

Recycling Ad Hoc Committee
Council Chamber, Newtown Municipal Center
3 Primrose Street, Newtown CT
Wednesday, March 2, 2022

Minutes

Present: First Selectman Dan Rosenthal, Maureen Crick Owen, Lisa Kessler, Ryan Knapp, Laura Miller, Steve Goodridge and Chris Gardner

Also Present: Public Works Director, Fred Hurley

Call to Order: First Selectman Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 6:32pm

Voter Comment: None

New Business:

Recycling Program Recommendations: Dan Rosenthal opened the discussion by asking what the group's thoughts were relative to what we've learned thus far and said we should be in a position to make a final recommendation at the next meeting? Maureen Crick Owen said when we first started this review she was of the mind to move away from curbside pickup, however she now feels that would be premature to do so and for now we should make upgrades to the transfer station, focus on education around cost/benefit to encourage voluntary use of the transfer station and then assess progress over the next year. Laura Miller, Chris Gardner and Steve Goodridge agreed. Ryan Knapp agreed with the approach but also shared that if the state changes rules around glass in the single stream could force a change sooner. Ryan also stated as part of our effort we should highlight the budget impact of the curbside program and set a date for transition. Dan Rosenthal agreed with the group but was hesitant to plan for a change in the present budget and suggested this group stay in place to monitor the program and planned infrastructure and education efforts and potentially make a change at some undetermined date if efforts were successful. Fred Hurley said that the education effort should be two pronged with an effort geared directly towards the general public and through the school system. Suggestion was made to potentially try to communicate via tax bills as well. Dan Rosenthal suggested that members bring their final thoughts around a plan to be recommended at the next meeting.

Voter Comment: None

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:24

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Rosenthal