



Hamilton

MINUTES

Waste Management Advisory Committee

Monday January 25, 2016

10:00am

City Hall, 8th Floor, Room 830

Present:

Chair: Councillor Maria Pearson
Vice-Chair: Councillor Doug Conley
Members: Peter Hargreaves

Also Present:

Emil Prpic, Manager of Recycling and Waste Disposal
Betty Matthews-Malone, Director of Operations
Colin Vidler, Manager of Waste Collections
Anne Winning, Supervisor of Operation Support
Joel McCormick, Sr. Project Manager of Waste Processing

Regrets:

Councillor Robert Pasuta
Kevin Hunt
Angela Storey, Manager of Business Programs

Recorder:

Hayley Court-Znottka

1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

None

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None to declare

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

3.1 [Waste Management Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes, dated November 26, 2015](#)

CONLEY/PEARSON

CARRIED

4. CONSENT ITEMS

There are no consent items.

5. PRESENTATIONS

There are no presentations.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

6.1 2020 Waste System Contract Planning

The meetings between Councillors and staff to discuss 2020 Contract Planning are ongoing and will conclude by the end of February. The meetings are being held to discuss aspects of the 2020 Contracts and the impact that the new Waste Free Ontario Act will have on waste processing with the City of Hamilton (City). Staff will be compiling the different factors and considerations brought forward during the meetings in a report to bring to the Public Works Committee.

A major component of 2020 Contract Planning is the discussion of transitioning to bi-weekly garbage collection. Several other Ontario municipalities have successfully transitioned to bi-weekly collection with little to no negative feedback from their communities. Bi-weekly collection will encourage residents to use their green carts and blue bins more productively and therefore would reduce the amount of waste going to the landfill and increase diversion.

6.2 Public Engagement

Staff discussed the need for in depth Public Engagement to get feedback from residents in order to gauge their knowledge of current programs in Waste Collection, their level of participation, and their overall satisfaction.. Staff proposed hiring an industry expert to determine the best method to engage the public that will yield the most accurate data.

Staff advised that most municipalities in Ontario have successfully transitioned to bi-weekly collection services. Several of these municipalities' representatives noted that they did experience some push back from their communities at implementation. Some Councillors are concerned residents will perceive there will be a reduction in the level of service. Staff will develop a report for the Public Works Committee that will summarize concerns and advantages of bi-weekly collection particularly the cost savings and impact to landfill should weekly garbage collection continue. Staff advised that our 2014 Curbside Waste Composition audit indicated 41% of weekly garbage still consists of organic material that should be disposed of in the green cart. One of the advantages of bi-weekly waste collection is it forces residents to focus their attention on diversion collection programs that remain weekly.

6.3 Operations Update

- **Waste Guide Update**

Staff provided final proof of 2016/2017 Waste Guide that residents will receive by mid-March. Members discussed the possibility of making the Waste Guide available in multiple languages and staff agreed to work with the web group to see if a function could be added to the City's website to translate the Guide.

6.4 Trash Tag Program

Under the current Trash Tag Program, residents receive twelve tags with their Waste Guide every year and may request an additional fourteen per year. Last year an additional 160,000 tags were requested by residents.

Staff discussed the possibility of reducing the number of additional tags provided, the process in which the additional fourteen tags are obtained and the programs other municipalities are utilizing. Several surrounding municipalities make additional trash tags available to their residents for a charge. Councillors emphasized the importance of the 12 tags per household, and were receptive to considering eliminating the availability of further tags.

6.5 Waste Free Ontario Act, Bill 151

An Information Report will be brought to the Public Works Committee with a general overview of the new Waste Free Ontario Act (Act) and the impacts it could potentially have on City programs. Staff is working with several groups including the Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO) and Regional Public Works Commissioners of Ontario (RPWCO) to understand what this new legislation means for municipalities in Ontario. There is a concern that under the new legislation, the Authority that will be established does not include municipal representation. Several staff members have started attending workshops and educational sessions to get further details and information regarding the new Act. The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) have given municipalities until February 29, 2016 to submit comments on the new legislation through the Environmental Bill of Rights Registry posting.

Committee Members discussed several key components of the new legislation that will have an effect on municipal programs. Provincial interest and policy statements will enable the government to provide clear direction and issue policy statements that Hamilton would have to be in line with. The new Authority could impact municipalities in several ways and will require data reporting that could incur administrative costs. The Authority may have the ability to require municipalities to run specific campaigns around participation. The Act will also establish extended producer responsibility for their products and packaging. This may offload the cost from the municipality

and shift the system from 50% shared to 100% Steward paid. Provisions may be implemented for the transition of current programs. Several municipalities are advocating for the decision regarding blue box programs to be made quickly and therefore allow for more time to transition and adjust infrastructure and contracts as needed.

CONLEY/PEARSON

CARRIED

7. OTHER BUSINESS & GENERAL INFORMATION

None

8. ADJOURNMENT

That, there being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:58 am.

PEARSON/CONLEY

CARRIED