

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
Solid Waste Advisory Committee
Minutes of the Meeting
January 13, 2011

Present: Knox (chair), Roberts, Smith, Milius, Walton (staff), Hultgren (staff), Andrew Graves (guest)

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m.

The minutes of the October 28, 2010 meeting were accepted.

Andrew Graves, from BL Companies, discussed the waste management plan for the first phase of the Storrs Center buildings. Under this proposal, the commercial waste will be combined with the multi-family waste, the collection of trash and recycling will be multiple times per week, and there will be trash and recycling carts on each residential floor in which the management company will be responsible for moving and emptying into the dumpsters. Roberts raised the concern of easy truck access to the dumpsters near building DL-1. Walton suggested that carts smaller than 95 gallons be used on the floors to make it easier to empty into the dumpsters. Having found no other issues, the committee thought that the Storrs Center trash/recycling service should be incorporated into the multi-family contract.

Walton did more investigating about automated service. Willimantic Waste Paper charges \$7 to \$9 per household per month in surrounding towns for automated trash and recycling service. There are vendors selling 20 gallon automated carts, so the Town could switch to automated service without discontinuing its current service levels. Mayo & Sons indicated that their future plans does not include offering automated service.

Walton stated that two trash containers were purchased for the Hunting Lodge Road walkway. When the weather warms, a concrete base will be constructed and the cans will be secured. There is one outstanding recycling citation along Hunting Lodge Road.

Walton reported that the State has delayed instituting the electronics recycling law again, but the Town's vendor, WeRecycle!, stopped charging for electronics. As of November 15, 2010, America Recycles Day, residents are no longer being charged for electronics at the transfer station.

Hultgren reviewed the solid waste budget. Last year's budget balanced with a \$33,000 gain. The solid waste fund has a balance of \$200,000. The revenue for recyclables ranged from \$5 to \$17 per ton, depending on the market, for 2009/2010. The Town discontinued revenue sharing for recyclables in 2009; however, the revenue for recyclables was approximately the same under the new agreement.

Hultgren reported that there are certain items at the transfer station that are disappearing because of their market value – car batteries, propane tanks, aluminum, copper, brass and Freon containing appliances. Of particular concern are the refrigerant-containing appliances. They are taken for the copper coil which are cut from the appliances, venting chlorofluorocarbons into the air. Locking the appliances or moving them away from the back gate is being explored.

Walton stated that Holinko Estates is participating in a pilot using a uniquely painted recycling dumpster. After the first week, although the volume of recycling has not changed, it is a clean sort. If this pilot is deemed successful, it may be worth trying out at other multi-family residences.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 10, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton
Recycling/Refuse Coordinator

Cc: Lon R. Hultgren, Director of Public Works, Members, file, Town Manager, Town Clerk