

Waste Management Committee Meeting
May 10, 2016
Council Chambers
9:30 a.m.

Present

Councillor J. MacPherson, Chair
Mayor C. Chisholm
Deputy Mayor L. Boucher
Councillor L. Chisholm
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

S. Feist CAO
E. Maltby, StFx Environmental Representative
L. McLean, Antigonish Chamber of Commerce Representative
Michael Dube, STFX
Mikaela Henderson, STFX

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:25 am.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded, "That the Agenda be approved with the addition of River Clean Up."
Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and seconded, "That the Minutes from the April 12, 2016 be approved with the amendment that Mayor C. Chisholm was absent.

Correspondence

No correspondence.

Business Arising from Minutes

Waste Management Program Update:

- N. Haverkort provided a quick review of the pilot project for textiles that is taking place in Colchester. She noted that the Waste Management Committee had discussed the project but that no decision had been made to participate.

Discussion followed. Waste Management Committee members agreed that the service of the Opportunity Shop and the Community Bins was working well.

- N. Haverkort advised that the proposed cut back to Enforcement Funding and advertising funding that is used to promote the Household Hazardous Waste program is being challenged. She noted that currently the matter is being reviewed and that she will report back after the June AGM.

Large Bulky Waste Pick Up and Spring Clean Up

An email from Eastern Sanitation owner/operator J. Dee indicated that the Bulky Waste Pick Up event was successful and that the Spring Clean Up went well. He reported the following:

Bulk(waste)- 22.38 tonnes

Metal- 9.66 tonnes.

Solid Waste- 26.41 tonnes

Organic-Compost- 18.36.

He commented that the Bulky Items put out to curbside were properly sorted and that residents were following the rules. J. Dee noted that regular collection took longer due to the high volume of materials placed curbside. He acknowledged the good work of the By-law enforcement officers to spread the word to the landlords.

It was noted that calls to the Town of Antigonish hotline were received by numerous landlords and homeowners thanking the Town for the service.

NS Recycles Award Banquet

- Deputy Mayor L. Boucher reported that she had attended the NS Recycles Award Banquet and that a large number of local students had received awards. She noted that K. O'Handley and N. Haverkort had also attended.
- K. O' Handley stated that he had taken some photos and would send them to Deputy Mayor L. Boucher.

Trading Treasures

- N. Haverkort reported that the Trading Treasures event went well considering the tight timeline for promotion and organization of the event. She noted that \$1084 had been raised on day one and that approximately \$151 had been spent on advertising. She remarked that not too much went to waste with any remaining items going to the Opportunity Shop and the Canadian Diabetes bins.
- Discussion followed on how to improve the event for next year.
- Chair J. MacPherson said a thank you letter should be sent to K. DeCoste for his generous donation of space at 66 West Street.
- Waste Management Committee members asked that a thank you letter be sent to Volunteer L. Armstrong who did a wonderful job assisting with the sorting of items and set up for the sale and work during the event.

Regulation Update

- Regulatory Waste to Energy definition is being clarified by the energy department. She noted that progress regarding regulations has slowed and that a meeting will be taking place to explain the urgency of moving forward with some changes.
- Mayor C. Chisolm expressed his frustration with the Department of Environment and stated that the province continues to download the cost of waste programs onto

Municipalities. He advised that not a single minister had shown up at the UNSM meeting to address the waste management concerns of municipalities.

Blue Bags

- N. Haverkort noted that polystyrene 'Styrofoam' recycling has not been added to the Blue Bags stream (blue bag #2) as of yet, however she advised that Colchester has purchased a Styrofoam recycling hot system. She stated that the system can melt a pallet full of Styrofoam into a small ridged block. The blocks are then sold. N. Haverkort commented that the benefit to the landfill is a bonus for everyone. If interested, the Town should discuss with ESL as their contractor, to ensure there is capacity to include in the recycling truck.

New Business

HHW Location

- N. Haverkort reported that with the Antigonish Market Square being sold a new location may be required for the Annual Household Hazardous Waste Event. She noted that she expects to have confirmation of a location by the next meeting. She suggested that the Arena parking lot may be a good location if the Mall is unavailable.

ERSWM Funding Programs

- N. Haverkort advised that MAP funding applications will be received until the end of June. She note the Town of Antigonish could apply for funding for two additional three slot sorting stations and potentially cover 50% of the cost should the MAP funding application be approved.
- N. Haverkort reported that the \$1200 is also available for Town Clean Ups to sponsor community groups to clean town Streets

River Clean Up

- J. MacPherson noted that there is a lot of waste material and broken trees that need to be picked up along the river. He advised that he will be doing a tour after the meeting with the By-Law Enforcement Officer.
- Discussion followed. Waste Management Committee Members agreed that this would be a more specialized clean up and that the Department of Fisheries and Department of Environment should be contacted to see if there are any programs that could be accessed to clean up the River and its banks.
- J. MacPherson stated that he would speak with S. Feist, CAO to gather information on options available for a River Clean Up.

Safe Sharps article from Colchester

- N. Haverkort reported that Colchester is preparing an article based on the human element of improper disposal of a sharp. She advised she will circulate a copy when it is made available.

Other Business.

Enforcement & Compliance

- K. O' Handley reported that although Trading Treasures was a successful event there is room for improvement. He noted that having a drop off location in advance of the event for

such items as calculators and school supplies would decrease the number of school supply items being thrown out.

- Deputy Mayor L. Boucher stated that she would like to work with the students early in the school year. She noted that she would like to see some young volunteers such as athletes taking part. She advised that many of the students are required to do community service work and that the STFX Trading Treasures event would benefit from more student participation. She advised that she will mention it at an upcoming department meeting. She noted that increased awareness on the disposal of items would increase with a student buy in and the added promotion of on-campus social media.
- K. O' Handley advised that P. MacDonald at StFX is excellent to work with and that the more the students can get involved the better.
- K. O' Handley noted that with students leaving he saw an increase in contaminated loads at the landfill. He advised that continued work is needed with students, landlords and StFX as each year new students are coming into the community.

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 Tuesday, June 14, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. in Council Chambers

Motion

It was moved and seconded, "That the meeting be adjourned."
Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.