

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES

August 4, 2011

PRESENT: Councillors: Peter Lund, Chair
Debbie Hum, Vice Chair
Barry Dalrymple
Jennifer Watts
Darren Fisher
Jackie Barkhouse
Lorelei Nicoll
Dawn Sloane

STAFF: Mr. Phillip Townsend, Director, IAM
Ms. Krista Vining, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. in the Dartmouth Chamber, 90 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 7, 2011

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Sloane that the minutes of July 7, 2011 be approved, as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Additions:

- 9.1 Councillor Hum re: Kearney Lake Elevated Water/Dams
- 9.2 Information Item 1 - Information Report dated July 8, 2011 re: UNSM Resolutions
- 9.3 Information Item 2 - Information Report dated July 10, 2011 re: Stormwater Management Functional Plan
- 9.4 Information Item 4 - Briefing Note dated August 4, 2011 re: Proposed Changes to the Nova Scotia Environment Act

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

A brief discussion was held respecting the procedure for staff reports. It was noted that the Chair would review the possibility of holding joint Standing Committee meetings with the Municipal Clerk and Standing Committee Chairs.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

4.1 2011 Work Plan Review

A copy of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee's work plan for 2011 was before the Standing Committee.

The Standing Committee reviewed their work plan for 2011. It was noted that all Standing Committees' work plans are used as an agenda planning tool and are available on HRM's Common Drive (R:\HRM Common Directory\Agenda Planning - Standing Committees).

4.2 Status Sheet Review

A copy of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee's Status Sheet was before the Standing Committee.

It was noted that the Status Sheet will be provided to the Standing Committee at each meeting for review.

4.2.1 Save Our Lakes Policy Project

No update, item to remain on the Status Sheet.

4.2.2 Best Management Practices, Plans, Regulations & Policy to incubate Solar Energy

Report to be provided for December meeting, item to remain on the Status Sheet.

4.2.3 Resolutions for UNSM (see Information Item 1)

Matter addressed under Item 9.2, item removed from the Status Sheet.

4.2.4 Functional Plans Identified in Regional Municipal Planning Strategy

Update provided, staff report to be provided for September meeting. Item to remain on the Status Sheet.

4.2.5 Community Energy Plan

Update provided, awaiting staff report. Councillor Sloane noted the importance of identifying policies. Item to remain on the Status Sheet.

4.2.6 East Dartmouth Transmission Line Review

Staff report to be provided following the Harbour East Transmission Project – Public Advisory Committee’s open house to be held in September 2011, in conjunction with a presentation from the two Co-Chairs of HETPPAC. Item to remain on the Status Sheet.

4.2.7 Storm Water Management Functional Plan (see Information Item 2)

Matter addressed under Item 9.3. Item later removed from the Status Sheet.

4.2.8 Urban Forest Master Plan

Report to be provided for September meeting, item to remain on the Status Sheet.

4.2.9 Community Garden Heavy Metal Study

Letter sent to Dr. Gaynor Watson-Creed, Medical Officer of Health Capital Health, IWK Health Centre on June 2, 2011, awaiting response. Councillor Sloane suggested that once clarification is provided, that the information be made available on HRM’s website. Item to remain on the Status Sheet.

4.2.10 Electric Vehicles (see Information Item 3)

Matter addressed under Information Item 3 – Information Report from the Transportation Standing Committee dated July 13, 2011 re: Electric Vehicles. Item removed from the Status Sheet.

4.2.11 2020 Greenhouse Gas Corporate Reduction Target

Report to be provided for September meeting, item to remain on the Status Sheet.

4.2.12 Fair Trade Towns

Consultation required with Dalhousie University respecting the development of a Memorandum of Understanding with stakeholder community groups. Item to remain on the Status Sheet.

4.2.13 Regional Plan Timeline/Rural Road Standards

Report to be provided for September meeting, item to remain on the Status Sheet.

4.2.14 Community Monitoring Committee Letter

Matter under review by the Chief Administrative Officer. Once approved, the draft letter will be provided to the Standing Committee for review. Item to remain on the Status Sheet.

4.2.15 Proposed By-Law S-607, An Amendment to By-Law S-600, Respecting Solid Waste Resources Collection & Disposal –Diversion Opportunities

Awaiting staff report, projected for September/October meeting. Item to remain on the Status Sheet.

4.2.16 Pyritic Slate Process

Awaiting staff report, item to remain on the Status Sheet.

4.2.17 Green Approach to Procurement

Staff report to be provided for September meeting. Councillor Hum requested that report identify the scope of work that has already commenced through other business units. Item to remain on the Status Sheet.

In future the Clerk will follow up with staff before each meeting and provide an update for each of the items in the comments section of the Status Sheet.

Councillor Dalrymple exited the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

Item 6.3.1 was addressed at this time.

**6.3.1 Anna McCarron, SWEPS re: Proposed Regional Governance Model:
Dartmouth Area Watersheds Network**

Background information respecting the Proposed Regional Governance Model and map identifying the scope of Dartmouth Area Watersheds Network's focus was before the Standing Committee.

Ms. Anna McCarron, on behalf of the Dartmouth Area Watersheds Network, delivered a presentation to the Standing Committee and responded to questions of clarification respecting DAWN's Proposed Regional Governance Model.

**MOVED by Councillor Hum, seconded by Councillor Sloane, that the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee table the Dartmouth Area Watersheds Network's presentation respecting Proposed Regional Governance Model.
MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS

5.1 Request to Present: Elmsdale Landscaping Ltd. – Potential Private Sector Plans re: much of the source separated organics & related materials produced annually in Nova Scotia (deferred July 7, 2011)

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Extract of draft minutes – Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee July 7, 2011 meeting
- Email extract from Stephen King, King's Garden – Park and Enviro Planning, dated July 8, 2011 re: Elmsdale Landscaping Ltd.'s request to present
- Email submission from Stephen King, King's Garden – Park and Enviro Planning, dated July 6, 2011

Ms. Laurie Lewis, Diversion Planning Coordinator, Solid Waste Resources, advised that staff is currently undertaking a review of all HRM's compost processing options. She suggested that the Standing Committee hold off on all presentations respecting this matter until the review has been completed and staff can come forward with a report.

Following a brief discussion, the Standing Committee **agreed to defer Elmsdale Landscaping Ltd.'s request to present pending staff's report.**

5.2 Discussion re: Wind Turbines (deferred July 7, 2011)

Discussion on this matter was deferred pending the Halifax Regional Council public hearing process relative to Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law amendments which will regulate the location of wind turbines. This matter is to be considered by Council on August 16, 2011.

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

6.1 Correspondence – None

6.2 Petitions – None

6.3 Presentations

**6.3.1 Anna McCarron, SWEPS re: Proposed Regional Governance Model:
Dartmouth Area Watersheds Network**

Matter addressed earlier in the meeting, see page 7.

7. REPORTS – NONE

8. MOTIONS

8.1 Councillor Watts

“To request that the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee direct staff to:

- 1. Provide an update on the progress and status of Brownfield redevelopment plans, policies, strategies and initiatives;*
- 2. Request that the Green Municipal Brownfields Fund Program Manager provide a workshop for the development community outlining opportunities to fund offers; and*
- 3. Provide clarification regarding what the Green Municipal Brownfields Fund and other incentives offer.”*

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Nicoll that the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee direct staff to:

- 1. Provide an update on the progress and status of Brownfield redevelopment plans, policies, strategies and initiatives;**
- 2. Request that the Green Municipal Brownfields Fund Program Manager provide a workshop for the development community outlining opportunities to fund offers; and**
- 3. Provide clarification regarding what the Green Municipal Brownfields Fund and other incentives offer.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9. ADDED ITEMS

9.1 Councillor Hum re: Kearney Lake Elevated Water/Dams

MOVED by Councillor Hum, seconded by Councillor Sloane that the Environment and Sustainability:

- 1. Request a report outlining the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders in response to concerns raised respecting rising water levels in Kearney Lake**

and dam levels leading down to Paper Mill Lake and the impact on neighbouring communities, and

2. Forward a copy of the report to the Chebucto Community Council.

Councillor Hum indicated that the community has expressed concerned and is looking to hold a meeting with the Department of Environment. She has also contacted the local MLA as this is a Provincial matter.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.2 Information Item 1 - Information Report dated July 8, 2011 re: UNSM Resolutions

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Sloane that the Environment and Sustainability recommend that Halifax Regional Council forward three (3) resolutions regarding *Invasive Species, Eco Trust Funding and Sedimentation and Erosion Control*, as outlined in the Discussion section of the staff information report dated July 8, 2011, to the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities Annual Conference.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.3 Information Item 2 - Information Report dated July 10, 2011 re: Stormwater Management Functional Plan

Staff responded to questions of clarification respecting the Stormwater Management Functional Plan.

The Standing Committee agreed to remove this matter from the Status Sheet.

9.4 Information Item 4 - Briefing Note dated August 4, 2011 re: Proposed Changes to the Nova Scotia Environment Act

A brief discussion was held respecting the proposed changes to the Nova Scotia Environment Act.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded Councillor Sloane that the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council make a request to the Province asking for deferral of the deadline for three months respecting changes to the Nova Scotia Environmental Act.

Due to the time constraints of preparing a report to Council, Councillor Watts agreed to withdraw her motion and bring forward her request as an independent Councillor during the next Regional Council session.

10. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

11. NEXT MEETING DATE

The Standing Committee agreed to reschedule their September 1, 2011 meeting to September 8, 2011.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

Krista Vining
Legislative Assistant

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Information Report dated July 8, 2011 re: UNSM Resolutions
2. Information Report dated July 10, 2011 re: Stormwater Management Functional Plan
3. Information Report from the Transportation Standing Committee dated July 13, 2011 re: Electric Vehicles
4. Briefing Note dated August 4, 2011 re: Proposed Changes to the Nova Scotia Environment Act