

**Waste Management Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**April 14, 2021**  
**Council Chambers**  
**10:00 a.m.**

**Present**

Councillor, D Roberts, Chair  
Deputy Mayor Andrew Murray  
Councillor Mary Farrell  
N. Haverkort, Eastern Region Solid Waste Management Co-ordinator  
K. O'Handley, Eastern Region Solid Waste Compliance Officer  
L. Crowley, Business Owner  
D. Halfpenny, Engineering & Planning Administrative Assistant

**Absent**

K. Proctor, P. Eng. Director of Public Works

**Call to Order**

The Chair, Councillor D. Roberts called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

**Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the April 14th, 2021 agenda with the addition of two items under new business. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the March 10, 2021 meeting.

Councillor D. Roberts welcomed new committee member L. Crowley. Introductions were made around the table.

**Business Arising from Minutes**

**Waste Bylaw**

Councillor D. Roberts, Chair reported that recommendations had been received from K. Proctor, P. Eng., Director of Public Work for changes to the Waste Bylaw draft. She acknowledged that K Proctor was unable to attend the meeting due to a staff issue. She explained to L. Crowley that K. Proctor is tasked with waste management as one of his duties and therefore his input is valuable to the updating of the Waste Management Bylaw. She advised the Waste Management Committee is also seeking comments from S. Scannell, Director of Community Development who has Bylaw Enforcement under his directorship. She noted that once the changes have been made to the draft it will be updated and circulated to Committee members.

D. Roberts explained to L. Crowley that the Waste Bylaw has not been fully update for several years. She noted changes to provincial programs and a goal of enhancing the Waste Bylaw to make it easier for homeowners and businesses to understand their role to meet compliance has made it necessary for the Waste Management Committee to spend considerable time reviewing the document.

A hard copy of the draft of the Waste Bylaw was distributed to new committee member L. Crowley. N. Haverkort will send circulate a copy of the updated draft when changes have been made.

## **Waste Containers**

The Chair reiterated that Waste Containers are to be looked at through the lens of the Beautification committee, now known as the CEC. She explained that this is not to pass off the matter and the litter can staff report is being generated by the Engineering Department with data gathered by Public Works. However, Council is interested in creating a more uniform approach to the types of cans, placement, and wayfinding to ensure the litter cans are used as intended.

Deputy Mayor A. Murray noted that the CEC will add it to their agenda. He acknowledged that any purchases for new litter cans would need to be coordinated with K. Proctor as litter cans would come out of K. Proctor's Waste Management budget.

## **Waste Resource Compliance Promotion Intern**

N. Haverkort reported that interviews had taken place for the Waste Resource Compliance Promotion Intern. She explained that Eastern Region Solid Waste Management had been approved to hire a student for a 15 wk program with wages covered by DivertNS. The intern will be tasked with a green cart review, education and follow up with users of the waste collection programs, and litter cleans ups.

## **Bulky Waste**

Set for April 26, 27, & 28<sup>th</sup>. S. Smith, Bylaw Enforcement has circulated a copy of the poster via email to the landlords; K. Gorman has provided information via social media, and the Town Waste hotline is promoting the event.

## **New Committee Members**

The Chair advised that A. Starr will be joining the Committee at the next meeting. D. Roberts noted that she is following up with J. Lawrence, CAO to see if a STFX representative will be joining.

L. Crowley commented that he is pleased to join the committee to add a landlord perspective. He noted that he is a full-time landlord and that his rental agreements include reference to compliance with the Town of Antigonish Waste Bylaw. He acknowledged that the "What goes where" app is one of the most useful tools to provide to his tenants. He explained that as a full time landlord he follows up with his tenants and if he receives a call from bylaw enforcement that there is a waste issue at any of his properties, he contacts his tenants and works on a solution. He acknowledged that waste separation can be different in various provinces and some of it is habits of tenant based on what they are used to doing at home.

Discussion followed and committee members agreed that even within NS there are different waste separation requirements in different areas throughout the zones.

## **New Business**

### **Town Clean Up**

Chair D. Roberts reported that she had met with M. MacDonald, Community Advocate for the Fuel Fund concerning organizing a Town Clean Up. She explained that traditionally the Fuel Fund group had organized clean ups in the town and received funding in the amount of \$1200. She stated that M. MacDonald had concerns about his group doing the clean ups because of the liability issue.

N. Haverkort noted that the MAP program provided a maximum of \$500 to non-profit groups that

cleaned 5 km of streets or roadways. The fuel fund group had completed three Town clean ups and raised \$400 for each clean up. This year she stated there is a change in that the application requires that a release of liability sign off sheet be completed by each participant. This she explained is no different than signing off as a parent for your child to go on a class trip or participate in an after-school activity.

D. Roberts, Chair commented that should the Fuel Fund group decide not to participate that there are other groups that she could invite to apply for the funding. She noted that she would feel comfortable participating in the event by manning the sign-up table and handing out the gloves, safety vests and bags to the participants. However, she advised that N. Haverkort could better explain to M. MacDonald what is required to participate and clarify that support will be provided for the sign up should the fuel fund group want to continue to host the clean ups.

N. Haverkort will follow up with M. MacDonald to determine if the fuel group wants to participate.

Discussion followed on types of gloves supplied, potential dates for Town clean ups.

### **EPR**

N. Haverkort explained that the province had asked to have a number of boxes checked to consider implementing End Producers Responsibility whereby companies would be responsible for paying for packing waste. She noted this has been ongoing for several years, however with the new Premier of Nova Scotia there is a renewed interest in making EPR a priority. She advised that EPR would reduce the burden on the municipalities which now pays for this type of recycling and would encourage industry to decrease packaging. She noted that a letter had been circulated to the coordinators and that she will provide a copy to committee members via email.

### **Education and Compliance Report**

Compliance Officer Report - K. O' Handley circulated his report of activities undertaken within the Town of Antigonish since the March 10, 2021 Waste Management Meeting.

K. O' Handley reported that the STFX black bag issue has seen a marked improvement. However, he had a problem with milk containers being placed in the waste stream that required follow up. He advised that with new students coming in from different provinces and countries there is always a high level of education involved. He explained his role to L Crowley, identifying how he audits curbside collection, works with businesses to address illegal dumping into their private dumpsters, audits truck loads at the landfill locations, and provides education to residents and businesses on proper sorting.

K. O' Handley advised that he had completed 17 landfill inspections, followed up Eastern Mainland Housing on some issues with garbage and recycling and one business owner that has two businesses that is not following the organics program.

A motion was made and seconded that the Compliance Report be accepted. Motion Carried.

### **Next Meeting Date**

Next Waste Meeting Wednesday, May 12 at 10 a.m.

**The meeting was adjourned at 11:42 a.m.**