

Waste Management Committee Meeting Notes
September 9, 2020
Council Chambers
9:30 a.m.

Present

Councillor J. MacPherson, Chair
Councillor, Diane Roberts
Councillor A. Murray
K. O'Handley, Eastern Region Solid Waste Compliance Officer
D. Halfpenny, Engineering & Planning Administrative Assistant

Absent

N. Haverkort, Eastern Region Solid Waste Management Co-ordinator

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

Approval of Agenda

It was noted that there were insufficient members to reach quorum

Approval of Minutes

Unable to approve due to lack of quorum.

New Business

The Chair advised that he had spoken to J. Lawrence, CAO about the importance of moving forward with the amendments to the Waste By-Law for the Town of Antigonish.

Discussion followed on timeline, delays due to Covid and banning of single used plastic bags.

K'O Handley advised that recent curbside audits with the GFL driver have indicated that a bag limit should be put in place. He noted that on Greening Drive there were locations that had up to 30 bags. He commented that Guysbrough has an 8-bag limit as do many other municipalities.

It was agreed by all present that the Town of Antigonish make changes to the Waste bylaw to have an 8-bag limit.

The Chair instructed D. Halfpenny to forward the request to the CAO and K. Proctor.

Bulky Waste

Bulky Waste Event will take place on September 14, 15, & 16. Information has been posted on the Town of Antigonish Website by K. Gorman; Landlords have been advised by S. Smith that the event is taking place; the Waste hotline has been receiving calls from residents interested in partaking in the event.

Green Bins

D. Halfpenny reported that there has been a steady increase in the replacement of Green Bins and that it may be necessary to purchase additional stock before the next budget is approved. The supplier will be contacted to determine availability of carts and current costs. N. Haverkort

will be contacted to see if there are any programs available to recover some of the costs.

Discussion followed and those present agreed it is important to keep the costs as low as possible for the residents.

HHW New Site

Chair J. MacPherson stated that the new household hazardous waste location is now open but not being advertised. He noted that inquiries received by the Waste Hotline may direct the citizen to dispose of their items at the new Beech Hill location, but the official launch is expected to take place sometime after the fall election.

New Committee Member

Councillor A. Murray advised that he knows of a citizen that is interested in joining the Waste Management committee.

Chair, J. MacPherson reported that the process is to place an expression of interest to join the Waste Management Committee advertisement for two weeks. He explained that with the election a month away this will not happen until the results are known. He noted that two positions will be open as L. McLean has moved to Amherst. Therefore, the advertisement will be looking for one member from the public and a member from the commercial sector.

Litter Cans

Councillor A. Murray inquired about the replacement of the concrete cans and asked if there is an option to place the smaller type cans that are located on poles.

Discussion followed. It was noted that nothing can be added to the poles not even posters. It was stated that the newly added locks are effective in preventing household waste from being tossed in the litter cans. However, reports of broken locks on the litter cans near Chisholm Park have been received from the PWD and what seems to be waste from food trucks.

Councillor D. Roberts stated that she is concerned about the length of time it has taken to do the review of the litter cans, she advised that council had approved the addition of litter cans in the Braemore, and West Street areas. She noted that dog waste remains a problem.

Discussion followed. It was noted that Covid-19 has slowed the litter can review process, but a comprehensive review is underway. A litter can has been placed at the Skate Park on West Street. Committee members discussed whether dog waste disposal containers could be placed Throughout the town to deal with dog waste. Further investigate will be required to obtaining pricing and maintenance costs.

Proclamation for Waste Reduction

N. Haverkort texted J. MacPherson that a proclamation for Waste Reduction will be sent to the Mayor and Council.

Education and Compliance Report Compliance Officer Report

K. O' Handley circulated his reported of activities undertaken within the Town of Antigonish since the March 11, 2020 Waste Management Meeting. He noted that seven landfill inspections have been completed with two focusing on ICI loads, four StFX loads and one Antigonish town residential load. He stated that he had also visited three businesses and conducted curbside audits.

K O'Handley note that a homeowner had placed her waste in a commercial dumpster and had been captured on video. The owner of the business advised the person that if they removed the waste within 24 hrs they would not proceed with charges. K. O'Handley ensured that the homeowner removed the waste and properly disposed of it at the Beech Hill landfill.

K O'Handley advised that three businesses are in noncompliance due to improperly dealing with organics. Due to Covid-19 restrictions they have not been formally charge. However, he is attempting to educate them on proper disposal and explaining that they will save money if they dispose of properly.

K'O Handley stated that the curbside audits went well and that he was able to work with residents to correct sorting issues. He commented that with the help of the GFL driver he had tackled the streets and properties that were known to be most problematic.

The StFX loads K. O'Handley advised were very good. He commented that GFL has a lady driver and her helper and that they are doing an excellent job keeping contamination out of the loads.

Next Meeting Date

- Next Waste Meeting will be announced following the Municipal election when committee selection is completed.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.