

Waste Management Committee Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2021
Council Chambers
9:30 a.m.

Present

Councillor, D Roberts, Chair
Councillor Mary Farrell
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, Landlord Association.
A. Starr, Business Owner
D. Campbell, StFX Representative
D. Halfpenny, Engineering & Planning Administrative Assistant

Absent with regrets:

K. Proctor
Deputy Mayor Andrew Murray
via phone

Call to Order

The Chair, Councillor D. Roberts called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.
She welcomed A. Starr of Recircle Waste Management Solutions to his first in person meeting.

Committee member A. Starr advised that Recircle is a waste management company that remanufactures plastic waste into consumer and industrial products by using a semi-industrial shredder, decontamination, injection, and extrusion machines. He noted that currently they are under a piloting project with StFX and pending acceptance of an OH & Safety Plan are expect to get up and running in the new year with a full staff and a complement of volunteers.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by D Campbell seconded by M. Farrell to approve the October 13, 2021 agenda. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by L. Crowley and seconded by D. Roberts to approve the minutes from the September 8, 2021, meeting.

Business Arising from Minutes

Litter Pick Ups

The Chair reported that there were two groups that did Litter Pick Ups in the Town. She noted that one group had organized their neighbourhood cleanup event in conjunction with the adopt and highway program. There was a bit of confusion with the placement of a dumpster near public works. GFL picked up the 6 bags of collected garbage and one bag of recyclables the following day. The Chair advised that it is wonderful for groups to take the initiative to pick up waste, but it would be preferable to make the town aware. She commented that the town clean ups ensure that gloves, safety vests, registration and disposal methods are organized. She stated that she doesn't want to discourage clean ups in anyway only to make sure they are done safely.

D. Roberts encouraged anyone planning or hearing of a cleanup event to have the organizer contact her to ensure that staff are made aware, and details of disposal are clear.

Councillor D. Roberts advised the **November 6th scheduled Town Clean Up will be weather permitting** with funding of \$1400 shared by three groups ACALA, Antigonish Fuel Fund, and Antigonish Transit. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. and the clean up will be held between 10 a.m. and 12 noon.

N. Haverkort will prepare the poster, social media will be used to promote the event. ERSWM will provide vests, bags and gloves. The Town will provide water.

The Chair encouraged any committee members that are available to participate.

L. Crowley advised that he would be available to do either work at the registration table or to participate in the cleanup.

Waste Bylaw

Chair D, Roberts advised that the fine section of the Waste Bylaw will be sent to S. Scannell, Director of Community Development to ensure that the fines are in keeping with other municipalities and provide his Bylaw Enforcement staff an opportunity to review and determine any enforcement issues before the final draft goes to J. Lawrence, CAO and K. Proctor, P. Eng, Director of Public Works. She acknowledged that the final draft would then need to go for legal vetting.

Councilor Roberts stated that it has been a long process, with many hours spent by the committee to get the Town Waste Bylaw updated but she is determined to get it finalized and make sure that it is enforceable and provides clear guidance to residents and businesses.

N. Haverkort will provide a copy of the latest revised copy of the Waste Bylaw for circulation to the Waste Management Committee via email

EPR Update

N. Haverkort provided a brief review of Extended Producer Responsibility and advised that efforts to gain approval are ongoing.

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

Residential Waste Collection Tender

Awarded to Eastern GFL

Bulky Waste

Fall Bulky Waste numbers are lower than past years. GFL report very low numbers Metal 5.06 tonnes; Waste 18.34 tonnes. This in part can be attributed to high numbers in the last couple of years, as changeover for appliances and furniture is cyclical and no doubt Covid-19 has caused a decline in new purchases.

Green Bins

Replacement of old Green Bins continues. There are adequate bins in stock to meet the demand at present.

Cigarette Butts

D. Roberts, Chair apologized that she was unable to get the cigarette butt information to last Council meeting. She reiterated 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 the next Council meeting.

New Business

Meeting Time

Chair D. Roberts asked committee members if a 9:30 a.m meeting time would be acceptable for their schedules.

Discussion followed and all members agreed to move the Waste Management Meetings to a 9:30 a.m. start time on the usual second Wednesday of each month.

Landlords Association Report

L. Crowley advised that September was a very busy time of year for landlords as they got new tenants settled into their leases. He advised that the Landlords Association hadn't meet in September but are looking to schedule a meeting in the upcoming weeks.

Chair D. Roberts asked if L. Crowley would provide a report from the Landlords Association for the next Waste meeting and that it be added to the agenda as a regular report.

Education and Compliance Report

Compliance Officer Report - K. O' Handley reported that he has been busy with landfill inspections and that he has completed and with one ICI and 6 StFX organic inspections.

K. O' Handley noted that out of the Bulky Waste load he was able to salvage items for the reuse center such as pots, pans, lamps, etc.

K. O' Handley stated that he was dealing with a litter complaint from Church Street and upon investigation determined that it is stemming from a garbage receptacle at the entrance of the Antigonish Mall. He will follow up with the Market Square staff to ensure that they are monitoring the receptacle and it is being dumped as needed.

Motion was made and seconded to accept the Education and Compliance Report.
Motion Carried.

DivertNS Social Behaviour Campaign

N. Haverkort reported that DivertNS has hired Dillion Consulting to do a Social Behaviour Campaign in comparison with 2009 data and identify changes in behaviour.

Councillor M Farrell asked if D. Roberts should speak with K. Gorman to create some PSA to tie into litter with businesses and residents. She noted a walk about property to clear grounds of any litter; and having establishments mindful dropping of litter being placed in proper receptacles. She stated that the Chair may want to tie it in with the letter concerning cigarette butts and send the message to all businesses.

D. Campbell, StFX committee member identified that the skate park has a bad culture of littering and he noted that much of the litter is Styrofoam from food trucks and fast-food vendors.

N. Haverkort stressed that this is a major change to the Waste Bylaw: the inclusion of Food Trucks requiring proper sorting receptacles and disposal of the waste products.

She noted that clarification to litter can usage, outlining acceptable materials to place in litter cans and placement of litter cans is becoming an issue in HRM. She advised that Town of Antigonish has added litter can usage requirements into the bylaw draft.

Additions to the Next Meeting Agenda

Landlords Association Report
Update on CACL project.

Next Meeting Date

Next Waste Meeting Wednesday, November 10 if required if not December 8th for a yearly wrap up at 9:30 a.m.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m.