

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE TOWN OF SUFFIELD  
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION  
January 20, 2009**

**Commission Members Present:** Chairman Guy Boccasile, Tony Roncaioli, George Rodgers, William Murty, Elaine DeFocie and recording secretary, Christine Koren. Also present Public Works Director Jack Muska, Landfill Superintendent, Robert Heintz, Highway Foreman, Mark Cervione and Facilities Manager, John Cloonan. Chairman Boccasile called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall on Tuesday, January 20, 2009.

**Minutes:** Mr. Roncaioli made a motion, seconded by Mr. Murty, to approve the Minutes of December 16, 2008. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**Public Comment:**

None

**First Selectman, Scott Lingenfelter:**

Mr. Boccasile introduced the First Selectman who was present to address the conflicting stories regarding the manpower on the Highway Department. Ten years ago there was a staff of 15 men, and today the Department is down to 10 men. Mr. Lingenfelter said he feels the Department is sufficiently staffed. The recent retirement of another employee lead to discussions between himself, Jack Muska and Mark Cervione, on whether or not the position should be filled or not. They decided to leave the position vacant at this time. They will continue to explore contracting out more services such as mowing, plowing, catch basin cleaning and road sweeping.

Mr. Murty asked if the Town should discuss giving back some of the work to the respective departments, such as, Parks & Recreation and Board of Education, since the Highway does a lot of work for these departments. This should be reflected in their budgets and not the Highway budget.

Mr. Boccasile asked if we have any shovel ready projects if the Town receives funds from the President's Stimulus Package. Mr. Lingenfelter was not too optimistic that the Town would see any funding, but said they have submitted shovel ready projects should the Town be eligible to receive funds.

Mr. Roncaioli said the Commission discussed the feasibility of splitting the Highway Department into two groups. One for Highway work the other for Parks & Grounds. He didn't believe it made much sense to pay Highwaymen salaries to mow grass. Mr. Cervione said that he has managed over the years to move most of the mowing to contractors and he presently has only Carl Freedman at the higher rate mowing grass now.

Mr. Boccasile thanked the First Selectman for attending.

**Public Works Director's Report:**

Jack Muska updated the Commission on the Senior Center project. The Asbestos Abatement went out to bid. Thirteen bids were received with a low bid of \$22,400 from a company in New Jersey. They will start the Week of February 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**ACCE:** The Advisory Commission on Capital Expenditures will meet with Public Works next week to review the capital projects.

**BOF:** The Board of Finance will review the DPW budget on March 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Landfill Expansion:** Jack is still waiting to hear from the DEP.

**Cannon property:** The purchase is still on hold.

**Middle School Roof:** The Permanent Building Committee and the Board of Education still needs to accept the final paperwork. Mr. Ronacioli suggested that DPW alert the school maintenance people to check the roof drains for ice build up.

**Landfill Superintendent's Report:**

Bob Heintz reported that the Christmas Tree pickup when well. There was about 15 tons collected over 3 days.

**Electronic Recycling:**

The State DEP is asking for a recycling plan with respect to televisions, computers, printers, etc. They want the Town to supply them with a "plan" by either hiring a contractor to collect these items, regionalize with other towns for collection, or handle the collection in house. The DEP will supply the Town with a list of vendors for recycling these products in April. Mr. Heintz said the Plan should be in place by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Bulky Waste Pickup Report:**

Chris Koren reported the following:

TOTAL FEES COLLECTED: \$ 2,597.00 (\$ 532.00 MORE IN FEES COLLECTED THAN 2007)

Total pickups scheduled from March through November: **89** (5 more pickups than 2007)

October & July where the months with the largest number of pickups. Where May & November larger in 2007. The Truck was dispatched 35 times from April through November. ( 3 times more than in 2007)

Approximate man hours: **70** (average 2 hrs. per pickup) (64 man hours in 2007)

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business, Mr. Ronacioli made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. DeFocie. The motion was approved by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christine Koren, Recording Secretary