

WALLINGFORD REGIONAL SOLID WASTE PROJECT
Serving Cheshire, Hamden, Meriden, North Haven and Wallingford
c/o Town of Wallingford, 45 South Main St., Wallingford, CT 06492
Tel: 203-294-2060; e-mail: solidwaste@wallingfordct.gov

April 24, 2020

TO: Sean Kimball, Town Manager, Cheshire
Curt Leng, Mayor, Hamden
Tim Coon, Town Manager, Meriden
Michael Freda, First Selectman, North Haven
William W. Dickinson, Jr., Mayor, Wallingford
Brendan Sharkey, Counsel to the Town of Hamden

FROM: Mark Bobman, Executive Director

RE: April 24, 2020 Policy Board Meeting

The next Meeting of the Wallingford Regional Solid Waste Project Policy Board will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2020 at 9:30am via teleconference.

In advance of the next meeting of the Policy Board, I have enclosed draft Minutes of the February 28 and March 6, 2020, and April 9 Meetings.

The public is invited to participate on the call; please be prepared for technical difficulties and possible disruptions, as many have experienced in recent weeks with technology-based public meetings.

Should you have any questions about the meeting, please do not hesitate to call me and please let me know if you will not be able to attend the meeting.

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The April 28 Meeting of the Project Policy Board will be conducted via teleconference. Board members, Alternates, Legal Counsel and the public are invited to participate using the call instructions below.

Call-in

(877) 402-9757

Passcode: 6395776#

Call to order – Chairman Mike Freda

- I. Motion to approve Minutes of the February 28, 2020 WRSWP Policy Board Meeting
- II. Motion to approve Minutes of the March 6, 2020 WRSWP Policy Board Meeting
- III. Motion to approve Minutes of the April 9, 2020 WRSWP Policy Board Meeting
- IV. Motion to authorize payment to Bristol Resource Recovery Facility Operating Committee, Professional Services Agreement; estimated cost \$36,000
- V. Motion to authorize payment to Bristol Resource Recovery Facility Operating Committee, Professional Services – assessment of Transfer Station Operations; estimated cost \$2,500
- VI. Motion to authorize payment to HDR under the July 2018 Professional Services Agreement: a) review of counter-party's Local Market Average proposal; estimated cost \$1,084, and b) assist the Policy Board with negotiations to establish the tip fee effective July 2020; time & materials basis for services rendered, cost not-to-exceed \$7,500.
- VII. Authorize appropriation of Interlocal Reserves Account #650 and/or balance of funds in Town of Wallingford operating account #211 for payment of Items IV, V and VI in consultation with the Town of Wallingford Comptroller and the Chair
- VIII. Town of Wallingford Department of Health – report on inspections at the Transfer Station and recent communications
- IX. Public Comment (3 minute limit per person)
- X. Country Disposal Services Report
 - a. Transfer station operations & disposition of waste
 - b. Billing policies & tip fees
 - c. Reporting & scalehouse software
- XI. Country Disposal Services contractual obligations
 - a. Policy Board Contribution
 - b. Town of Wallingford Host Fee
- XII. WRSWP Reserves
- XIII. Adjourn

WALLINGFORD REGIONAL SOLID WASTE PROJECT POLICY BOARD

The Meeting of the Policy Board of the Wallingford Regional Solid Waste Project was held on February 28, 2020. Present at the meeting were: Attorney Al Smith, Jr., Counsel for the Town of Cheshire as proxy for Sean Kimball; Brendan Sharkey, Counsel for the Town of Hamden as proxy for Mayor Leng; Tim Coon, City Manager, City of Meriden; Policy Board Chairman Michael Freda, First Selectman, Town of North Haven; and Mayor William Dickinson, Jr., Mayor of the Town of Wallingford.

Others in attendance were: Mark Bobman, Executive Director; Janis Small, Attorney for the Town of Wallingford; Rob Beltramaitis, Public Works Director, Town of Wallingford; Ed Spinella and Robert Norton, Jr., All Waste; Ralph Holyst, HQ Dumpsters; Chris Koehler and Annette Scotto, HDR Engineering, and Attorney Joseph Coppola representing Country Disposal Services.

The meeting was called to order at 11:35 a.m. by Chairman Michael Freda, who requested introductions.

- I. A motion was made by Mayor Dickinson, seconded by Mr. Coon to approve the Minutes of the January 15, 2020 WRSWP Policy Board Meeting, and the motion was unanimously approved.

- II. **January 27, 2020 MIRA communication re: Statement of Intent** – Mr. Bobman stated that he attended the January 8 MIRA presentation at the Capitol at which MIRA President Tom Kirk described a proposal to upgrade the Hartford waste to energy and recycling facilities, and perform capital improvements totaling \$330 million with bond funds; further that the projected tip fee would be \$145 per ton and Mr. Kirk indicated municipalities would be asked to submit a Statement of Intent followed by a new 30-year Municipal Services Agreement signed by June. Mr. Bobman continued, on January 27 MIRA sent a letter which included the Statement of Intent questionnaire, speculation is not enough communities will sign the Agreement and preliminary discussions are under way to examine alternatives. Mr. Bobman noted the Mayor of Hartford is opposed to the projected improvements. Mr. Freda inquired where communities would go, and Mr. Bobman responded while MIRA was in their extended outage, 6,000 tons per week left the project and the likely scenario is significant amounts of waste will be exported.

Mr. Freda commented that many of the municipalities have raised objections, and this will result in much higher tip fees. Mr. Bobman said either way, even if MIRA was able to obtain bond funds, MIRA President Tom Kirk said in the best of worlds if they got everything they want the tip fee would be \$95 per ton in 2025. Mr. Bobman said the communities he represents indicated they would not respond to MIRA's letter.

- III. A motion was made by Mayor Dickinson, seconded by to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Section 1-210(b)(1) and Section 1-200(6)(E) to discuss the Local Market Average update, and pursuant to Section 1-200(6)(B) to discuss Dispute Resolution as stipulated in the Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Agreement; HDR representatives and

Attorney Small were asked to attend. The motion was unanimously approved., and Mr. Koehler and Ms. Scotto departed the meeting following discussion of the Local Market Average., and a motion to resume the meeting in Public Session was made by Mayor Dickinson, seconded by Mr. Coon and unanimously approved.

- IV. **Motions and votes on matters discussed under Item III** – No motions or actions were taken in Executive Session.
- V. **Board Communications** – Mr. Freda indicated there are no matters to discuss under this item.
- VI. **Professional Services Agreement with Bristol Policy Board**
Chairman Freda stated there is nothing to discuss at this time.
- VII. **Legislative activity related to waste and recycling** – Mr. Bobman stated the Governor’s Bill SB 11 is intended to authorize DEEP to issue solicitations for solid waste management facilities and establish a pound per capita goal. As proposed, this ties to the pay-as-you-throw initiative, which . Mr. Spinella said the 40% seems awfully aggressive, and he attended a MIRA meeting at which the Board indicated it will try to determine if the description is accurate and takes into account factors such as bulky waste generation and appliances, and MIRA will conduct an in-depth review. Also the Board raised concerns the program may be unfair for the elderly and less privileged. Chairman Freda said from all of the state-wide meetings he has attended there is not one municipality that is interested in pay-as-you-throw from what he has seen. Mr. Spinella stated DEEP’s Chris Nelson is promoting state-wide pay-as-you-throw so the municipalities will not have to encounter political opposition, otherwise adopt the program on a regional basis. Chairman Freda said the regional bodies have no interest.

Mr. Bobman reported another bill which would promote “multi-stream” recycling, possibly to eliminate single stream collection which is untenable because of the huge investment in automated collection. Chairman Freda posed the question that with recycling tip fees exceeding MSW tip fees, what does the dual stream collection accomplish? Mr. Bobman replied the theory is the material is cleaner, with theoretically higher value for the material, however he has heard industry representatives say the improvement is marginal. Mr. Smith asked whether this would move the needle on the market for recycled goods. Mr. Bobman responded it could move the need a bit, however the added value doesn’t justify the expense of converting to dual stream collection. Mr. Spinella said the industry doesn’t want drivers getting out the trucks for safety reasons, and the challenges are lack of enforcement, education and commitment. Mr. Bobman also mentioned resurrection of the bottle bill, difficult because the Speaker of the House is unsure about supporting substantive change. Chairman Freda said wholesale liquor distributors have approached him as CCM’s representative to advocate against the measure, it’s going to cost millions of dollars to retrofit. Mr. Spinella said the

containers would hurt the recycling facilities because of lost revenue and struggle to continue to operate. Mr. Sharkey said the state relies on the escheats revenue.

- VIII. Adjourn – a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Sharkey, seconded by Mr. Coon and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mark Bobman, Executive Director
March 5, 2020

WALLINGFORD REGIONAL SOLID WASTE PROJECT POLICY BOARD

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MARCH 6, 2020 SPECIAL MEETING

The Meeting of the Policy Board of the Wallingford Regional Solid Waste Project was held via teleconference, hosted at Room 210, Cheshire Town Hall on March 6, 2020. Present at the meeting were Cheshire Town Manager Sean Kimball and Mark Bobman; participants included Attorney Al Smith, Jr., Counsel for the Town of Cheshire; Tim Coon, City Manager, City of Meriden; Policy Board Chairman Michael Freda, First Selectman, Town of North Haven; Mayor William Dickinson, Jr., Mayor of the Town of Wallingford, and Janis Small, Attorney for the Town of Wallingford.

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m. by Chairman Michael Freda.

- I. A motion was made by Mr. Kimball, seconded by Mr. Coon to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Section 1-200(6)(B) to discuss Dispute Resolution as stipulated in the Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Agreement and the motion was unanimously approved.
- II. Motions and votes on matters discussed under Item III – No motions or actions were taken in Executive Session.
- III. Adjourn – a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Kimball, seconded by Mr. Coon and the motion was unanimously approved, and the meeting adjourned at 9:30 am.

Mark Bobman, Executive Director
March 7, 2020

WALLINGFORD REGIONAL SOLID WASTE PROJECT POLICY BOARD

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE APRIL 9, 2020 SPECIAL MEETING

The Meeting of the Policy Board of the Wallingford Regional Solid Waste Project was held via teleconference, hosted at the Mayor’s Conference Room, 3rd Floor Wallingford Town Hall on April 9, 2020. Present on the call were Cheshire Town Manager Sean Kimball; Tim Coon, City Manager, City of Meriden; Policy Board Chairman Michael Freda, First Selectman, Town of North Haven; Mayor William Dickinson, Jr., Mayor of the Town of Wallingford, and Janis Small, Attorney for the Town of Wallingford.

Participants included Mark Bobman, Executive Director and Robert Norton, Jr., All American (public session only).

The meeting was called to order at 3:06 p.m. by Chairman Michael Freda.

- I. A motion was made by Mayor Dickinson, seconded by Mr. Coon to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Section 1-210(b)(1) & (7) to discuss the Local Market Average as stipulated in the Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Agreement, and the motion was unanimously approved.
- II. Motions and votes on matters discussed under Item III – Public Session resumed at 3:30 pm and no motions or actions were taken in Executive Session.
- III. Commercial and residential waste deliveries, and transfer station operations

Mr. Bobman reported he received an incomplete summary of transactions and the data were reported on a weekly basis which presented difficulty with previous reporting formats, and he anticipated receiving the detailed transaction reports shortly.

Mr. Bobman said there are historic trends recently impacted by the pandemic, which has also affected recycling. He continued, for Bristol residential waste, one trend noted was higher deliveries from the City of Bristol, with people at home and kids out of school, there was more residential waste; he said he expected commercial volumes to decline however, the data are not consistent, and the 1st quarter numbers for the largest hauler comparing 2020 with 2019 were within 20 tons.

Mr. Bobman reported he met with Mike Couden and understands Country is having difficulty with waste removed from the facility and is dependent upon capacity at other facilities and is working to bring the inventory down. He said he is not hearing complaints from haulers using the facility other than delays.

Mayor Dickinson mentioned a complaint regarding odors and proliferation of flies and asked whether Country is responding. Mr. Bobman responded the members have a copy of the letter to Country.

- IV. Adjourn – a motion to adjourn was made by Mayor Dickinson, seconded by Mr. Coon, and the motion was unanimously approved, and the meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Mark Bobman, Executive Director
April 13, 2020