

Waste Management Committee Meeting
March 8, 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
L. McLean, Antigonish Chamber of Commerce Representative
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
Michael Dube, STFX
Mikaela Henderson, STFX

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:31 am.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded, "That the Agenda be approved."
Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and seconded, "That the Minutes from the January 12, 2016 be approved."

Correspondence

No correspondence.

Business Arising from Minutes

Map Funding

- N. Haverkort said that the 2nd uptake for MAP funding applications has been reviewed and the Town of Antigonish's application for the purchase of 50 new green carts will receive subsidization of \$10 a cart.
- The Green Carts have been ordered and are expected to arrive week of March 14. The Green Carts were ordered from a Canadian Company and will be slightly different than the existing carts, the new design technology is expected to be easier to clean. The Carts will cost approximately \$80 each with the subsidy.
- An application for Three Slot Sorting Stations was not sent at this time due to budget review and survey that will be taking place to determine what level of compliance is being met with the existing three slot stations.

Motion

A motion was made and seconded. "That the Waste Management Committee recommend to Council that a budget of \$3500 be allocated to the Waste Management Committee in order purchase 2 new Three Slot Sorting Stations to replace existing Waste Cans. Motion Carried.

N. Haverkort said that the New Map Funding Applications will be available on May 1 and the Waste Management Committee can then apply for funding to assist with the purchase for these 2 additional Three slot Sorting Stations.

Dr J.H. Gillis Program Education

N. Haverkort said that an education day date has not been set yet but that discussions with Principal W. Fougere have taken place. She said it was agreed that a 30 minute presentations be provided for each grade level. In addition, to the presentations they will also be set up in the cafeteria during lunch hour to assist the students with proper sorting.

N. Haverkort, K. O'Handley and E. Maltby will facilitate the presentations to the students. The presentations will include videos about various waste streams created by StFX students and possibly other young people who have submitted videos for a sustainability contest.

Councillor L. Chisholm said that there is a wonderful volunteer program at the J. H. Gillis school and that the students are the right age to reach their peers.

Green Carts

The Waste Management Committee discussed the age of current Green Carts and the need to create a replacement plan.

Motion

A motion was made and seconded, "That the Waste Management recommend to Council that staff be asked to formulate a plan of replacement for existing Green Carts for the next few years. Motion carried.

- N. Haverkort sent via email information on how other municipalities deal with residential Green Carts.
- It was noted that the 5 year RWC contract is up for renewal this year.

New Business

Diversion Credits

- N. Haverkort reported that the Town of Antigonish diversion credits for the 2014-15 period are in the amount of \$36,153.00. She said that 48% of waste had been diverted. She said that C&D continues to be the challenge as it can impact the diversion credits.
- The Waste Management Committee spoke about the continued efforts put forth by the Building Department to educate contractors and track Construction Demolition.

Enforcement Funding

- N. Haverkort said that the RRFB surveyed users of the Enforcement program and have determined that it is a benefit and they will continue to support it as a regular operations line in their budget which is considered annually through their budget process. She said it had been concluded that the enforcement program should be in place as long as the budget allows. She said that funding has been secured for this year for K. O'Handley's position. The following year there will be a change to funding distribution which will result in a \$2,000 deficit.
- Councillor J. MacPherson and Councillor L. Chisholm said that enforcement is very important and that the four municipalities in this region need to look at how to keep the program in place.

New Mercury Collection Program

N. Haverkort said that a new mercury collection program is being developed and she will advise when the program is ready to launch.

Sharps Program & Pharmacy Awareness

N. Haverkort reported that an advertisement was placed in the Quad County Extra concerning the Sharps Program for Pharmacy Awareness Week. She said that proper disposal is an important message. She said recently a waste sorting person in another region had been stuck with a sharp that was improperly disposed of and was currently undergoing testing to ensure that his/her health was not compromised.

Deputy Mayor L. Boucher said that a promotion that identified the stories of what can happen if you don't properly dispose of the Sharp needles would be a method to explain how serious an issue it can be. She said the worry to the individual and his or her family, and potential of health conditions contracted from the sharp is a very serious concern. She said continued awareness may make people think twice about proper disposal.

Councillor J. MacPherson said that the Antigonish Community Transit Bus will be working with residents and pharmacists to develop a prescription delivery service. He said a pamphlet could be sent out with any prescriptions requiring sharps. He said the pharmacies may wish to promote the proper use of Sharps by having a Sharp container on the bus for disposal of items when medications are delivered.

Textile Recycling

- N. Haverkort said that the Community Bins are able to take all clean clothing regardless of state of repair. She said that the Opportunity Shop is a great location to donate gently used clean items but the Community Bins allow for clothing that is in disrepair to be regenerated into new fabric and keep it out of the landfill. She said the program needs additional promotion.
- Councillor J. MacPherson said discussions with the Opportunity Shop volunteers had determined that they were able to place unwanted items into the Bins and it saved them in Waste management costs.

Co-Mingled Recycling

- N. Haverkort noted that there needs to be more awareness concerning keeping paper separate from other recycled items. She said mixed bags reduce the opportunity to properly recycle and cost the Town money.

Illegal Dumping

- K. O’Handley said he is continuing to monitor commercial dumpsters to decrease illegal dumping. He said 7 out of 10 letters that he sends out chances are in favor that the person illegally dumping will cease the activity.

Regulation Review

- Nicole Haverkort reported that work continues to move forward on the regulations review. She said uniformity of programs with other Provinces continues to be goal. Programs such as the Extended Producer Responsibility Program for Paper Products (EPRPP), Tire Program, and Electronics Program are all being reviewed.
- Letters of support have been sent by various Municipal units to the Minister of Environment, the Honourable Margaret Miller to support the EPR programs, and N. Haverkort said there is need for more municipal pressure if there is support for the changes, and you want to keep Extended Producer Responsibility on the table, since there is fear that it is already lost.

Motion

A motion was made and seconded, “That the Waste Management recommends to Council that a letter of support be sent from The Town of Antigonish in support to the UNSM and the Minister of Environment, the Honourable Margaret Miller for proposed changes to the Provincial Solid Waste Regulation that would support the implementation of a full Extended Producer Responsibility Program.” Motion carried.

Communication Flow Chart

- N. Haverkort said a Flow Chart is being developed to outline the participants in the Waste Management chain of organizations. She said this would include: Regions, RRFB, Municipalities, Municipal Staff and Elected Officials. She said she will circulate a copy to the Waste Management Committee when it has been completed.

Trading Treasures

- N. Haverkort noted that E. Maltby had expressed interest in StFx working with the committee to organize the Trading Treasure Event for Spring of 2016.
- The Waste Management Committee discussed possible dates for the Trading Treasures Event. It was determined that the pickup of items should occur beginning with the last exams on April 8, 2016 and the Trading Treasures Event should be held April 22, 2016.
- N. Haverkort will contact V. Hochheimer to discuss whether Antigonish Market Square will donate space again for Trading Treasures.

Blue Bag Recycling for Business

N. Haverkort said that blue bags for businesses tend to be an issue with bags being sorted properly but then placed in a dumpster for landfill so they do not reach the MRF for proper separation. J. MacPherson said that a meeting should be held with J. Dee to see if he can promote businesses using the separate dumpsters.

N. Haverkort said another option may be to have the Town take on a blue bag bin program for businesses. J. MacPherson, Chair will speak to the hauler to get an idea of what the associated costs would be to the businesses.

Education and Compliance

- K. O'Handley reported that he had conducted 11 landfill inspections from last meeting on January 12, 2016. He said one was residential, 8 loads were ICI, 2 loads were StFx
- K O' Handley said he had also visited 2 businesses in Town concerning organic containers. He said he is continuing to monitor dumpsters for local businesses.

Motion

It was moved and seconded, "That the Education and Compliance Report be accepted." Motion carried

STFX Report

- E. Maltby unable to attend meeting due to Environmental week events taking place on campus

Chamber Report

- L. McLean said that a new Chamber of Commerce Executive Director will be announced in upcoming days.

Next Meeting Date

- J. MacPherson said the next Waste Management Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. in Council Chambers

Motion

It was moved and seconded, "That the meeting be adjourned."
Meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.