

**Waste Management Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**September 8, 2021**  
**Council Chambers**  
**9:00 a.m.**

**Present**

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

**Absent with regrets:**

K. Proctor  
Councillor Mary Farrell  
A. Starr, Business Owner via phone  
D. Campbell, StFX Representative

**Call to Order**

The Chair, Councillor D. Roberts called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

**Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made by A. Murray, Deputy Mayor and seconded by L. Crowley approve the September 8th, 2021 agenda. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by L. Crowley and seconded by A. Murray, Deputy Mayor to approve the minutes from the July 14, 2021, meeting.

**Business Arising from Minutes**

**Litter Pick Up**

The Chair reported that the Litter Pick Up event had exceeded expectations with 25 participants signing up for the cleanup. She stated that Eastern GFL had supplied a dumpster and placed it outside the Public Works yard, Public Works had supplied water for the participants, ERSWM had supplied gloves, bags, vests and reach extenders for ease of litter pick up. L. Crowley did a wonderful job getting the message out to the Landlords and the Student Union. D. Roberts noted that Rachel Lewis, Waste Resource Compliance Promotion Intern was a great help to organize the event, design the poster and get the word out. K. Gorman, Communications with Town of Antigonish promoted the event via the Town website and social media.

Councillor D. Roberts advised that volunteers had come close to filling the ½ ton truck with waste. She noted that the Antigonish Fuel Fund and the Antigonish Food Bank would each receive \$400 because of the cleanup.

The Chair noted that a second Clean up should be scheduled for this year as there is an additional \$1400 left for clean ups due to the pandemic.

Discussion followed on groups that could be contacted to complete the second cleanup, when the cleanup could occur and who could benefit most from the assistance.

It was determined that the Antigonish Fuel Fund and ACALA would be approached to see if they are interested in doing the second Town cleanup.

D. Roberts will contact ACALA to determine if they are interested.

The date for the Litter Cleanup was tentatively set for November 6, 2021, from 10 am to 12 noon weather permitting.

### **EPR Update**

N. Haverkort provided an update on the status of EPR. N. Haverkort explained that with the recent change in government there may be a delay in the adoption of the EPR project. She stressed that Nova Scotia's opportunity to implement a strategy towards making end producers responsible for dealing with packaging waste would ease the burden from municipalities in dealing with this type of waste as cost for disposal would be placed on industry. She explained that in all of Atlantic Canada there would only be one super MERF and with New Brunswick moving forward with EPR it is possible that they will be ahead of Nova Scotia in implementation and therefore obtain the Super MERF in NB. She noted that efforts are ongoing through formal and informal channels to get the new government up to date and aware of EPR, and the urgency to move forward for NS to be a leader and obtain the Super MERF would create jobs in the province.

N. Haverkort will advise the committee of any new developments.

### **Residential Waste Collection Tender**

D. Halfpenny advised that K. Proctor was unable to attend the Waste Meeting due to an Electrical meeting. However, he wanted to report that the Residential Waste Collection Tender had been released and that over the past five years there has been a significant change in residential curb stops. Buildings are increasingly being changed to mix use buildings, older buildings have been torn down to make way for larger unit apartment buildings, and older homes are being changed into five-unit buildings, etc. The lodging home market has grown over the years, and it is noted that there is an increase in service required for these types of residents compared to the single-family home. There is a higher degree of materials being produced by these residents, and increased education and enforcement is involved to maintain bylaw compliance. Therefore, the lodging homes are being considered at the same waste charge rate as a 4-unit apartment building.

D. Roberts asked whether the contract adds provision for an extension of the seasonal Green Bin pick up.

D. Halfpenny commented that because the waste budget has been approved by Council for this year and it is unknown as to what the new Residential Waste Collection contract will be it is not possible to determine if extension is an option until the new contract is awarded.

D. Roberts advised that extension of the Green Bin pick up will be looked at for the 2022-23 budget year.

## **Bulky Waste**

Fall Bulky Waste dates are September 13, 14, and 15, one day only, on residents regular scheduled garbage day. Landlords have been set a copy of the poster by S. Smith, Bylaw Enforcement; K. Gorman has posted the information to the Town of Antigonish website and social media, N. Haverkort has the information available through the app, and the information is on the RWC schedule. It was noted that the Waste hotline has received an increase in calls from new residents wanting further information on the Bulky Waste event.

## **Green Bins**

Replacement of old Green Bins continues. The seasonal pick up of Green Bins is nearing completion.

Discussion followed on other bins such as Black Bins and Blue Bins being used by residents. Sizes and types of bins used, storage of bins, keeping wildlife out of bins and not using plastic on the green bin.

L. Crowley commented that as a landlord he finds that providing the tenant with an organized set up for proper sorting the less issues he has with tenants doing their part. He noted the Blue Bins are a great help in getting the tenants to place their items to curb properly and in keeping the area tidy. He noted that the app has been a great resource for the landlords to provide to tenants, he advised the Landlords association is looking at creating a Welcome package for new tenants.

N. Haverkort advised that educational materials such as sorting guides are available for inclusion in the package. N. Haverkort provided sorting guides to L. Crowley.

## **Waste Bylaw**

Waste Committee members reviewed the definitions of the Waste Collection Bylaw and made suggested updates in conjunction with the comments of K. Proctor and S. Scannell. It was determined that clarification was needed for privacy bags and special exemption.

The remaining review of the enforcement section of the bylaw will be reviewed at the next meeting.

## **New Business**

### **Cigarette Butts**

D. Roberts, Chair commented that while the litter pick up was underway it was identified that there is a problem with cigarette butts at the pubs in Antigonish. She advised that she would be bringing it up at a Council meeting and recommending that a letter should be sent to pub owners identifying the problem and encouraging them to provide an option for their patrons to properly dispose of cigarette butts.

### **Education and Compliance Report**

Compliance Officer Report - K. O' Handley reported that with StFx students returning he will be working with StFX to closely monitor loads and to increase educational efforts.

D. Campbell was not in attendance from StFX.

K. O' Handley noted that the curbside waste audits work of summer student R. Lewis meet with identified improper sorting at some locations, follow up showed limited improvement with some locations failing to read the educational material provided. K. O' Handley advised that he has been working closely with GFL to ensure that they reject the materials at these locations that are contaminated as this will be the only way these residents will make the necessary changes.

### **Next Meeting Date**

Next Waste Meeting Wednesday, October 13th at 10 a.m.

### **Motion of Adjourn**

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

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried,

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