



**GO GREEN TEAM
MINUTES
YOUNTVILLE TOWN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 6550 YOUNT STREET
July 28, 2015 – 4:30 P.M.**

1. **ROLL CALL:** Present: Sherry Breitigam, Billie Hewitt, Davio Santos, Town Council Member Marita Dorenbecher, Vice Mayor Richard Hall
Absent: Janet Gotch, Allyssa Wickstrom.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA**

None

3. **APPROVAL OF MNUTES:** The minutes of June 23, 2015 were approved. M/S: Hewitt/Santos. Ayes: All.

4. **SCHEDULED MATTERS**

Review of wastewater treatment plant tour and discussion of potential local actions to take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the Water and Wastewater sector. The group discussed the wastewater treatment plant tour. Highlights from the tour included the following:

- a. The wastewater treatment plant treats all of the wastewater from the Town and the Veteran's Home so that it can be used for irrigation. During periods of high flows and when a 45/1 dilution ratio is achieved, the Town is able to discharge the highly treated effluent to the Napa River. The Town has a recycled water line from the treatment plant to the Vintner's Golf Course and five wineries on the east side of the Napa River. The original recycled water distribution pipeline was installed in the late 1970's. In 2014 the Town recycled 83% of wastewater and has the capability to recycle 100% if conditions permit. A "Recycled Water Expansion Project" was recently completed which increased the amount of recycled water being beneficially reused.
- b. A methane recapture program, completed in 2012, converts wastewater solids to methane in the sludge digester system. The digester gas is then used to off-set the natural gas purchased from PG&E by providing a fuel source to heat the digester. This has reduced the need to purchase natural gas from PG&E by 70%. Approximately 80% of methane is currently captured.
- c. The wastewater pumping station has seen several upgrades over the last 4 years. Including pump replacements, level monitoring system, pump control system, installation of new variable frequency drives (VFD's) and connection to the Town's SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) System that allows operators to view and control the pump station remotely. .
- d. The Town collects and reuses material, such as asphalt and bark, which would otherwise be sent to the landfill.
- e. A Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Facility is located at the wastewater treatment plant. The facility is opened Monday through Friday and accepts paint cans, batteries, fluorescent lights, electronic equipment, and other hazardous waste.

- f. The Town is constructing a solar array at the wastewater treatment plant that will generate enough electricity to meet the plant's electricity needs and may generate excess electricity to sell back to the grid.
- g. The wastewater treatment plant's office building will be expanded in the future.

The group discussed the possibility of expanding the recycled water line to Veterans Park and The Alameda at the Veterans Home. Members agreed that the wastewater treatment plant should be highlighted in the Climate Action Plan as a model for sustainability. The hazardous materials collection facility should be better promoted.

The group discussed the water efficiency actions that were catalogued in the pre-read. Members supported actions that motivated residents and business owners to install water-efficient fixtures and landscapes. Existing rebates should be promoted and information on water use, such as the residential water use pie chart in the pre-read, should be publicized. A program to consider expanding rebates and providing free or low-cost water audits as funding permits should be included. A program to require water efficient fixture upgrades at home or commercial building resale could not be enforced and is not feasible at this time. The group agreed to add a program to require new construction and major remodels to install rainwater capture and greywater systems. The Town does not currently have a definition for "major remodel" in the municipal code. The group would like to further discuss CalGreen Tier 1 requirements at the next meeting.

Based on the team's discussion, the Town's Consultant, Christine O'Rourke, will prepare a list of potential actions to include in the Water and Wastewater section of the Climate Action Plan and will distribute it prior to the next meeting for review. Team members are requested to provide comments in advance of the meeting. The group will discuss the list at the August meeting.

The groups agreed to discuss public education and outreach at the October 27 meeting. Christine will invite representatives from the school district, Resilient Neighborhoods and REV to the meeting.

- B. Discussion of draft local actions for the Transportation sector. The group agreed to include an action in the Transportation section to consider banning gasoline and electric leaf blowers. Members would also like to include an action to promote Spare the Air alerts.

5. REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MEMBERS AND STAFF: None

6. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 6:08 p.m. M/S: Hewitt/Breitagam. Ayes: All.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine O'Rourke

Town Consultant