

**Waste Management Committee Meeting
November 20, 2019
Council Chambers
9:30 a.m.**

Present

Councillor J. MacPherson, Chair
Councillor A. Murray
Councillor, Diane Roberts
N. Haverkort, Eastern Region Solid Waste Management Co-ordinator
K. O'Handley, Eastern Region Solid Waste Compliance Officer
D. Halfpenny, Engineering & Planning Administrative Assistant

Mayor L. Boucher
K. Proctor, Director of Public Works

Absent

L. McLean, Antigonish Chamber of Commerce Representative
S. Elliot, STFX Representative

Call to Order

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

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded, "That the Agenda for November 20, 2019 be approved with the addition of Changing Waste Management Committee policy and GFL invitation to future meeting under new business. **Motion carried.**

Approval of Minutes

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

Correspondence

No correspondence

Business Arising from Minutes

Waste Bylaw

N. Haverkort advised that the latest draft of Waste Bylaw was forwarded to the Committee and Town staff. She noted the shared information had no timeline for review. She reiterated that the C&D issues, special events, and food truck vendors and how best to incorporate requirements into licensing are all identified as areas requiring further work.

K. Proctor commented that the next steps going forward would be to first set a date for comments to be received by from the various departments and he recommended it should be sometime in late January. He acknowledged that the C&D portions are challenging to draft as there are a lot of moving parts and potential legal requirements that prohibit enforcement. He advised that he would have the CAO add the Waste Bylaw Draft to the Department Head meeting as an agenda item.

Mayor L. Boucher stated that it is important to check to see what other Municipalities are doing

regarding C&D.

HHW

N. Haverkort reported that the permit to operate has not been received. She explained that the Department of Environment has been tied up with the Northern Pulp issue and therefore it is expected that the permit to operate will be delayed. She noted that when it is received a soft opening could be planned with a Grand Opening in the Spring.

Discussion followed and all agreed this would be the best way to proceed.

J. Macpherson advised that the location is 5.7 p.m. from the Beech Hill Roundabout and on pave road. He stated that he had received several calls from citizens disappointed that the HHW didn't happen this fall but once they were given the information that a permanent location has been established and is awaiting environmental approval they were pleased.

K. Proctor advised that the permanent residential HHW waste program will have to be clearly identified as residential hazardous waste only. He commented that there will be businesses which may have hazardous waste to dispose of that will not fit under this program.

Waste Reduction Week Update

N. Haverkort advised that Lunch and Learn held at the Antigonish People's Place Library on October 23rd had been well representation by small businesses, local groups and individuals that were interested in receiving waste reduction tips and information on new initiatives such as reducing single use plastics. Sunflower Natural Foods had talked about bulk foods and the Waffle Bus Stop had shared their waste management and reduction tips. She noted 4 door prizes were awarded at the end of the presentation. She stated that DivertNS had supplied door decals and an information sheet to be provided to Small Businesses for placement on doors or windows to identify the business as supporting reducing single use plastic. She stated that this program could be expanded to other business with a door to door approach.

Bulky Waste

Received after the meeting

Bulky Waste Clean- up for 2019

Metal 6.1 ton and Bulk waste- 17.57 ton.

Mobius Awards Follow-up

J. MacPherson, Chair reported that the Sisters of St Martha had receive the Mobius Award of Excellence for Institution of the Year at the awards celebration in Halifax on October 30 and that as a member of the ERSWM Committee had attended per the invitation of V. Pitts. The Sisters of St Martha were represented by Sister J. MacPherson and N. Haverkort was also in attendance.

Councillor A. Murray congratulated N. Haverkort, J. MacPherson and the Sisters of St. Martha's on the lovely story in the local newspaper.

N. Haverkort showed a short video supplied from the Sisters of St. Martha showing their commitment to the Deconstruction Project which had originally requested that 85% of all materials be diverted and the final total coming in at approximately 94% diversion.

Mayor L. Boucher shared that Town Council will be sending a congratulatory card to the Sisters of St. Martha's to acknowledge their Mobius Award - Excellence for Institution of the Year.

EPR Efficiency Next Steps Moving Forward

N. Haverkort advised that the EPR report 'Efficiency and Effectiveness of the Solid Waste Resource Management System' was discussed at the Regional Chairs meeting and that questions and answers are being assembled for further discussion at the December 6, 2019 meeting. She provided a quick review of the take-aways of the report for K. Proctor

1. NS Waste Resource Strategy is over 20 years old and requires revision to facilitate change.
 - A) Lack of clear provincial vision.
 - B) Planning with clear targets that are achievable and enforceable.
2. Provincial requirements to consider provincial infrastructures as a whole to prevent over supply of landfills, recycling facilities, etc.
 - A) Positive result for NS if EPR is implemented.
 - B) Waste Management is an essential service, key principles need to be established to provide equitable costs throughout NS.
3. Municipalities have been working in silo, no incentive to work with neighbouring municipalities to coordinate services to keep costs low for citizens and inline with a provincial strategy.
4. CAO's and elected officials are key decision-makers as such there needs to be a provincial education and outreach on cost benefits of NS reaching its disposal target.
5. Clear definition of the role of Regional Chairs Committee and the Federation of Municipalities to avoid a duplication of work.
6. Direct Education cost assessment.
7. Review of recycling beverage program
8. Clarify role of Divert NS and regions/municipality.
 - A) Standardize program across the province, common list of banned items,
 - B) Enable development of province wide education campaign what goes where.
9. Intermunicipal Agreements to avoid duplication of services, focus on provincial goals.

Waste Can Locations

J. MacPherson reiterated that he had been approached by a group of dog walkers who had asked if an additional waste can could be located on their walking route. They explained it would be easier to dispose of doggy waste. He noted there were other locations that citizens had asked for a waste can to be located.

K. O' Handley reiterated that he had dealt with the complaint from citizens on more than one occasion concerning students using the litter cans to dump residential waste.

K. Proctor stated that it is important to remember that the waste cans are intended to be used for items such as snack wrappers and such not household waste, and do we really want to encourage citizens to put the dog waste in public litter cans. He noted that 3 to 4 hrs. a day is spent dealing with emptying current litter cans. He advised that there have been issues with vandalism of waste cans and that there currently are several different types of waste cans in use. He noted he has PWD staff monitoring materials being placed in waste cans; is focusing on standardizing the type of waste collection can and reviewing whether seasonal waste cans may be part of the program.

Councillor J. MacPherson noted that this item should be left to staff to determine how to best use resources.

K. Proctor advised that he would be continuing to gather the information and will be meeting with S. Scannell and other staff in overlap areas to ensure resources are used efficiently and to create some standardization of the types of cans used for the program.

New Member

J. MacPherson noted that a review of the current terms of reference will take place to determine what would need to be changed to allow the inclusion of a Community member.

Discussion followed on the current Waste Committee structure and the lack of a residential member. All agreed that having a resident who had had a career in waste management would add to the committee, but note the importance of maintaining balance for quorum, etc.

Mayor L. Boucher commented that upon review of the terms and discussion with the CAO to make the required changes to facilitate a member of the public joining the committee there would need to be advertising placed to request submissions from citizens who are interested in joining the committee.

Single use Plastic Ban Update

N. Haverkort reported that the Plastic Ban is currently working its way through legislature and is expected to be adopted within 2020.

Discussion followed and all agreed that progress is being made.

Residential Collection Schedule

D. Halfpenny circulated rough draft of Curbside Collection schedule for Committee to critic. It was noted that HHW location will have to be advertised as coming soon and dates would have to be clarified by Eastern GFL. Updated draft will be ready for next meeting.

Eastern GFL

Councillor J. MacPherson noted that he would like to invite J. Dee and A. Reynolds to the upcoming Waste Management Meeting. He advised that it is important to work together to continue the quality service for residents and businesses.

Chamber Report

Unavailable

Education and Compliance Report

Compliance Officer Report

K. O'Handley reported he continues to work with businesses to prevent illegal dumping of unsorted waste into their dumpsters. He advised that he had spoken to A. Reynolds of GFL Commercial division and found her to be a great resource. He stated that the current dumpsters will be replaced with GFL Dumpsters in upcoming months.

K. O' Handley reported that the Dr. John Hugh Gillis Highschool dumpster has had a sofa, bed and tv tossed beside it following the town's Bulky Waste Pick Up.

K. O' Handley advised that he had followed up on two residential complaints and determined that the organics are being properly dumped by Eastern GFL. If Green Carts have contamination, they are to be stickered.

K' O'Handley noted he will be checking up on the 2 Green Carts that were being left by on the curb at the corner of Arbor and Dolorosa he not one verbal warning had been issued and that if the problem has not been addressed he will be taking a photo and send to J. Lawrence, CAO and following up again with the homeowner.

Next Meeting Date

- Next Waste Meeting will be held **December 12, 2019 at 9:30 am.** The Chair advised that because it is the last meeting before Christmas season he will be bring donuts and coffee.

Motion

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

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.