

Jennifer Eastbourne

# TOWN OF LEDYARD CONNECTICUT

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

# Ledyard Beautification Committee ~ AGENDA ~

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, May 7, 2024

5:00 PM

**Town Hall Annex - Hybrid Format** 

### REMOTE MEETING INFORMATION

**Zoom Meeting Link:** 

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81263920630?pwd=xAkM429wOYhaUUi3kUdsmTRPgXGKbO.1

Meeting ID: 812 6392 0630

Passcode: 448905
Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  - 1. Motion to APPROVE Regular Meeting Minutes from March 5, 2024, as written.

**Attachments:** LBC minutes 3-5-24

### V. FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. Ledyard Beautification Committee Financial Reports.

Attachments: LBC GL account detail 3-26-24

LBC budget report 3-26-24

LBC budget report donation 3-26-24

LBC GL account detail donation 4-25-24

LBC budget report 4-25-24

LBC budget report donation 4-25-24

LBC GL account detail 4-25-24

### VI. OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Future Projects Discussion.
- 2. Nip Bottle Tax Surcharge Discussion continued.

Attachments: PUBLIC ACT 21-58-SOLID WASATE MANAGMENT-2022-06-21

**3.** Any Other Old Business to Come before the Committee.

### VII. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Nomination and election of a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.
- 2. Any Other New Business to Come before the Committee.

# VIII. ADJOURNMENT

DISCLAIMER: Although we try to be timely and accurate these are not official records of the Town.



741 Colonel Ledyard Highway Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

File #: 24-0272 Agenda Date: 5/7/2024 Agenda #: 1.

## AGENDA REQUEST GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

# **Subject:**

Motion to APPROVE Regular Meeting Minutes from March 5, 2024, as written.

# **Background:**

(type text here)

## **Department Comment/Recommendation:**



741 Colonel Ledyard Highway Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

# **Ledyard Beautification Committee Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Jennifer Eastbourne

### **Regular Meeting**

Tuesday, March 5, 2024

5:00 PM

Town Hall Annex - Hybrid Format

### I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Eastbourne at 5:00 p.m.

### II. ROLL CALL

**Present** Committee Member Julie Brousseau

Committee Member Carol Ann Schneider

Chairman Jennifer Eastbourne

Committee Member Kathrine Kohrs Committee Member Sarah Martic

**Excused** Committee Member Jennifer Bingham

**Absent** Committee Member Carol Christiansen

Committee Member Julie Brousseau was present at 5:02 p.m., via Zoom.

Naomi Rodriguez, Town Councilor was present at 5:14 p.m.

### III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

### IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to APPROVE Regular Meeting Minutes from February 6, 2024, as written.

Julie Brousseau was not present for the minutes vote.

**RESULT:** APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

**MOVER:** Carol Ann Schneider

**SECONDER:** Kathrine Kohrs

**AYE** 5 Brousseau Schneider Eastbourne Kohrs Martic

**EXCUSED** 1 Bingham

**ABSENT** 1 Christiansen

### V. FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. Ledyard Beautification Committee Financial Reports.

Carol Schneider is the new Treasurer. No changes since last month in the fiscal reports. Ms. Schneider asked who to see in case of fiscal report questions, Chairperson Eastbourne said to reach out to Christina Hostetler, Town Hall Assistant.

### **RESULT:** DISCUSSED

### VI. OLD BUSINESS

### 1. Future Projects Discussion.

The Committee's next event is the Earth Day Clean-up. Scott Johnson, Parks and Recreation Director reserved a spot for the LBC, on the Town Green for Sunday April 21 from 2:00 - 4:00. Chairperson Eastbourne asked the Committee to decide on Earth Day event day projects.

Ms. Kohrs suggested challenging residents to collect as much trash as they can and whoever collects the most bags will win prizes, perhaps donated gift cards? She also suggested a trash to treasure contest, where participants bring their creations to the Town Green to be judged, maybe even ask the Mayor to be the judge? Ms. Kohrs suggested organizing even more events to draw people to the event.

Ms. Martic asked if a road clean-up is feasible. Tim Ryan, Town Councilor said he would shy away from sponsoring an event that involves cleaning a road, for liability reasons.

Ms. Schneider suggested holding some demonstrations at the Town Green, maybe a SCRRRA class. Chairperson Eastbourne said that SCRRRA has a very good composting class and that she would reach out to see if they could sponsor an event on the Green. She added that SCRRRA has a Girl's Scout event earlier that day but maybe could attend afterwards. A composter may even be a good prize.

The Committee can suggest that residents form teams with neighbors or friends and take photos of the number of bags which will be used for judging the trash collecting contest.

Ms. Kohrs suggested a "fill the dumpster event", maybe Willimantic Waste/Castella would donate a dumpster? Ms. Brousseau volunteered to reach out to Willimantic Waste/Castella to see if they would donate a dumpster. If Willimantic Waste/Castella says they will donate, then Chairperson Eastbourne will reach out to Mr. Johnson to see if the dumpster would be allowed on the Green. Ms. Schneider suggested asking Arc to bring one of their donation recycling bins, she will contact the Arc Director.

It was suggested to ask a Public Works representative to attend the event, maybe hold a touch the truck booth. Councilor Rodriquez asked Mr. Masalin if he could join the LBC meeting for a few questions, he obliged. Ms. Kohrs welcomed him to the meeting and gave him a brief summary of what the Committee is planning for the Earth Day event. She asked Mr. Masalin if he or a representative could attend the event, maybe for a touch the truck booth for children. He believes that date is available but would confirm the date with the Committee. He suggested contacting Dave Aldridge from SCRRRA. Ms. Kohrs asked him for a contact name at

Willimantic Waste/Casella he said to call Mark Morgan. The Committee thanked Mr. Masalin for answering their questions.

Chairperson Eastbourne suggested letting some of the other Commissions know about the event. Specifically, Conservation, Cemetery and Historic. It may be a good way to line up volunteers for various Committee events by having representatives there.

Ms. Martic volunteered to ask vendors at the next Farmer's market if anyone is interested in participating in the event. Councilor Ryan offered to ask Scotts to be a food vendor.

Ms. Kohrs suggested a medicine collection. Councilor Rodriguez will inquire with the Police department.

Ms. Schneider suggested the Fire Department be invited.

ACTION ITEM: Ask SCRRRA if they can give a demonstration during the clean-up event on the Town Green. Chairperson Eastbourne.

ACTION ITEM: Ask Willimantic Waste/Casella to donate two dumpsters for the clean-up event on the Town Green. One for trash and one for recycling. Ms. Brousseau.

ACTION ITEM: Ask Arc to bring a donation recycling bin to the clean-up event on the Town Green. Ms. Schneider.

ACTION ITEM: Ask Scotts to be a vendor at the clean-up event on the Town Green. Councilor Ryan.

ACTION ITEM: Ask the Police Department if they could have a medicine bottle collection at the clean-up event on the Town Green. Councilor Rodriguez.

#### **RESULT:** DISCUSSED

2. Nip Bottle Tax Surcharge Discussion continued.

Councilor Ryan gave an update.

He started by inviting the Committee to attend the March 7, 2024, Finance meeting. At the last Finance meeting there was an in-depth discussion on ARPA and nip bottles. Under the nip bottle discussion there was an idea brought up to use smart recycling and trash bins which are solar powered. These bins also compact the trash. Councilor Ryan volunteered to put together a spreadsheet of all the costs involved with using the solar bins such as pouring the concrete slab, installation, repairs etc. He would also like to capture the costs for all the suggested ideas in this spreadsheet. He added that unlike ARPA funds there is no deadline upon when to spend the funds.

### **RESULT:** DISCUSSED

3. Any Other Old Business to Come before the Committee.

None.

#### VII. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. LBC joint meeting with other Boards discussion.

> Chairperson Eastbourne asked Christina Hostetler, Town Hall Assistant about holding a joint meeting in the future. Chairperson Eastbourne will let Ms. Hostetler know what date the Committee decides to hold the joint meeting.

**RESULT: DISCUSSED** 

2. Any Other New Business to Come before the Committee.

None.

### VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to ADJOURN the Regular Meeting at 5:41 p.m.

APPROVED AND SO DECLARED **RESULT:** 

**MOVER:** Kathrine Kohrs **SECONDER:** Julie Brousseau

5 Brousseau Schneider Eastbourne Kohrs Martic AYE

**EXCUSED** 1 Bingham

Christiansen 1 **ABSENT** 

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Town.



741 Colonel Ledyard Highway Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

File #: 23-1887 Agenda Date: 5/7/2024 Agenda #: 1.

**REPORT** 

# **Staff/Committee Report:**

Ledyard Beautification Committee Financial Reports.



# **G/L ACCOUNT DETAIL**

Org: 20810201 Object: 53999 BEAUTIFICATION Project: 24200 0208-00-1020-00000-53999 -24200

YEAR PER J	JOURNAL EFF DATE	SRC TR PO/REF2	REFERENCE	AMOUNT	POSTED
2024 02	379 08/24/2023	API 1 20241488	W 082923T	65.00	Υ

65.00 Total Amount:

\*\* END OF REPORT - Generated by Christina Hostetler \*\*

Report generated: 03/26/2024 10:34 User: 6695chos Program ID: glactinq

Page



# YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT 3-26-24

FOR 2024 13							
ACCOUNTS FOR: 0208 DONATIONS AND GRANTS	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
20810201 DONATIONS/GRANTS EXPENSES							
20810201 53999 24200 BEAUT	1,474	500	1,974	65.00	185.00	1,724.07	12.7%
TOTAL DONATIONS/GRANTS EXPENSES	1,474	500	1,974	65.00	185.00	1,724.07	12.7%
TOTAL DONATIONS AND GRANTS	1,474	500	1,974	65.00	185.00	1,724.07	12.7%
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,474	500	1,974	65.00	185.00	1,724.07	



# YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT 3-26-24

FOR 2024 13								
		ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
	GRAND TOTAL	1,474	500	1,974	65.00	185.00	1,724.07	12.7%

\*\* END OF REPORT - Generated by Christina Hostetler \*\*



# YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT 3-26-24

FOR 2024 13							
ACCOUNTS FOR: 0208 DONATIONS AND GRANTS	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
2081020 DONATIONS/GRANTS REVENUES							
2081020 48002 24200 DONATIONS	0	0	0	-599.00	.00	599.00	100.0%
TOTAL DONATIONS/GRANTS REVENUES	0	0	0	-599.00	.00	599.00	100.0%
TOTAL DONATIONS AND GRANTS	0	0	0	-599.00	.00	599.00	100.0%
TOTAL REVENUES	0	0	0	-599.00	.00	599.00	



## YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT 3-26-24

FOR 2024 13								
		ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
	GRAND TOTAL	0	0	0	-599.00	.00	599.00	100.0%
** END OF REPORT - Generated by Christina Hostetler **								

Report generated: 03/26/2024 10:20 User: 6695chos Program ID: glytdbud



## **G/L ACCOUNT DETAIL**

Org: 2081020 Object: 48002 DONATIONS Project: 24200 0208-00-1010-00000-48002 -24200

YEAR PER	JOURNAL	EFF DATE	SRC TR	PO/REF2	REFERENCE	AMOUNT	POSTED
2024 09	655	03/21/2024	CRP 1	24835		-100.00	Υ
2024 06	489	12/21/2023	CRP 1	24263		-99.00	Υ
2024 02	569	08/08/2023	CRP 1	23445		-500.00	Υ

Total Amount: -699.00

\*\* END OF REPORT - Generated by Christina Hostetler \*\*

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# YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT 4-25-24

FOR 2024 13							
ACCOUNTS FOR: 0208 DONATIONS AND GRANTS	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
20810201 DONATIONS/GRANTS EXPENSES							
20810201 53999 24200 BEAUT	1,474	500	1,974	65.00	185.00	1,724.07	12.7%
TOTAL DONATIONS/GRANTS EXPENSES	1,474	500	1,974	65.00	185.00	1,724.07	12.7%
TOTAL DONATIONS AND GRANTS	1,474	500	1,974	65.00	185.00	1,724.07	12.7%
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,474	500	1,974	65.00	185.00	1,724.07	



## YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT 4-25-24

FOR 2024 13								
		ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
	GRAND TOTAL	1,474	500	1,974	65.00	185.00	1,724.07	12.7%

\*\* END OF REPORT - Generated by Christina Hostetler \*\*

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# YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT 4-25-24

FOR 2024 13							
ACCOUNTS FOR: 0208 DONATIONS AND GRANTS	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
2081020 DONATIONS/GRANTS REVENUES							
2081020 48002 24200 DONATIONS	0	-100	-100	-699.00	.00	599.00	699.0%
TOTAL DONATIONS/GRANTS REVENUES	0	-100	-100	-699.00	.00	599.00	699.0%
TOTAL DONATIONS AND GRANTS	0	-100	-100	-699.00	.00	599.00	699.0%
TOTAL REVENUES	0	-100	-100	-699.00	.00	599.00	



## YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT 4-25-24

FOR 2024 13								
		ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
	GRAND TOTAL	0	-100	-100	-699.00	.00	599.00	699.0%
** END OF REPORT - Generated by Christina Hostetler **								

Report generated: 04/25/2024 12:10 User: 6695chos Program ID: glytdbud



# **G/L ACCOUNT DETAIL**

Org: 20810201 Object: 53999 BEAUTIFICATION Project: 24200 0208-00-1020-00000-53999 -24200

YEAR PER J	JOURNAL EFF DATE	SRC TR PO/REF2	REFERENCE	AMOUNT	POSTED
2024 02	379 08/24/2023	API 1 20241488	W 082923T	65.00	Υ

65.00 Total Amount:

\*\* END OF REPORT - Generated by Christina Hostetler \*\*

Report generated: 04/25/2024 12:15 User: 6695chos Program ID: glactinq



741 Colonel Ledyard Highway Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

File #: 23-1828 Agenda Date: 5/7/2024 Agenda #: 1.

## AGENDA REQUEST GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

**Subject:** 

Future Projects Discussion.

**Background:** 

 $\label{lem:decomment} \textbf{Department Comment/Recommendation:}$ 



741 Colonel Ledyard Highway Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

File #: 24-0101 Agenda Date: 5/7/2024 Agenda #: 2.

### AGENDA REQUEST GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

### **Subject:**

Nip Bottle Tax Surcharge Discussion.

The Committee is waiting for information from Councilor Ryan. Possible Ad Hoc Committee?

### **Background:**

From the March 5, 2024, meeting:

Councilor Ryan gave an update.

He started by inviting the Committee to attend the March 7, 2024, Finance meeting. At the last Finance meeting there was an in-depth discussion on ARPA and nip bottles. Under the nip bottle discussion there was an idea brought up to use smart recycling and trash bins which are solar powered. These bins also compact the trash. Councilor Ryan volunteered to put together a spreadsheet of all the costs involved with using the solar bins such as pouring the concrete slab, installation, repairs etc. He would also like to capture the costs for all the suggested ideas in this spreadsheet. He added that unlike ARPA funds there is no deadline upon when to spend the funds.

### **Department Comment/Recommendation:**

### OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



**PA 21-58**—sSB 1037 Environment Committee

### AN ACT CONCERNING SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

**SUMMARY:** This act revamps the state's beverage container redemption law (i.e., "bottle bill," see BACKGROUND) by doing the following:

- 1. expanding the list of beverages subject to the bottle bill's requirements and exempting containers of less than 150mL (§§ 1 & 5);
- 2. increasing, beginning January 1, 2024, the minimum beverage container deposit amount from five to 10 cents (§ 2);
- 3. increasing the handling fee that distributors must pay to dealers (e.g., and hereafter, "retailers") and redemption centers, (§ 3);
- 4. incrementally reduces the amount of unclaimed deposits that distributors must remit to the General Fund from 100% to 45% by FY 26, and allows the distributors to keep the remainder (§ 4);
- 5. requiring certain retailers to install and maintain at least two reverse vending machines (RVMs) at their place of business or have dedicated areas for redeeming beverage containers (§ 7); and
- 6. requiring, beginning January 1, 2024, (a) all refundable beverage containers sold in Connecticut to have a Universal Product Code (UPC) and barcode and (b) deposit initiators (i.e., the first distributor to collect the deposit) to provide them, with packaging information, to the RVM system administrators and other system operators at least 30 days before placing the beverage containers on the market (§ 2).

The act requires the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to approve a stewardship organization for beverage containers (§ 9). It also requires DEEP to develop terms for a memorandum of agreement (MOA) that provides for in-state processing of at least 80% of the wine and liquor beverage containers sold in-state (§ 8).

The act establishes a five-cent surcharge on the sale of spirit or liquor beverage containers of 50mL or less (commonly referred to as "nips"). It requires (1) wholesalers to remit the surcharges to the municipalities in which the containers were sold and (2) the municipalities to use the remitted funds for environmental measures aimed at reducing solid waste or reducing the impact of litter (§ 10).

The act requires the DEEP commissioner, by July 1, 2022, to develop an incentive program to help municipalities that want to adopt a unit-based pricing program for solid waste disposal (e.g., "pay-as-you-throw"). She must also identify funding sources to provide the incentives (§ 6).

Lastly, the act makes technical and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2021, except the handling fee increase, RVM requirement, and nip surcharge take effect October 1, 2021; the bottle bill's

expansion takes effect January 1, 2023; the deposit increase takes effect January 1, 2024; and the MOA and stewardship organization provisions are effective upon passage.

### §§ 1 & 5 — COVERED BEVERAGE CONTAINERS

Under prior law, the bottle bill applied to the following beverage containers: beer, other malt beverages, mineral or soda water, carbonated soft drinks, and water, including flavored or nutritionally enhanced water.

Beginning January 1, 2023, the act generally expands the bottle bill to include beverage containers for hard cider, plant water or plant infused drink, juice or juice drink, tea, coffee, kombucha, and sports or energy drink. It explicitly includes hard seltzer in the bottle bill's scope, which existing law covers as a "beer or other malt beverage." It also includes beverages identified as juice, tea, coffee, kombucha, plant infused drink, or a sports or energy drink, with letters, words, or symbols on the beverages' labels. Existing law covers containers identified as water this way.

### **Exempt Containers**

The bottle bill previously exempted from its requirements (1) noncarbonated beverages of at least three liters in size or (2) containers made of high-density polyethylene (i.e., with an HDPE designation or #2 recycling symbol). It also exempts containers provided on interstate passenger carriers (e.g., planes or trains). The act modifies some of these exemptions and creates new ones.

First, the act generally (1) eliminates the exemption for high-density polyethylene containers, (2) reduces the size threshold for noncarbonated beverage containers to be exempt, and (3) creates a new exemption for carbonated beverages. Specifically, it now exempts containers (1) over three liters for carbonated beverages, (2) over two and one-half liters for noncarbonated beverages, and (3) of less than 150mL for either carbonated and noncarbonated beverages.

Additionally, by law, manufacturers that annually bottle and sell up to 250,000 noncarbonated beverages of 20 ounces or less in size may apply to the DEEP commissioner for an exemption from the bottle bill's requirements (CGS § 22a-245b). The act extends this exemption, beginning July 1, 2021, to manufacturers of the new noncarbonated beverages covered by the act (e.g., juice, coffee, tea, or sport or energy drink). And it creates a new exemption for juice manufacturers that annually bottle and sell up to 100,000 gallons of juice in beverage containers. These juice manufacturers must also apply for the exemption.

### § 3 — HANDLING FEES

Beginning October 1, 2021, the act increases the handling fees for beverage containers redeemed under the bottle bill by setting the minimum handling fee at

either two and one-half cents or three and one-half cents, depending on the container involved (see table below). It applies the increased fee to the act's newly covered beverage containers.

Bottle Bill Handling Fees, Prior Law vs. the Act

	Prior Law	The Act
Beer or other malt beverages, including hard seltzer	\$0.015	\$0.025
Hard cider	N/A	0.025
Noncarbonated beverages, mineral or soda water, and carbonated soft drinks	0.02	0.035

### § 4 — UNCLAIMED DEPOSITS

Under prior law, unclaimed deposits were paid quarterly by the distributors to the revenue services commissioner for deposit into the state's General Fund. The act incrementally reduces the amount of unclaimed funds deposited to the General Fund to 45% by FY 26, as shown in the table below, and correspondingly allows the distributors to keep the remainder.

**Percentage Distribution of Unclaimed Deposits** 

	General Fund	Distributors
Through FY 22	100%	0%
FY 23	95	5
FY 24	65	35
FY 25	55	45
FY 26 and beyond	45	55

### §§ 1 & 7 — RETAILER RVMS AND REDEMPTION AREAS

The act generally requires certain retailers, beginning October 1, 2021, to install and maintain at least two RVMs at their place of business. Under the act, an RVM is a mechanical device that (1) accepts used beverage containers from consumers and (2) provides a way of refunding the containers' refund value (deposit amount) to the device user.

The requirement to have the RVMs applies to retailers whose place of business (1) is part of a chain engaged in the same general type of business that operates at least 10 units in Connecticut under common ownership and (2) uses at least 7,000 square feet of space to display merchandise for sale to the public.

The act also requires retailers exempt from the RVM requirement (see below), whose place of business is at least 40,000 square feet and does not use RVMs, to maintain a dedicated area at the business to accept and redeem beverage containers. It requires these areas to be adequately staffed so that containers can be efficiently accepted and processed during business hours. There must also be at

least one conspicuous sign posted at each public entrance describing how to find the redemption area.

### Exemptions

The act exempts from the RVM requirement retailers that do the following:

- 1. sell only beverage containers of 20 ounces or less that are packaged in quantities of less than six;
- 2. sell beverage containers, but use no more than 5% of their floor space to display and sell consumer products; or
- 3. get a waiver from the DEEP commissioner allowing them to use an alternative technology to redeem the containers.

For the waiver, the alternative technology must be able to:

- 1. determine a beverage container's redeemability;
- 2. protect against fraud by reading a container's UPC and, except for refillable containers, renders the container unredeemable;
- 3. collect information about the redeemed containers; and
- 4. issue legal tender or a scrip, receipt, or other credit for the refund value that can be exchanged for legal tender for at least 60 days without needing to purchase other goods.

If the alternative technology does not allow a consumer to immediately obtain the refund value, a retailer can only use it if the retailer also allows a consumer to conveniently and immediately obtain the refund value through an RVM or another method.

### Penalty

The act subjects retailers who violate these requirements to a civil fine of up to \$1,000, with an additional \$1,000 for each day the violation continues. It requires a hearing held according to the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act before the DEEP commissioner can assess the fine.

### § 8 — MOA: WINE AND LIQUOR CONTAINERS

Under the act, DEEP must develop the terms for a MOA that, by January 1, 2023, provides for in-state processing of at least 80% of the wine and liquor beverage containers sold in the state. The processing must turn the containers into furnace-ready cullet or by-product that is melted or otherwise used in cement, glass, or fiberglass products.

The act requires DEEP, when developing the terms, to (1) identify the parties that must be part of the agreement and (2) engage them in ongoing discussions about establishing systems and methods under the agreement for statewide, cost-effective, and consumer-oriented collection of the wine and liquor beverage containers. The collected materials must also be sufficiently clean and acceptable for use at a facility that produces the glass cullet or byproduct.

Under the act, the MOA must include provisions, with responsibilities assigned among the parties, for the following:

- 1. establishing and implementing the collection systems and methods;
- 2. transporting collected containers to a processing facility;
- 3. properly recycling and managing containers not accepted by a facility;
- 4. executing financial obligations among the parties according to the agreement;
- 5. recordkeeping of the volume, tonnage, and categories of containers annually processed under the agreement; and
- 6. auditing costs, efficiencies, and benefits of the agreement.

The DEEP commissioner must submit a draft of the MOA to the Environment Committee by January 15, 2022.

### § 9 — BEVERAGE CONTAINER STEWARDSHIP ORGANIZATION

The act requires the DEEP commissioner to approve an application for the formation of a beverage container stewardship organization by deposit initiators if the organization meets the following requirements:

- 1. is a 501(c)(3) federally tax-exempt organization;
- 2. has a governing board of deposit initiators that represents the range of beverages and container materials covered by the state's bottle bill; and
- 3. shows that it has adequate financial responsibility and controls, including fraud prevention and an audit schedule, to properly manage funds.

It also requires each deposit initiator to join and register with an approved beverage container stewardship organization within three months after DEEP approves the organization. Deposit initiators seeking to sell beverage containers in the state after this period must register and join the organization at least 90 days before selling them.

Under the act, any approved organization must submit a plan for the DEEP commissioner's review and approval to operate a statewide beverage container stewardship program by July 1, 2022. The act requires the plan to provide detailed information about how the organization will operate and finance a program to redeem and recycle beverage containers. The information must at least include the following:

- 1. 80% annual redemption rate by a specified timeline;
- 2. financial self-sustainability;
- 3. verifiable performance metrics for enhanced customer satisfaction;
- 4. policies and investments to ensure that recovered materials are returned for their highest and best use;
- 5. detailed descriptions for how existing collection and redemption centers will be used;
- 6. redemption rates as of the date of the plan and projected for the next five years, along with a recommended refund value for the containers to achieve these rates;
- 7. how the plan will cost the state or any other participants;
- 8. revenues that will be returned to the state and projected loss in the state's revenue use or collection in the five fiscal years beginning with FY 22;
- 9. legislative changes needed to carry out the plan; and

10. other parameters or requirements the commissioner requires.

When developing the plan, the stewardship organization must obtain input from members of the independent redemption center community, municipal resource recovery facilities, municipal leaders, wine and spirits distributors, and RVM operators. The act prohibits the DEEP commissioner from approving a plan without verification of receiving this input.

The DEEP commissioner, by October 1, 2022, must submit recommendations on any plan for a proposed stewardship program to the Environment Committee.

### § 10 — NIP SURCHARGE

Beginning October 1, 2021, the act requires wholesalers of spirit or liquor beverage containers of 50mL or less to assess a five-cent surcharge on each of these containers to retailers. The retailers must then impose the same surcharge on the customers who purchase the containers. The act specifies that paying the surcharge is a debt by retailers, upon their purchase from the wholesaler, and is subject to posting requirements for delinquencies. Under the Liquor Control Act, a notice of delinquency identifies the delinquent retailer and prohibits manufacturers or wholesalers from crediting the retailer until the notice is satisfied (CGS § 30-48(b)).

Under the act, the surcharge must be distinct and clearly identified from the container's price. The act exempts it from sales tax or being treated as income.

Beginning April 1, 2022, and then every six months, each wholesaler must remit to each municipality where these beverage containers were sold during the prior six-month period, five-cents per container sold by the wholesaler. At the same time as the payment, the wholesaler must file a report with the Department of Revenue Services and the Department of Consumer Protection's Liquor Control Division stating how many beverage containers it sold in each municipality during the prior six months.

The act requires municipalities receiving the surcharge funds to only use the funds for environmental measures to reduce solid waste generation in the municipality or the impact of litter from the solid waste. These measures include things like hiring a recycling coordinator; installing storm drain filters to block solid waste (including beverage container debris); or purchasing a mechanical street sweeper, vacuum, or broom to remove litter and other debris from streets, sidewalks, and abutting lawn and turf areas.

### **BACKGROUND**

### General Bottle Redemption Process

Connecticut's bottle bill redemption process generally works as follows:

- 1. a retailer pays a beverage container distributor a deposit for each eligible beverage container that the distributor delivers;
- 2. a consumer pays the retailer the deposit for each beverage container that he or she purchases from the retailer;

- 3. the retailer or a redemption center pays the consumer the deposit amount for each beverage container that he or she returns (i.e., refunding the deposit);
- 4. the distributor reimburses the retailer or redemption center the deposit for each beverage container returned, plus a handling fee; and
- 5. the distributor pays the state the required percentage of unclaimed deposits, which are deposited into the General Fund (CGS § 22a-243 et seq.).



741 Colonel Ledyard Highway Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

**File #:** 23-1883 **Agenda Date:** 5/7/2024 **Agenda #:** 3.

## AGENDA REQUEST GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

# **Subject:**

Any Other Old Business to Come before the Committee.

**Background:** 

**Department Comment/Recommendation:** 



741 Colonel Ledyard Highway Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

File #: 24-0379 Agenda Date: 5/7/2024 Agenda #: 1.

## AGENDA REQUEST GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

# **Subject:**

Nomination and election of a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

# **Background:**

(type text here)

## **Department Comment/Recommendation:**



741 Colonel Ledyard Highway Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

File #: 23-1885 Agenda Date: 5/7/2024 Agenda #: 2.

## AGENDA REQUEST GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

# **Subject:**

Any Other New Business to Come before the Committee.

# **Background:**

(type text here)

## **Department Comment/Recommendation:**