

WASTE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

July 10, 2017

The Waste Management Advisory Committee held a meeting on Monday, July 10th, 2017 at the Seneca Falls Town Offices, 130 Ovid Street.

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM. Present were David Clark, David Pannucci, Matt Blair, Barb Reese, David Park and Greg Lazzaro. Guests were Dan Babbitt, Valerie Sandlas and Jan LaValley.

A motion was made by Greg Lazzaro to approve the minutes of the June 12th meeting. The motion was seconded by Matt Blair. Being that there were no modifications the minutes were accepted as presented, 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Old Business:

Barb Reese said she spoke with Brian at the Waste Water Treatment Plant and was told to call back on July 17th in order to set up a date to tour the facility. Barb was told that the tour would probably be scheduled for July 19th at noon but that will be confirmed when she calls back on July 17th.

Barb Reese also gave an update on the food waste drop off proposal. Barb stated that Dan Babbitt is still interested in accepting the food waste on private property that he owns to use for composting. Barb said she spoke with Gary Feinland from the DEC and was told that the site where the compost is going to be dropped off needs to be registered as a Food Waste Compost Site. Barb said that we will most likely have less than 1000 lbs of food waste per week at the start so we may be exempt from registering at first because we will be starting off on a very small scale. Barb stated that there is no cost to register the site. Barb said that she has also placed a call to Tompkins County to see how they implement their organics recycling program and what their costs are. Barb also stated that Dan Babbitt will need to decide what type of waste he is going to accept and how it will be delivered to his site. Dave Clark said that Dan will need to be prepared to deal with any rodent and/or pest issues that may arise. Dan Babbitt stated that he is ready to get this project started and that he is prepared to do it on a long term

basis. Barb suggested that we start small and see who may be interested in participating. She asked if we could advertise on the Town website when we are ready to get up and running. Mr. Lazzaro confirmed that the Town would put a link on their website to advertise this program. Barb stated that we will need to know who the people are that will be participating and we will need to set up rules and regulations. Barb Reese and Dan Babbitt agreed to work together to prepare a presentation regarding composting at the August 1st Board meeting. Barb is also going to contact Greg Zellers to see if he can design a flyer to distribute to advertise this program. David Clark suggested that Dan may want to contact his insurance agent to see what his liability would be regarding the added traffic that would be coming onto his property. Dave said that since the Town Attorney was not at the meeting it would be wise for us to check with him to see if there is any liability to the Town due to Dan Babbitt using his personal property for this project. Barb Reese agreed that we should reach out to the Town Attorney regarding liability questions. Barb has also reached out to Cornell Waste Management Institute for further advice on composting. Barb said that she is committed to doing this the right way.

A motion was made by Matt Blair to appoint Barb as “Project Lead” and submit monthly reports regarding the composting project. The motion was seconded by Dave Clark. There was no discussion. Motion passed 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Mr. Lazzaro announced that there will be a Water/Sewer forum coming up this fall regarding Inter Connects projects amongst multiple municipalities. Greg said they want to complete this project without any meters being used/installed. Greg also stated that there has been no movement on the Ludovico Trail except that letters have been mailed to the property owners involved.

New Business:

Barb Reese asked for an explanation on why recent reports from Seneca Meadows requesting pond discharge that she looked at showed that oxygen demand was elevated at SMI. She wanted to know what would cause this. David Pannucci stated that it is possibly a storm water issue and that SMI is overseeing the issue. Barb mentioned that she is still unable to find the January through April reports from the Landfill. She said she has also been unable to find the number of odor complaints that have been made. She said there were 85 complaints made

in the month of May. Supervisor Lazzaro requested that David Pannucci look up the number of complaints and bring them to the next WMAC meeting. Barb Reese also asked a question regarding the waste volume chart. She said in May it showed 7,000 tons of trash per day. She would like to know how many tons have come through so far this year. David Pannucci said that Kyle Black went back to gathering info for the month per DEC requirements and that in the summer months the volume does go higher. David stated that at the end of the year they remain at the 6,000 ton per day average. He said that SMI has no plans to ask for a higher volume. Mr. Lazzaro noted that the reports are sent to the DEC and that SMI is in compliance.

Mr. Lazzaro announced that the water tower on VanRensselaer Street is being worked on and so far there have been no infiltration problems. Barb Reese asked if the treatment plant has ever had to be bypassed and Greg said that happens on very rare occasions.

Barb Reese noted that the Town is now registered with DEC to participate in the Climate Smart Community Program. She said the next step is for the Town to be certified. She said there are steps that the Town needs to implement in order to get this certification. Mr. Lazzaro said that we should send information out to the Town Board and Committee heads so that they are aware and can decide how to proceed. He also noted that we need to get businesses involved and we need to educate people. Barb said that the Board needs to appoint a “go to” person for this project. Barb was unsure how much the Board actually knows about this project. Greg said they did receive a memo regarding this project and he will try to retrieve the memo and get a copy to Barb. Barb stated that she can see about possibly getting Grants for this project. Matt Blair feels that Climate Smart can possibly deal with a vast area. Matt feels that Climate Smart seems outside of Waste Management issues. Barb asked what committee Matt would recommend we assign this project to. Matt feels that a new committee may need to be formed to look at this project. Mr. Lazzaro said that he is personally willing to take a look at the Climate Smart project. Mr. Lazzaro said that at the August Town Board meeting he is going to announce a committee to work with the National Woman’s Rights Park to work towards activities for the 2020 celebration. Barb feels that Ami Ghazala from the National Park Service would love this program. Barb feels that we need a liaison to share communication regarding

Climate Smart. Dan Babbitt proposed that he and Barb Reese communicate on this issue and put something together to present to the Town Board. It was decided that at the August Board Meeting Dan Babbitt will concentrate on Climate Smart and Barb Reese will make a presentation regarding composting.

Being that there was no further business to discuss, Mr. Lazzaro made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Matt Blair, 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim DeVay
Confidential Secretary