

Town of Onalaska
Refuse and Recycling Committee Meeting
March 4, 2015

The Refuse/Recycling Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Frank Fogel at 7:00 pm at the Town of Onalaska Town Hall, N5589 Commerce Road, Onalaska. Members present were Frank Fogel, Stan Hauser, Joel Miller, Jerry Bonsack, Harry Helfrich and Mary Rinehart.

A motion was made by Hauser seconded by Bonsack to approve agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the February 4, 2015 meeting minutes was made by Bonsack seconded by Hauser with adding the words next agenda to paragraph 5. Motion passed unanimously.

Public comment: Theodore Johnson, N5807 Lakeview Court West, Onalaska spoke in favor of converting to a cart system for refuse and recycling. Bill Reibel N6827 McCurdy Road, Holmen spoke in favor of closing the recycling center and converting to cart system. Gary Hougom W6833 Industrial Blvd Onalaska, addressed the committee regarding contract with Hilltopper.

Discussion and recommend possible action on curbside chipping for the town. Motion to open the floor by Bonsack seconded by Miller. Motion passed unanimously. Bill Rybeil addressed the committee. Motion to close the floor by Bonsack, seconded by Miller. Motion passed unanimously. Motion to recommend to discontinue curbside chipping with town to continue to chip what is in road right of way made by Helfrich seconded by Hauser. Motion failed 3-3. Motion made by Bonsack seconded by Miller to recommend to limit curbside chipping to only blown down and trimming and decrease frequency of service to 3 times per year including spring, mid-summer and later fall. Motion passed 5-1.

Discussion and recommend possible action on grass and leaf disposal. No action taken.

Discussion and recommend possible action of options for curbside refuse and recycling. Motion to open the floor made by Rinehart, seconded by Bonsack. Motion passed unanimously. Letter from resident Rudy Weist N5965 Park Drive, Onalaska asking why we still use bags and have not converted to cart system was read into record. Gary Hougom spoke regarding cart costs. Gary Harter 2850 Larson St, LaCrosse, commented on grant possibility should we convert but the option whether to convert or not to convert is available Greg Skauge PO Box 226 Caledonia, MN also commented. Motion to close the floor made by Rinehart, seconded by Miller. Motion passed unanimously. Motion made by Helfrich seconded by Miller to recommend to board to discontinue discussion of the town purchasing a garbage/recycling truck and hiring employees for refuse/recycling. Motion passed 4-2. Motion made by Bonsack seconded by Miller to research better numbers on cart prices for carts for further discussion moving forward. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion and recommend possible action on large item drop off center. Motion by Helfrich to table this to next meeting. No second. Motion died. Motion to open the floor by Miller seconded by Helfrich. Motion passed unanimously. Bill Reibel addressed committee. Motion to close the floor made by Rinehart, seconded by Helfrich. Motion passed unanimously. Discussion on committee policing the center. Bonsack and Fogel volunteered to be at sight March 11.

Motion to adjourn at 9:12 pm by Rinehart, seconded by Helfrich. Motion passed unanimously.