

Waste Management Committee Meeting
April 10, 2019
Conference Room 2nd floor
9:30 a.m.

Present

Councillor J. MacPherson, Chair
Councillor, Diane Roberts
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

Guest

S. Smith, ByLaw Enforcement

Absent

Councillor A. Murray

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9: 42 a.m.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded, "That the Agenda for April 10, 2019 be approved with the addition of Textile Report under new business. **Motion carried.**"

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and seconded, "That the March 13, 2019 meeting minutes be approved as circulated." **Motion carried**

Correspondence

No correspondence

Business Arising from Minutes

Educational Material

N. Haverkort explained that due to an increase in workload over the past month she was unable to complete the Educational Materials for Landlords and rental units. She advised that she will continue to work on the materials.

HHW Permanent Location

Councillor D. Roberts inquired as to whether there were any updates on the consideration of a permanent Household Hazardous Waste location.

Councillor J. MacPherson advised that the Town and County were directing staff to review options and costs associated with the creation of a permanent location. He noted that he had not received any updates from J. Lawrence, CAO but that he would inquire.

D. Roberts commented that it should be placed on the Joint Councils agenda to receive an update.

The Chair commented that he will ask to have an update added to the agenda of the next Joint Council Meeting.

N. Haverkort advised that other options for this years Household Hazardous Waste Event are being explored and that she will follow up with Guysborough to see if conditions have changed regarding their ability to provide the services of the mobile unit.

Waste ByLaw

S. Smith, ByLaw Enforcement, joined the meeting at 10 a.m.

S. Smith advised that he had reviewed a large portion of the Draft Waste ByLaw and that he had a few suggested changes. He noted that he would like to continue with a deeper review over the upcoming month.

S. Smith stated that under the definitions section h) *should be changed to read as* "commercial assessed properties" means any part of the Town in which the primary land use is commercial activities.

S. Smith explained that he uses section 3.44 of the Municipal Government Act to enforced solid waste management violations and that he deals with the property owners. He noted when dealing directly with the landlords it often has a much better outcome. He advised that when a matter reaches the stage where it goes to court tenants may be gone but the landlord will be held accountable. He acknowledged that the use of consistent language between the MGA, Waste ByLaw and Tenancy Board Act will prevent opportunities for loop holes when pursuing legal recourse.

Discussion followed and it was agreed the change would keep the language consistent with the Waste ByLaw and Municipal Government Act.

S. Smith noted that Eastern Sanitation is doing a great job and that bags are being tagged appropriately. He noted it is important to let residents know why their residential waste collection has been rejected.

S. Smith commented that bb) subleter should be added to the definition to be consistent with wordage in the Tenancy Board documents.

S. Smith stated that personally he would like to see the removal of backyard composting in the Town of Antigonish. He explained that his concerns were primarily based upon rodent issues arise from backyard composting. He asked that consideration be given to moving the distance of composters from 4 ft to 8 ft from the property line. He acknowledged that unless done correctly backyard composting causes problems for the neighborhood. He cited various examples of issues he dealt with that resulted in residents moving away from backyard composting which then resulted in a resolution of the rodent issue.

S. Smith noted that the new green bins seem to be more effect in preventing rodents from reaching the organic material.

Discussion followed on how to decrease the rodent issues:

- 1) The summer Green Bin pick up program. It was noted that during the hot summer months Green Bins are picked up weekly. A review of the weeks that Green Bins are picked up with consideration of having the program start later and end later in the fall.
- 2) Keeping on top of any issues with mini home parks.

S. Smith advised that currently the two mini home parks that had issues with waste pick up last year are in compliant and have regular pick up by their private contractor.

Upon further review, it was noted that the provision to cause a backyard compost operation to cease is sufficient to continue allowing it in the Town.

Chair J. MacPherson thanked S. Smith for his valuable input and invited him to attend the next Waste Management meeting scheduled for May 8th.

D Halfpenny will send a meeting request to J. Pellerin and S. Smith.

S. Smith left the meeting.

Sister nomination for Mobius Award

D. Halfpenny reported that she had contacted Jeff Stewart who advised that Marilee Sulewski from Colliers will be sending material to N. Haverkort to facilitate the nomination of the Sisters of St Martha's Bethany deconstruction project.

N. Haverkort updated that Ms. M. Sulewski has been in touch, the Sisters support the nomination so M. Sulewski is working towards completing it.

New Business

Divert NS

N. Haverkort advised that she learned from the last Regional Chairs meeting that Divert NS has increased their Regional Coordinators funding by three percent. The slight increase in Regional Coordinator funding is meant to facilitate a slight wage increase for the regional position. This will just support the current wage. Also, the Regional Educational Funding was increased to \$63 per contract hour (increase of .50 cents per hour). She advised that the MAP funding applications will be available soon.

She noted that the Household Hazardous Waste funding portion has been increased to \$20,000 per Region, which is an increase of \$4000 per region, which will allow for more money to be shared in the region for this event.

C&D

N. Haverkort commented that C&D continues to be a challenge for municipalities. She noted that tracking and transboundary issues are difficult to enforce.

Discussion followed. It was noted that the Town of Antigonish doesn't have their own planning department and therefore to add a level of waste tracking for projects from Eastern District Planning Commission may be cost prohibitive. Contractors are supplied a form and asked to submit their waste ticket information but it is purely voluntary.

Textile Report

N. Haverkort stated that she had received a request from Diabetes Canada concerning a pilot project. She advised the pilot project is designed to educate the public about the reuse and recycling of various textiles and to make textile diversion opportunities as convenient and accessible as possible for the public.

The proposal will work cooperatively and support not for profit charities. For profit charities may be included if willing to cooperate in data collection. Interested municipalities will be required to establish a policy to eliminate for-profit donation bins on municipal property and replaced them with a charity bin. The data collected from each bin and residential site will be used to develop a strategic plan for municipalities. There is no cost to participate with respect to bins and collection. The bins need to be branded with the municipalities' logo. Municipalities are required to promote the bins on their websites and through social media. There is some flexibility regarding removal of some of the options.

Discussion followed. Committee agreed that they didn't want to promote just one organization. It was noted that the bins would have to be placed on Municipal land were currently the bins are located at various business sites throughout the Town and County.

N. Haverkort advised she will circulate a report to committee members for further consideration.

Education and Compliance Report Compliance Officer Report

K.O'Handley reported that StFX had two organic loads rejected that were contaminated with garbage. He advised he will be working with StFX to get this matter corrected. K. O' Handley will follow up with G. MacMillan and the driver.

It was moved and seconded that K O'Handley's report be accepted. Motion Carried.

Chamber

L. McLean asked if there was anything that he should advise the Chamber about.

N. Haverkort responded that the final document concerning EPR for PPP is being set for release to the Minister. She noted that all feedback from the Chambers of Commerce that was

received has been considered when preparing this proposal.

Next Meeting Date

- Next meeting date scheduled for Wednesday, May 8 at 9:30 a.m.

Motion

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

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.