

MINUTES

SWMMP Steering Committee Meeting #06-11
Hamilton City Hall, 71 Main Street West
Room 830
Friday, September 16, 2011
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Present:

Councillor Judi Partridge
Councillor Maria Pearson
Councillor Russ Powers
Pat Parker, Director of Support Services
Emil Prpic, Manager of Recycling & Waste Disposal
Christina Gallimore, Supervisor of Operations Support
Adam Watson, Policy/Program Analyst
Peter Hutton, Waste Reduction Task Force

Regrets:

Bryan Shynal, Director of Operations
Jennifer DiDomenico, Manager of Policy and Programs

1. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Powers, seconded by Councillor Pearson:

That the agenda be approved.

CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting on May 11, 2011

Moved by Councillor Powers, seconded by Councillor Pearson:

That the minutes be approved as presented.

CARRIED

3. Business arising from the minutes

Staff provided information on the Waste Service Private Access Agreements for the Councillors to clarify that owners with existing agreements would enter into new agreements with the City.

4. Solid Waste Management Master Plan Review Update

Staff provided an update on the review and plans for upcoming consultation. Compliments were provided to staff on the September 13th Flamborough Community Council presentation and plans were made staff to present at the October Dundas Community Council and a Ward 10 community meeting.

Discussion took place on the methods to be employed for public consultation for the duration of the review process. Councillor Pearson mentioned the possibility of consultation materials sent out to constituents through the February tax bill. Peter Hutton commented on support for an online survey or other methods to get public input such as alternative media outlets besides the newspaper, including a Cable 14 broadcast. It was also noted that there was a positive response when Beth Goodger went on the Bill Kelly Show on CHML and maybe this could be done again.

5. Staff Presentation - Collection System Review

Staff provided a presentation on the current status of the Collection System Review, including an overview of the RFP, the background on the collection system, the different service arrangements that are being considered, the evaluation process and timelines.

Councillor Partridge inquired whether a pre-qualification process had taken place for this RFP. Staff indicated that it was not, that it was not the normal purchasing procedure for service delivery. The Purchasing staff will verify that the bidder submissions received are compliant prior to the proposals being sent to staff for the evaluation process.

Councillor Powers inquired into whether standardized residential garbage bins were being considered. Staff responded that this was not included in this RFP and staff is not looking to promote the use of these containers at this time and is instead promoting the use of bags as a means of controlling container weight.

Staff provided the timelines for the evaluation process and indicated that they will come to Steering Committee in December with a presentation on the evaluation results.

Councillor Powers suggested an Information Report be submitted to Public Works Committee to outline the RFP process and indicate where staff is in the evaluation process and outline what submissions have been received.

Councillor Pearson requested that information on this process be included in the SWMMP Review public meetings to be held in Ward 10 and the Dundas Community Council in the fall. Councillor Partridge requested a follow-up presentation for the Flamborough Community Council on the Collection System Review in January.

A motion was made to receive the staff presentation.

Moved by Councillor Partridge, Seconded by Councillor Powers

CARRIED

6. Waste Reduction Task Force Update

Peter Hutton indicated that the WRTF had not met since May. An informal meeting was held to discuss the status and role of the WRTF including their role with respect to the SWMMP Review. Steering Committee members and the WRTF representative discussed this item without staff present.

A motion to receive the WRTF update was put forward.

Moved by Councillor Powers, Seconded by Councillor Partridge

CARRIED

Staff returned to the room to continue the meeting.

7. Federal/Provincial Legislation and Regulations Update

No updates under this item.

8. Operations Update

8.1 Community Outreach

Staff provided a reminder that the public open house at MRF/CCF is tomorrow, Sept. 17th. Councillor Pearson requested more notice so that they can be included in her community newsletter. Councillor Partridge and Councillor Powers also asked for greater notice as well.

Staff also updated that Dennis Guy has been seconded to the Pan Am Games section and is not going to be with the O&WM Division for some time. Phil Homerski is covering his duties in the short term and advertising his position is being worked out at this time.

8.2 Disposal Activities

Staff provided an update on recent disposal activities.

Staff is preparing for the fall rush at the CRCs starting in late-September.

Staff provided an update on the operations at the MRF. Recycling revenues are expected to hit the 2011 budget projections, and commodity prices have trended higher than projected. Councillor Powers inquired on where the end products are ending up. Staff provided info on where some of the main commodities are being sent at this time, specifically glass. Staff also provided updates on the Tire and Electronics programs.

Staff provided an update on the MHSW program. It was stated that the contract with the stewardship organization expired in July 2011 and problems are occurring with their lack of finances to keep the program going. The lack of finances is due to the problem with the Eco Fees being significantly reduced; therefore most of the operating revenue has been eliminated. This problem is being experienced by several municipalities in Ontario and municipal interests are being put forward through groups such as AMO, RPWCO, etc. The program is still slated to continue and arrangements will need to be worked out with Stewardship Ontario on future funding and operating arrangements. The program still covers a significant portion of municipalities' program costs. Discussion took place on the problems with the current provincial system of levying eco fees.

Staff indicated that a stack has been constructed at the CCF to manage compliance with MOE odour regulations. Some equipment is still to be installed to make it fully operational.

Staff stated that landfill operations have been improved and it is currently in very good shape. Some changes are being made to one of the retention ponds. Councillor Powers provided information on Union Gas' interest in purchasing excess methane from landfills to add into their supply mix. Staff indicated that all current methane is being used to generate electricity and that they are looking at expanding the gas wells to access more methane. Councillor Powers will provide the Union Gas information to staff for review.

An inquiry was made into polystyrene recycling. Staff indicated it is still being collected and sent to Port Hope for processing. Staff indicated the current contract negotiations with Canada Fibres Ltd. are underway and staff is making contingency plans for processing.

8.3 Collections Activities

9. Outstanding Action Items

An inquiry was made into whether there is any prohibition on only putting leaf and yard waste in the green cart. Staff indicated that there is no prohibition and will follow-up on this issue with the appropriate staff.

A motion was made to receive all presentations in the meeting.

Moved by Councillor Powers, Seconded by Councillor Partridge

CARRIED

10. Other Business

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:35am.

Moved by Councillor Powers, seconded by Councillor Pearson

CARRIED

11. Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 12th, 10:00-12:00 PM, Hamilton City Hall, 71 Main St W, Room 718

Distribution List:

SWMMP Steering Committee Members

Gerry Davis, General Manager, Public Works

Beth Goodger, Senior Director, Operations and Waste Management Division

Pat Parker, Director of Support Services, Operations and Waste Management Division

Craig Murdoch, Director of Environmental Services, Operations and Waste Management Division

Bryan Shynal, Director of Operations, Operations and Waste Management Division

Jennifer DiDomenico, Manager of Policy and Programs, Operations and Waste Management Division

Jim Sweetman, Waste Reduction Task Force