was discussed. Mr. Falvey said that the criteria for swapping to a larger or smaller container would require the household to go through four (4) recycling periods. Following that 8 week period, requests would be reviewed and considered, and people accommodated, if possible. Requests would go through the Public Works Department. It was suggested that a log be kept of the name, address, phone number of any resident who calls for a container swap during the 8 week period. He commented on the fact that the Council and Town staff are doing everything possible to accommodate people.

A brochure and letter is being put together by Town staff for distribution to every household in Cheshire. Mr. Milone stated that the letter and brochure will be previewed and approved by the committee prior to distribution.

Ms. Flynn-Harris reported to the committee that Ms. Sidoruk, CHS teacher, has students from one of her classes who are anxious to participate and work on the new recycling program. The students want to produce a video about the single

stream recycling and the toters. Ms. Flynn-Harris will be coordinating this effort with the teacher and students.

The committee was told by Mr. Milone that he has been invited to Ms. Sidoruk's class at the high school on Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, and he will give a presentation to the class. He likes the idea of the students producing a video, which will be creative and informative on the new recycling program.

There was no further business to come before the committee.

4. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Ruocco; Seconded by Ms. Flynn-Harris.

MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Attest:

---

Marilyn W. Milton, Clerk