

Waste Management Committee Meeting
June 10, 2019
Council Chambers
9:30 a.m.

Present

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

Absent

L. McLean, Antigonish Chamber of Commerce 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 June 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 May 8, 2019 meeting minutes be approved as circulated." **Motion carried**

Correspondence

No correspondence

Business Arising from Minutes

Waste Bylaw

Chair, J. MacPherson called the committee's attention back to the review of the Waste Bylaw proposed amendments. Discussion resumed on backyard composting and consequences if not done properly. It was noted that there are not many households that have backyard composting.

S. Smith reiterated that backyard composting when improperly done is a major contributor to the rodent problem and that it is important to have the clause included that the Town has the right to require a resident to cease composting if done improperly.

The Waste Management Committee reviewed the section on residential waste collection for 4 units and removed the option of negotiation for waste collection for a 5th residential unit.

D. Halfpenny reported that there have been several calls on the hotline with residents wondering about having an option for a smaller bin. Seniors are finding the Green Carts too large for their needs.

N. Haverkort advised that there is a smaller cart, and it would need to be confirmed that it is compatible with the lift on the Eastern Sanitation trucks.

Further investigation will be required to assess demand and price points to determine if the Town should have two size Green cart.

S. Smith noted in 4.4 e that the word 'bags' should be added.

Discussion followed on placement of residential Green Carts and it was agreed that any garbage receptacles should be placed at either the back or side of the house out of view from the street whenever possible.

Councillor D. Roberts explained that it was more of a Beautification recommendation that was agreed to by the Waste Management much like the 4" determination for grass height.

S. Smith advised that it is important to ensure that the bylaws are enforceable and that Eastern District Planning Commission is aware of any changes to the bylaws. S. Smith noted that this should be discussed with S. Scannell.

Discussion followed on Eastern Sanitation Limited being purchased by GFL. Contract with Town of Antigonish is for two more years.

The Chair commented that since L. McLean was unavailable for this meeting the Commercial section of the Waste Bylaw will be discussed at the next Waste Management Meeting.

Guest: *S. Smith left the meeting. 9:45 a.m.*

Brown paper Bags for Leaf and Yard Waste

Councillor J. MacPherson reported that he has met with J. Dee of ESL regarding the pick up of leaf and yard waste if placed in the brown paper leaf and yard waste bags. He advised that J. Dee agreed to have the residential waste collection driver pick up one brown paper leaf and yard waste bag when placed along side the green bin on the appropriate pick up days.

Motion

It was moved and seconded," that it be recommended to Council that residents be permitted to place one paper leaf and yard waste bag curbside on Green Bin collection day as supported by Eastern Sanitation Limited at no additional cost."

Single Use Plastic Bag Ban

The Waste Management Committee discussed the repercussions a ban on single use plastics and as to whether this would see the end of the clear bags and blue bags, privacy bags in clear bags, also and current plastic reduction programs in neighbouring communities challenges with the lack of consistency in programs throughout the province.

N. Haverkort stated that she is not convinced that using other carts for recycling and garbage would see a decrease in plastic bag use because people tend to continue using plastic bags in the plastic bin. She advised that a change within industry is required to make substantial change. She noted that HRM is currently working on a study for a full cart based system. She advised that she would circulate the EPR packaging document for the August meeting..

Recycling Communication

N. Haverkort explained that Regional Coordinators are developing messaging to support recycling in the province and on EPR education. This piece is being worked on with the Halifax coordinator, it will be shared through a newspaper credits and as a social media campaign.

Recycling Side-the coordinators are also developing a list of FAQ for use. She stated that SWANA had share some of the FAQ and answers. She acknowledged that with a 16-18% contamination rate there is a lot of work to do to improve recycling quality which is necessary to ensure it makes it to market. The education around new recycling solutions needs to be consistent in all letters, documentation, etc..

New Location for 3 slot sorting station

Councillor A. Murray inquired as to whether the 3 - slot sorting station located along side the Love Eat Asian restaurant could be moved to another location to facilitate the restoration of the dragon mural. He explained that an award of \$1000 had been received to complete the restoration work but that the sorting station and the mailbox would have to be relocated to complete the work.

It was noted that Canada Post had agreed to move the mailbox. He asked what the procedure would be to make a request for the Town to move the sorting station. It was noted that the Town of Antigonish would need an official letter from the organization requesting the relocation to be sent to J. Lawrence, CAO and then J. Lawrence could discuss with staff for the scheduling of the relocation.

Education and Compliance Report Compliance Officer Report

K.O'Handley reported that he had completed an ICI inspection and followed up with 3 businesses. He noted that recycling material is still an issue at the landfill.

Education continues to play an import role in educating the public. The event at the Anglican Church to discuss single use plastic was well received with 25 people in attendance. Lots of questions and answers and a great deal of interest in eliminating single use plastics.

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

Chamber

No report

Next Meeting Date

- Next meeting date to be determined.

Motion

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

Meeting adjourned at 10:39 a.m.