WEST SENECA TOWN OFFICES
1250 Union Road
West Seneca, NY 14224

TOWN BOARD PROCEEDINGS
Work Session
September 5, 2012

Supervisor Sheila M. Meegan called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M. with 30 seconds of silent prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Present	-	Sheila M. Meegan	Supervisor
		Eugene P. Hart	Councilman
		John M. Rusinski	Councilman
Absent	-	None	

Supervisor Meegan read the Fire Prevention Code instructing the public where to exit in case of a fire or an emergency.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

- Proposal to purchase garbage & recycling totes

  - 95 gallon garbage totes & 65 gallon recycling totes
  - garbage and recycling totes will be different colors
  - totes are guaranteed for 10 years but actual life is longer
  - totes are numbered and have a chip documented by the vendor on a website
  - distribution by the vendor will be included in the bid along with assembly and a pamphlet with the town's regulations and schedules
  - trucks will be retrofitted with arms on them to lift the totes which will reduce back injuries for employees

Highway Supt. Matthew English commented on the rat problem in town, noting that the number of calls has increased over the last few years and the City of Buffalo is cleaner than West Seneca because they use the totes. The 95 gallon tote is recommended by most municipalities. It has a wider base and bigger wheels so it is easy to move and lids reduce moisture that gets into garbage so the tipping costs at the transfer station are decreased. Mr. English further stated that garbage goes down 20 percent if towns recycle because more people will recycle.

Councilman Hart questioned if there will be fewer pickups for recycling at a lesser cost with the larger totes.

Mr. English stated it was possible they could go to every other week, but when recycling totes are used the amount recycled tends to increase so they would have to look at it.

Supervisor Meegan stated that the City of Lackawanna and Orchard Park may want to piggyback with West Seneca on the purchase.

Councilman Rusinski questioned the annual charge at the landfill and the estimated 20 percent savings off of that cost if totes are used.

Mr. English estimated 60,000 pounds or 30 ton per day at $42 per ton because they are using the transfer station which is closer.

Councilman Hart expressed concerns over the size. He thought they were too big and questioned where people will store them.

Mr. English stated he was going on what other municipalities recommended, noting that Tonawanda said residents were against the 95 gallon totes at first but when they got them were happy.

Councilman Rusinski suggested an option for single people who would not use a large tote.

Mr. English stated they could order 1000 of the smaller totes in the garbage color. They had also talked about allowing residents to purchase extras if needed.

Town Attorney Shawn Martin stated that language would have to be included in the bid to address that. He further noted there was three years left on the recycling contract and they would have to discuss any changes proposed.

Councilman Rusinski suggested also reaching out to Lackawanna and Orchard Park to find out what they would like included in the rfp.

Councilman Hart questioned if this could lead to a possible reduction in sanitation staff.

Mr. English stated they still need one man on each side of the truck.

A resident commented on the need for enforcement of the use of totes.

Supervisor Meegan stated they will have an advertising campaign to educate the public. She further asked Mr. Martin to contact other municipalities that have not purchased the totes.

Councilman Hart questioned how the purchase will be financed.

Finance Director Laura Landers stated three possible ways to finance the purchase, noting it was limited by the 5 year useful life:

1) installment lease at 1.55%
2) installment serial bonds at 1.09%
3) bond anticipation notes on an annual basis at .9%

Supervisor Meegan stated the garbage totes would be purchased the first year at an estimated cost of $700,000 for 15,000 totes. She further noted no grant money is available for garbage totes.

Assessor Kandace Wittmeyer offered to come up with an estimated number of senior citizens that might want the smaller totes.

POLICE

- Chief Gehen asked the Town Board's consideration in replacing the K-9 unit and continuing its funding.

RECREATION

- Mary Josefiak asked the board members to communicate with her regarding when the YES program employee will be starting and details about the Learn to Skate program.

ADJOURNMENT

The work session ended at 3:50 P.M.

JACQUELINE A FELSER, TOWN CLERK