

ENERGY AND UNDERGROUND SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
July 2, 2009

PRESENT: Councillor Debbie Hum, Chair
 Councillor Jennifer Watts
 Councillor Barry Dalrymple
 Councillor Stephen Adams
 Councillor Jackie Barkhouse
 Councillor Sue Uteck

STAFF: Mr. Angus Doyle, Manager of Utilities Coordination.
 Traffic & Right of Way Services, TPW
 Ms. Julia Horncastle, Acting Municipal Clerk

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. in Halifax Hall, City Hall.

MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Councillor Adams, that the committee move In Camera. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The committee reconvened into regular session at 1:40 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - April 24, 2009

MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Councillor Adams, that the minutes of April 24, 2009 be approved as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF ORDER OF BUSINESS / ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Additions

- 6.1 Correspondence from Richard Vinson, Creative Solar, request for presentation.
- 6.2 Request to Consider Changing EUGS Committee Monthly Friday Meeting Date
- 6.3 EUGS Committee Membership - Vacant Positions
 - 6.3.1 Councillor Representative
 - 6.3.2 Selection of Chair - Election Date

In Camera

- 1. Contractual Matter - Alderney 5 Project Update

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Barkhouse, that the Order of Business, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES/DEFERRED ITEMS - NONE

5. REPORTS

5.1 Wind Energy RE: the Siting of Large and Small Scale Wind Turbines - Staff Presentation

Mr. Shayne Vipond, Planner, presented the report to the committee outlining the following:

- Nova Scotia's 2009 Energy Strategy - Renewable Energy

- Wind Energy - Key Industry Requirements
- Wind Energy - Project
- Foundation: Strong focus to position HRM as a “Green Municipality”
- Community Energy Functional Plan under the Regional Plan
- Local demand for wind power
- Prospects for wind farm development in HRM moderate over short term
- Overall Policy Direction
 - Consistency with Provincial EA review process for large scale development
 - Consistency with Provincial Best Practices Guidelines and Model LUB for standards
 - Develop Wind Turbines As of Right
- Recommendations
 - Large scale wind turbines
 - Areas of Exclusion - Large Scale
 - Large scale siting criteria
 - Potential locations for large scale wind turbines based on staff recommendations
 - Small scale wind turbines
 - Rural wind turbines regulations - small scale
 - Recommended locations for small wind turbines
 - Permitted locations for small scale urban wind turbines
 - Large scale urban wind turbines not permitted

In response to Councillor Adams as to how nuisance would be defined, staff advised that the term is subjective therefore it would be addressed through adequate setback. On further question it was noted that environmental assessment threshold levels may change, and a habitable building would be one with a kitchen.

Councillor Watts comment that noise was not just sound but also air pressure and expressed concern with as of right turbines and the impacts on a community.

Councillor Dalrymple stated they are intrusive and there should be community consultation and input with regard to wind turbine placement.

In response to Councillor Watts regarding the separating of sound from residents, staff advised this will be based on the height of the turbine noting, it will be dealt with under the environment assessment aspect.

Mr. Vipond advised staff will bring a full package with recommendations back to the committee before going to Regional Council.

Councillor Adams excused himself and left the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

5.2 Encroaching Sidewalk Natural Gas Risers

- A copy of draft guidelines for encroaching sidewalk natural gas risers was before the committee.

Mr. Chris Davis, provided a presentation to the committee.

In response to Councillor Uteck as to the turnaround time for permits, staff advised the turnaround time if the gas riser is not encroaching would be a week from application to permit. For those that require a site visit the turnaround time may be longer.

In response to Councillor Barkhouse, staff advised Heritage Gas installs the enclosures.

Councillor Barkhouse left at 2:40 p.m.

5.3 Demand Side Management - Update (Angus Doyle)

Mr. Angus Doyle provided an update stating that the UARB had scheduled a meeting to discuss Nova Scotia Power's 2010 Demand Side Management program. He noted another issue was around formulas for allocation of costs and the self administration option. He noted hearings had started on the 3rd and the final submissions have been presented and they are now awaiting the Board's decision.

5.4 Street Lights Pilot Project - Update (Angus Doyle)

Mr. Doyle provided an update and noted HRM has signed on to a Federal LED streetlight project. He noted the project involves 1100 fixtures and there will be approximately 300 fixtures in HRM and will be provided within the next two to four weeks. HRM will install the fixtures and allow access so proponent can do studies around photometrics and energy consumption.

6. ADDED ITEMS

6.1 Correspondence from Richard Vinson, Creative Solar, request for presentation

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Dalrymple that Mr. Vinson be asked to present at the next meeting. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

6.2 Request to Consider Changing EUGS Committee Monthly Friday Meeting Date.

Following discussion, the committee agreed to leave the meeting date and time as is for now and bring it forward for discussion at a future meeting.

6.3 EUGS Committee Membership - Vacant Positions

6.3.1 Councillor Representative

The Acting Municipal Clerk clarified that the new Councillor elected to replace Councillor Younger would be fulfilling the term on those boards and committees that were assigned to Councillor Younger.

6.3.2 Selection of Chair - Election Date

The committee agreed to address this item at the next meeting.

7. NEXT MEETING DATE

To be determined.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Julia Horncastle
Acting Municipal Clerk

