

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
Solid Waste Advisory Committee
Minutes of the Special Meeting
October 17, 2013

Present: Knox, Roberts, Ames, Coughlin, Hultgren (staff), Walton (staff)

The meeting began at 7:10.

Walton reported that there are 10 households that have requested a second 64 gallon recycling container. The committee was undecided on whether or not to charge each household an additional \$4.95/month for the container, which is Willimantic Waste Paper's charge. Staff will gather more information from inspections to see what types of recyclables these households generate and bring it to the November meeting.

Walton stated that she is getting calls, including from the housing inspector, about the 96 gallon can service not being adequate for some households. There are roughly 25 households with this issue. The committee agreed to a larger 160 gallon trash service by adding an additional 64 gallon container to the 96 gallon container, for a monthly total of \$41.75. This will be brought to the Town Council for their consideration.

Most of the trash complaints staff has received has been from seniors and disabled residents trying to handle the 64 gallon recycling container. Willimantic Waste Paper has been asked to order 35 gallon recycling containers, which they are willing to do in December. The committee agreed with staff's recommendation to have the order made sooner so that they can be delivered in November.

The committee discussed the handling of stolen containers. Willimantic Waste Paper will charge the Town \$100 per missing container. The Towns of Coventry and Tolland waive the replacement fee for the resident, if they fill out a police report. The committee agreed to follow the same policy.

The committee discussed the recycling stickers made of paper which are already starting to disintegrate. It was the consensus that going forward Willimantic Waste Paper should use weatherproof stickers on the recycling containers.

Walton updated the committee on complaints about missed collections. Willimantic Waste Paper is using GPS tracking to note whether trash was out, which has sometimes contradicted what residents are telling staff. Staff will be asking Willimantic Waste Paper to collect missed trash until the end of the month, regardless of what GPS indicates as the drivers are new to the route. Walton would like to observe how GPS works for a stretch of the route to determine its reliability.

The 20 gallon containers, which have been on back order due to a production problem, should be arriving in Willimantic on October 28, 2013 with an anticipated delivery day of November 1, 2013.

Walton reported that 36 service level requests have come in; two thirds are to upgrade, one third to downgrade. Those changes will be made shortly.

At the October 28, 2013 Town Council meeting, the issue of no longer providing in-yard trash service will be discussed by the Council. Members were invited to attend. A representative from Willimantic Waste Paper will be invited to participate in the discussion.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2013.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton
Recycling/Refuse Coordinator