

MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE TOWN COUNCIL SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2012, AT 6:30 P.M. IN ROOM
207, TOWN HALL, 84 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CHESHIRE CT 06410

Present

Andrew Falvey, Chairman; Thomas Ruocco, Patti Flynn-Harris.

Staff: Michael A. Milone, Town Manager; Joseph Michaelangelo, Town Engineer;
George Noewatne, Deputy PW Director.

Guest: A.J. Wallinger and Patricia 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. AUTOMATED SINGLE-STREAM RECYCLING PROGRAM

Mr. Milone distributed copies of information related to the new recycling program, and they were reviewed with the committee and A.J. Wallinger and Pat Wallinger.

Included in the packet of information was the draft of the communications plan for single stream recycling.

Chairman Falvey said we need to review the number of containers, breakout of container sizes, when the new recycling program starts, scheduling an information session, how to handle the public's understanding of items which can, and cannot, be recycled.

Mr. Milone informed the committee that he and Mr. Michaelangelo met with a representative of Cascade Carts to discuss the ordering and delivery of the containers. They were told that Cascade could get the carts manufactured, delivered, distributed to be on the street by November 17th.

It was recommended by Mr. Milone that the new recycling program start on Monday, November 19th, with delivery of containers to residents during the week of November 12th.

Mr. Wallinger said he could get his new truck delivered in early November and have it ready to go on November 19th.

The committee reviewed the information on the number of bedrooms in residential dwellings in Town, as it relates to the number of containers needed for the recycling program.

Mr. Michaelangelo stated that for 8,200 homes, 7,500 will get 96 gallon containers and 700 will get 64 gallon containers. Condominium units total 1144, and 35 units will get 96 gallon containers; 355 will get 64 gallon containers; and 754 will not get a container as they do not have curbside pickup.

Total number of containers to be ordered and delivered is – 7,535 of the 96 gallon containers, and 1454 of the 64 gallon containers for a total of 8989 containers. There will be a reserve of 200 of the 64 gallon containers and 50 of the 96 gallon containers. If a homeowner wants to “switch” to another size container, this would not take place until there has been 3 or 4 single stream recycling pickups, which is about 2 months time. A re-order of containers will take more time for manufacture and delivery.

Mr. Michaelangelo advised that the extra containers will be stored in the storage area behind the PW Garage building.

Other items for discussion are as follows:

Start Date - The new recycling program will begin on Monday, November 19th.

Number of containers – total of 8989; 7537 of the 96 gallon, and 1454 of the 64 gallon.

Phase In Program – Mr. Milone stated that he does not like the idea of phasing in the program; A.J. Waste is prepared to go forward with the start of the program for a full week. Homeowners will receive information on their pickup day with color coded calendar (weeks of red and blue).

Modification of routes – Mr. Wallinger requested that there be a modification of the Tuesday route, which has heavy tonnage, with about 100 to 200 homes being put on the Wednesday route.

In this regard, Mr. Milone said he would prefer keeping the days the same for recycling pickup. He believes that with bi-weekly pickup, the routes are cut in half, and this should help with the tonnage. If there is a problem encountered by A.J. Waste, Mr. Milone would prefer looking at it later, rather than changing pickup days which would cause confusion. This is an open item which will be reviewed, and if necessary, some pickups could be switched.

Public Information Session – Committee Chairman Falvey recommended that this session be part of the September 11th Council meeting, as an agenda item, under Public Comments. People could be informed about the program, start date, how the process works, and there can be questions and public input.

Public Information Documents etc. – Mr. Milone reported there will be a complete list of what can be recycled, and what cannot be recycled, and the list will be printed and given to the public.

Ms. Flynn-Harris informed the committee that she received a phone call from Cheshire High School and a class is interested in working with the Council on the single stream recycling program, make posters, and be a liaison group for the program. She will contact the teacher to discuss student involvement and report back to the committee.

Mr. Milone commented on the importance of the students understanding the history of the new single stream recycling program...that it makes sense, is an environmental and financial benefit to the community. He suggested that the students be invited to the September 11th Town Council meeting and participate in the public information session. The committee concurred with this recommendation.

The committee was informed that a pamphlet on the recycling program is being put together by Ms. Talbot, and it should be ready next week. Mr. Falvey is working on a press release to the *Cheshire Herald* and local media..

Fall Festival Participation – the festival will be held on September 8th; the Town will have a booth at the event, will promote the new recycling program, and have the containers on public display.

There was a brief discussion about the press releases, and how to announce the two sizes of containers. Mr. Milone said he has concerns about identification of certain things and getting resistance. The response to how the size of the containers will be determined is that “the committee is working on a policy on this issue.”

Container Display – Recycling Materials – After the Fall Festival the containers will be on display in the lobby of Town Hall, at the Library, possibly the Community Pool and the high school. If possible and if permitted, the containers could also be displayed at the local supermarkets.

T.V. Website – there will be a video about the new recycling program put together for the public on the government channel and web site. The Town Manager and his staff will be working with Mr. Chase on the video, and it will include photo clips from the Fall Festival booth.

Recyclables List – There will be a public information document which will define the updated recyclable and non-recyclable items for the single stream recycling program. Talking points and public information pamphlet will be ready for the September 9th Fall Festival.

4. ADJOURNMENT

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

MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Attest:

Marilyn W. Milton, Clerk