



Town of Groton, Connecticut

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Meeting Minutes - **Draft**

Town of Groton Resource Recovery Authority

Mayor James L. Streeter, Councilors Bruce S. Flax, Bill Johnson, Catherine Kolnaski, Deborah B. Monteiro, Frank O'Beirne, Jr., Deborah L. Peruzzotti, Paulann H. Sheets, and Harry A. Watson

Tuesday, July 20, 2010

6:00 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

SPECIAL MEETING

I. Roll Call

Members Present: Mayor Streeter, Councilor Flax, Councilor Johnson, Councilor Monteiro, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Sheets and Councilor Peruzzotti
Members Absent: Councilor Kolnaski and Councilor Watson

II. Approval of Minutes

2010-0155 Approval of Minutes (Groton Resource Recovery Authority)

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING GROTON RESOURCE RECOVERY AUTHORITY MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Groton Resource Recovery Authority meeting of February 16, 2010 are hereby accepted and approved.

A motion was made by Councilor Monteiro, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, to adopt.

The motion carried unanimously

III. Public Comment

Michael Sauchuk, vice president of M.J. Sauchuk addressed the Authority. M.J. Sauchuk bid on the commercial solid waste collection contract and was very competitive on single source recycling. Mr. Sauchuk explained that they are a small local company. They are in the process of buying new equipment and dumpsters. He offered Councilors a tour of their new facility being constructed. Mr. Sauchuk emphasized that the company buys local.

IV. Communications

None.

V. Old Business

None.

VI. New Business

2010-0153 Sales Tax on Commercial Solid Waste Collection

A motion was made by Mayor Streeter, seconded by Councilor Flax, that the members of the Town Council, together with Town Manager Mark Oefinger, Director of Public Works Gary Schneider, Finance Director Sal Pandolfo and Town Attorney Bryan Fiengo go into executive session at 6:01 p.m. pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §1 200 (6) (B) for the purpose of discussing strategy and negotiations with respect to a pending claim and/or litigation concerning the potential imposition of state sales tax related to the Town's commercial solid waste program.

The motion carried unanimously

The executive session concluded at 6:55 p.m.

2010-0159 Selection of Commercial Solid Waste Collection Contractor and Setting of FYE 2011 Rates Discussed

The Town Manager explained that the bid package for commercial solid waste requested three costs: the cost of removing and disposing of commercial solid waste; the cost of doing recycling

"status quo" (source separation); and the cost for single stream recycling. Gary Schneider, Director of Public Works, and John Carrington, Assistant Director of Public Works, were present to address the Authority. Mr. Carrington reviewed the bids received. Mr. Schneider noted that there are potential site issues associated with changing bins, depending on the contractor chosen and business. Reviewed and ranked safety history for all bidders using information available from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. Discussed cost differential between single stream and source separation. No tipping fee for recycling. Recycling saves money. Pay as you throw system. Discussed timing requirements for a decision. Discussed reputation and history of CWPM and using a Groton-based business. Councilor Johnson encouraged Councilors to go out and talk to local businesses. The Town Manager noted that the Town's practice has always been to take lowest bidder, all things being equal. Not mandated to accept lowest bid. Could discuss in executive session. Unethical to "shop numbers." Some communities have a policy allowing a bid to be awarded to a local business if the bid is within a certain percentage of the low bid. Town Council has already expressed support for staying in the commercial solid waste collection business.

A motion was made by Mayor Streeter, seconded by Councilor Johnson, to table discussion to the next GRRRA meeting.

The motion carried unanimously

VII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilor Monteiro, seconded by Councilor Flax, to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.