

# Town of Amherst Recycling and Waste Committee Minutes

May 15, 2024 – Amherst Town Hall

Start time 07:00 pm      End Time 08:30 pm

Committee Member Attendees: John Szalasny, Jean Neff, Don Kuhn, Megan Reddish

Guests: Eileen Torre, Mary Fisher, Kim Ferullo, Diana Manus, Kim Luangpakdy, Thomas Frank

Excused Members: None

Committee Liaison/Resource Attendees: Ryan Licata

- Recycling & waste on budget - \$11,000 in recycling rebates last month (\$28,000 for year) – Ryan explained to guests how the Town pays recycling pickups like waste pickups, but received a share back from Modern when they sell the collected materials to a vendor or recycled content user
- Ryan explained that town budgets \$50,000 in revenue for year – this includes the rebates from Modern and any funds from selling garbage totes to new builds (new service now automatically added upfront to the town refuse system) - anything over is added to highway discrepancy funds which purchases new totes
- Ryan noted that any complaints to the Highway Department are now sent directly through an Instant Messenger like computer program
- QR code set up (MetroKey app) for Food Scrap secure collection bins – emails will go out to all people on email database – Ryan still working out details to get collection site set up at Bailey Police Training Center
- Curbside collection test is scheduled to start week of June 3<sup>rd</sup> – participants will need to use compostable bags for their bins so that they can be collected – emails will go out to notify those who signed up for the curbside pickups
- Finished compost is now screened – need to set up site at highway for storage
- Village of Williamsville Earth Day activities (June 1) – hand out finished compost – Mary and Kim would do an expanded polystyrene collection event
- Megan is setting up email newsletter which will include QR code to get the MetroKey app for the Food Scrap Collection sites
- Williamsville Farmers Market starts on May 18 through the end of October – will have help from YES students again this year – need adult volunteers
- Bassett Park Market starts June 9 (second Sunday of the month - also July 14, August 11, September 8)
- Changed June meeting date to June 26<sup>th</sup> (to avoid conflict with Juneteenth holiday)