

Waste Management Committee Meeting
May 8, 2017
Council Chambers
9:30 a.m.

Present

Councillor J. MacPherson, Chair
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

Mayor L. Boucher
M. Henderson

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 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 April 12, 2017 meeting minutes be approved as circulated." Motion carried

Business Arising from Minutes

Chamber Meeting

- Chair, Councillor J. MacPherson advised that discussion had occurred at the ERSWM monthly meeting concerning providing a presentation to Chamber members at the October Business Connects meeting. L. McLean to address further in his Chamber report.

UNSM Resolution /Statement Support for Full EPR

- N. Haverkort explained that in order for a resolution to be put forth to the UNSM there would need to be 1/3 of the Municipalities in agreement. She noted that a statement may be worked on to garner support for the required number of municipalities to put forth the resolution in time for the Fall UNSM conference.
- Discussion followed on EPR noting that some provinces already have it in place and that the less than a fraction of a cent is already added to end products by manufactures to pass on to consumers to pay for the program. It was agreed that to have this program in place would bring more money into the system.

Litter Clean-Up Programs/Promotion

N. Haverkort noted that in addition to the Town Litter Clean Ups that benefit the Antigonish Fuel Fund, there are other programs such as the Great NS Pick Up which can be organization or private litter pick ups and the Adopt and Highway Program. She stated that more promotional material for illegal dumping and littering is being worked on.

The Chair advised that the UNSM provide money to the presenters to be donated to a worthwhile cause and this year it will be donated to the Antigonish Fuel Fund.

Bulky Waste Pick Up

Scheduled for Monday, May 15 to Wednesday, May 17. Details have been posted to the website, added to Town phone message, and included on the regular collection schedule, Talk of Town and on the mobile app schedule.

River Clean Up

- The Chair advised that he hadn't received anything to date from R. Delorey, MLA.

New Business

Truck Budget Impact

N. Haverkort explained that the ByLaw Compliance Officer has been using his personal vehicle for official business. She advised that this sometimes leads to unsafe work conditions as the general public is unaware that K O'Handley has the authorization to complete residential waste audits, etc. She noted that recent discussion with the region have determined that a Bylaw Compliance Truck should be purchased.

Chair Councillor J. MacPherson commented that the Town had purchased a Bylaw Enforcement Vehicle which is clearly market and that it has seen very positive results.

N. Haverkort circulated a cost analysis sheet outlining the expenditures of the vehicle over upcoming years. She advised that the funds to purchase the vehicle will come out of the existing budget and will not cost the five municipalities any additional funds this year, however, a slight increase would be in place for upcoming years to allow for maintenance and reserve fund for eventual replacement after 7 years. She noted that the vehicle would be purchased under the fleet pricing by the Municipality of the District of Guysborough.

Motions

"A motion was made and seconded that a recommendation be made to council to provide support for Eastern Region Solid Waste Management to make a capitol purchase of a Bylaw Compliance Truck with their existing funds this fiscal year and to provide continued support for operational costs in upcoming fiscal years." Motion carried.

Efficiency Study Update

- N. Haverkort advised that Divert NS has allocated \$150,000 on a focus recycling piece. She noted it is important to determine what we want to get out of the study. She stated that the goal is to determine what an efficient system looks like. She explained that currently we have a dual system where recyclables and refundables are a different waste stream. She informed the Waste Management Committee that a consulting group out of Ontario has been hired and that the Chair of the ERSWM is to decide on the focus for our region. She advised that the 2nd Phase is set for Fall of 2017 and she would know more details by next meeting.

Newspaper Advertising

- N. Haverkort reported that the newspaper industry has provided advertising in kind to cover the costs of recycling their products. She noted that a full page ad was run in the Chronicle Herald concerning the Safe Sharpes Program She advised that the next provincial ad will be on the Do's and Don'ts of Green Carts.
- Discussion followed on ½ page run twice on Green Carts in the local paper. Committee members agreed that the ad should run twice once in the summer and another in the fall.

Chamber of Commerce Report

- L. McLean .advised that the Chamber of Commerce members have suggested that an e-blast be sent to all Chamber members with a focus on how business could successfully participate in waste reduction, and to point out current problems within the system and benefits of businesses working together to create solutions. L. Mc. Lean stated that garbage isn't sexy and that to encourage businesses to attend an October Business Connects meeting it is necessary to sell the benefits of proper waste management and solutions to problems.
- N. Haverkort agreed and noted that it is all about best businesses practices and sharing what works. She will prepare material and provide to L. Mc. Lean who will have the Chamber send out in an e-blast.

Enforcement & Compliance

- K. O' Handley advised that there was an alarming amount of food discarded by StFx students, food that could have been donated to the foodbank instead of thrown away. He noted that there was an increase in clothing, luggage, and school supplies in the waste stream. He identified that increased work will need to be done with StFx student union to find ways to properly divert these items. He commented that he had pulled some items from the school supplies and sent them to the Re-Use Center.

N. Haverkort explained that the focus of the St FX student union executive had been on solar power.

Discussion followed. Committee members agreeing that further methods have to be put in place to engage the students in proper disposal of items.

- N. Haverkort noted the Antigonish Market Square businesses have the correct sorting bins in place and that they have added a stream for organic materials to their program. She stated with new owners and new businesses entering the mall it was important to meet with them to review the program.
- K. O'Handley advised he performed waste audits at the landfill and that Antigonish Town residential loads are improving. He commented he had followed up on a couple of complaints of recyclables not being picked up and noted his investigation had determined improper sorting in one case and not getting the items to curbside on time in the second incident.

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 Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. in Council Chambers.

Motion

It was moved and seconded, "That the meeting be adjourned."

Meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m.