

**Waste Management Committee Minutes
Tuesday, October 13, 2009
Town Council Chambers**

Present

Councillor J. MacPherson, Chair
Mayor C. Chisholm
Councillor L. Chisholm
D. Halfpenny
N. Haverkort

Delegates

B. Ives, Antigonish Sustainable Development
N. Tomalty
B. Campbell

Absent

Councillor D. Roberts
D. Wilson, Deputy Clerk

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Mayor C. Chisholm
Seconded by: Councillor L. Chisholm
"That the Agenda be approved as circulated." Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by: Mayor C. Chisholm
Seconded by: Councillor L. Chisholm
"That the Minutes of the meeting held on September 8, 2009, be approved as circulated."
Motion carried.

• **Delegates re: Healthy Lawns**

Chair, Councillor J. MacPherson, welcomed the delegates. N. Tomalty read her letter voicing concerns for her health which is compromised by pesticide spraying on her street. She outlined the steps that she has taken to address the issue. Councillor J. MacPherson noted that the Town is unable, under the current provincial legislation, to create a by-law but can make amendments to its' Pesticide Policy. Recent discussions with Weedman® of Truro have resulted in the Company agreeing to abide by the Town's Pesticide Policy.

Councillor J. MacPherson stated that the Town of Wolfville is in the process of putting forth a motion for a Town to be able to create a By-Law for Pesticide Spray at the next Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities Conference. Councillor L. Chisholm put forth an article from The Chronicle Herald concerning a possible joint Atlantic Pesticide Law.

Delegate B. Campbell spoke on food being compromised, an organic lawn maintenance program, and whether a 24-hour notice and 48' barrier could be enforced through a By-Law to protect citizens growing organic food being contaminated by spraying. Mayor C. Chisholm indicated that it may take a series of little steps to move towards a larger goal.

Delegate B. Ives outlined how provincial co-operation could be a good thing if a monitoring process was put in place. He spoke on thirty-two (32) other nations having an 8-meter spray zone for pesticide use. He mentioned a current project that he has his international students working on and noted that there are eleven (11) different products identified in their research that have a half life, and that the real issue is the cocktail of chemicals and the impact on children and adults. Healthy Lawns/Healthy Communities is a theme that is being developed. He stressed the need for Eco-literacy and the proposal to Environment Canada which will be completed by next week. He mentioned that the science is there and that there are 22 accepted alternatives to using lawn pesticides.

Councillor L. Chisholm invited B. Ives to attend a meeting of the Beautification Committee.

Councilor J. MacPherson thanked the delegates for their presentations and they left the meeting at 10:25 AM.

Correspondence

- 2009 LED Holiday Lights Consumer Exchange Program.

The Town has applied to be considered for the program again this year. The Chair noted that last year's spot was a bit of a challenge and that people were having trouble finding the location. Mayor C. Chisholm wondered if the Tree Lighting could be moved back to the original site of Chisholm Park. Mayor C. Chisholm agreed to find out the plans for this year for both the Parade and Tree Lighting.

- Letter to Businesses re Use of Litter Cans

The Committee was in general agreement that the letters should be addressed from the Waste Management Committee and that it should be sent out as a memo with the electric bills.

D. Halfpenny will make the necessary changes to the letter and forward to Committee Members for comment prior to distribution.

Business from Minutes

- Bulky Item Pick Up

Advertisements are running in the paper. The Committee agreed that as this is a new endeavor it was important to place the print advertising three times in an effort to ensure residents were aware of the program. As the program has now been established, next year the Town can look toward changing the type and frequency of advertising. D. Halfpenny relayed the Town Engineer's concern as to responsibility of items that are not picked up. The Chair noted that the information was clear on what was acceptable material to be collected and that it is the residents responsibility to remove the items not collected at curbside.

- Household Hazardous Waste

N. Haverkort reported that the mail-out has been completed, advertisements have been booked for The Casket and the Quad Extra, and a site has been secured at the Antigonish Mall.

MacMillan's have agreed to have a truck on site, and a small tent is needed for shelter should it rain. N. Haverkort will speak to J. Dee of Eastern Sanitation for dumpsters, ideally one for each day.

Other/New Business

- **Town of Yarmouth re Request for Support**

The Town of Yarmouth has requested the Town support a proposal to have more Council representation on the Resource Recovery Fund Board (RRFB), and a motion in this regard is expected to be put forth at the upcoming Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities (UNSM) Conference.

- **Solid Waste By-Law**

N. Haverkort updated the Committee on the status of the Solid Waste By-Law. She is awaiting comments from Special Constable S. Smith, and that the changes to fine rates need to be adjusted. Mayor C. Chisholm noted that some of the changes may need to be reviewed by the Town's Solicitor to ensure they are enforceable.

- **Anti-Go-Clean**

Councillor L. Chisholm advised the Committee that the St. F.X University students are to be recognized for their Anti-Go-clean efforts. A ceremony is scheduled to be held at the Student Union Office on October 26, 2009 at 6:00 PM. Each House President is expected as well as other participants and a plaque will be presented to them. Chair J. MacPherson suggested that buttons featuring "Anti-Go-Clean Champs 2009" be given to the students. Councillor L. Chisholm noted the buttons would cost approximately \$1.75 each. N. Haverkort agreed to advise the media of the upcoming event.

Adjournment

Moved by Mayor C. Chisholm

Seconded by Councillor L. Chisholm

"That the meeting be adjourned."