

Waste Management Committee Meeting
March 15, 2017
Council Chambers
9:30 a.m.

Present

Councillor J. MacPherson, Chair
Mayor L. Boucher
Councillor Diane Roberts
Councillor Andrew Murray
L. McLean, Antigonish Chamber of Commerce Representative
N. Haverkort, Eastern Region Solid Waste Management Co-ordinator
K. O'Handley, Eastern Region Solid Waste Compliance Officer
D. Halfpenny, Engineering & Planning Administrative Assistant

Absent with Regrets

M. Henderson

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded, "that the Agenda be approved as circulated."
Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and seconded, that the January 11, 2017 meeting minutes be approved as circulated." Motion carried

Business Arising from Minutes

Letter to P. MacDonald

- Mayor L. Boucher shared a photo of P. MacDonald receiving a certificate of thanks from the Town for his recycling efforts. She will release photo on twitter.

Brierly Brook

- Chair J. MacPherson reported that he had contacted the office of MLA Randy Delorey and will be contacted with an appointment time. He noted he will advise L. McLean as soon as the date is set.

Sorting Stations

- It was reported that the three slot sorting stations have arrived at the Public Works Department.
- Chair J. MacPherson will speak to J. Lawrence about scheduling staff to install the permanent sorting stations one at Town Hall and the second at the Antigonish Regional Field. It was hoped that the sorting station at the Regional Field be place before field usage begins in mid April.
- Discussion followed on educating campaign concerning proper usage of the sorting station through Talk of Town and twitter. It was agreed that a photo of a young person properly using

the sorting station would be a good way to promote the new sorting stations.

Town Clean Up

The Chair stated that a day will be set for some time in May for the Town Clean Up. He noted that he would be contacting M. "PD" MacDonald from the Antigonish Fuel Fund to help coordinate the volunteers for the event. He will advise when the date has been set.

Request for Additional Waste Receptacles at Columbus Field

Councilor D. Roberts commented that she had been contacted about additional waste cans, sorting stations for Columbus Field in the Piper's Glen area.

Chair J. MacPherson advised that Public Works would need to be contacted to pull out the seasonal sorting stations. He explained that the seasonal sorting stations are a wire type that are designed to be used for events and activities. He noted he will need speak to J. Lawrence, CAO about having them delivered to the site and to get clarification on when they should be installed as recreational staff will be needed to maintain them.

ERSWM Election

Nicole Haverkort reported that V. Pitts, Warden for Guysborough will remain as Chair of the ERSWM committee and J. Dort, Deputy Warden for the District of St. Mary's will remain as Vice Chair.

New Business

Collection Frequency Inquiry

Councilor D. Roberts advised that she has been contacted by a citizen concerning rats. She was asked if a weekly pickup of garbage would eliminate the problem.

Councillor J. MacPherson, Chair noted that the new five year contract had recently been signed with Eastern Sanitation. He advised that there would be a significant change in cost to the citizens to provide weekly pick up. The contract currently provides for eight consistent weeks of green bin pick up during the summer months.

K. O' Handley commented that he has not heard of a significant rat problem in Antigonish during his Green Bin audits.

Councillor A. Murray noted that the age of the Green Bins and the strong UV rays from the sun are causing the 14 year old carts to break down making it easier for rats to chew through the bins.

L. McLean stated that due to the warmer winters and climate changes there has been an increase in the population of rats all across Canada. He noted that the major challenge is keeping the Green Bins clean and remembering to take them in after the organics have been picked up.

It was noted that 18 Green Bins have been replaced this past fiscal year and that six have been identified as rats having chewed through the sides. Locations were Dolorosa, Hawthorne, MacLellan, College, and The Heights. Four of these properties are rentals and two are private homes.

- By-Law Enforcement have been called to deal with garbage issues that have attracted rats on two occasions, they notified landlords, hired W. Reddick to clean up and billed landlord for clean up.
- Citizens are encouraged to report any issues of an unsightly nature and have also been encouraged to report rat citing's. It was noted that two calls have been received concerning rats, one of which homeowner had reported the rat had entered her home via the dryer vent and a second were a rat had tried to enter under a door that had a damaged door sweep.
- The Chair commented that some citizens freeze their organics and put them out on pick up day to avoid problems.
- Discussion followed on the design of the old Green Bins and the new replacement bins. N. Haverkort reported that many municipalities have switched to the new design because the original design was meant to reduce moisture in the organics before collection but there isn't really enough time between collections for this to happen. . She stated that the new bins have less parts to break. It is important to identify the areas where the sightings are to see what they have in common to determine if anything specific can be identified and targeted to clean-up. Education to keep bins clean and all waste removed from property not less than every two weeks is also important.

Syrian Family Business

- A. Murray asked whether the Peace By Chocolate business had received any instruction concerning proper sorting and set out times.
- N. Haverkort stated the four of the five Syrian Families had participated in an educational workshop concerning proper sorting. She will check into it.

Diversion Credits

- N. Haverkort reported as expected that diversion credits are down from the 2015-16 fiscal year. She cited an increase in C&D with several demolitions of buildings within the Town of Antigonish. She also mentioned that the Town had challenged a report of C&D disposal the Town Solid Waste-Resource Bylaw so the Town was not penalized for the additional waste..
- N. Haverkort noted that on the positive side some good news to pass along regarding current programs with Divert Nova Scotia which have proved to be profitable and therefore the pool of money will be increased back up to the 4 million dollars to be divided among the regions.

Newspaper Stewardship

- N. Haverkort advised that an agreement had been reached with the Newspaper Association to provide services in lieu to cover costs of diversion. She stated that what it will mean to the town is that the local Casket newspaper will providing 4 ads that are ¾ of a page which could be used to promote House Hazardous Waste and Bulky Waste pick up events.

Efficiency Study

- N. Haverkort reported that a consultant has been hired by the Priorities Group and paid for by Divert NS to provide recommendations to create waste management program efficiencies across the Province. This will inform the regions/municipalities on how the EPR can move forward. Determination of what it will look like if/when there are discussions with

the industry.

- Councillor J. MacPherson, Chair stressed the importance of the Town in joining with other Municipalities to get the MLA to bring the issue forward in Nova Scotia.
- N. Haverkort noted that at present no one at the Provincial level has taken a stand to have increase extended producer responsibility.
- J. MacPherson, Chair advised that the cost savings to the municipalities would be approximately \$140,000 a year for a town such as Antigonish.
- N. Haverkort noted that some provinces already have it.
- Discussion followed all agreed that it worth pursuing with the MLA.

Data Review

N. Haverkort provided a visual presentation showing the trends over the past few years for Town of Antigonish. She noted overall there is a slight decrease in garbage, slight increase in recycling, and a tightening up in waste in general in residential waste. She provided data showing that the ICI sector is noticing a decrease in garbage and that it is a step in the right direction.

School Resources

N. Haverkort reported funding by Divert NS has been provided to a company to create resources that work within the schools to provide curriculum based material that can be used for presentation as well as by teachers to enhance their class work. She noted she is excited to have these resources in place and looks forward to using them.

Enforcement & Compliance

- K. O' Handley circulated his report. He advised that he has received a response from several Green Cart owners who were tagged last month asking about how to properly use their Green Cart.
- K. O'Handley commented that P MacDonald, STFX maintenance will be joining him on another audit of StFX materials. It is suspected that some of the contamination is coming from the truck load spilling into the other compartment.
- K. O'Handley advised he had found several bundles of newspapers/flyers tossed in the trash and the identification codes on the flyer wrapper would be turned over to the newspaper. He noted that the newspaper will be able to identify the delivery person committing the offence.

It was moved and seconded, "that the compliance officer's report be accepted." Motion Carried.

Next Meeting Date

- J. MacPherson said the next Waste Management Meeting will be held on April 12, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. in Council Chambers

Motion

It was moved and seconded, "That the meeting be adjourned."
Meeting adjourned at 10:29 a.m.