

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

ENERGY AND UNDERGROUND SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
October 23, 2009

MINUTES

PRESENT: Councillor Sue Uteck, Chair
Councillor Jennifer Watts
Councillor Darren Fisher
Councillor Barry Dalrymple
Councillor Jackie Barkhouse

ABSENT: Councillor Stephen Adams
Councillor Debbie Hum, Vice Chair (regrets)

STAFF: Mr. Angus Doyle, Manager of Utilities Coordination
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. in the Media Room, City Hall.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Councillor Watts that the minutes of September 2, 2009 be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF ORDER OF BUSINESS / ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS:

None

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES/DEFERRED ITEMS: None

5. REPORTS:

5.1 Staff:

5.1.1 Energy Projects Update

Mr. Julian Boyle, Energy Auditor, Infrastructure and Asset Management provided a Power Point Presentation, bringing the Committee up to date on HRM's Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Projects and Initiatives. Some key points noted in his presentation were:

- \$6.8 million has been spent on energy projects over the last five years, with a saving of \$1,214,000 per year – providing an overall return on investment of 18.75%
- there is significant cost-sharing available from the Provincial and Federal governments.
- Improvements to lighting in buildings, greenhouse gas reductions, and maintenance costs have not been factored in. HRM is accumulating Greenhouse Gas Reductions and are at 50% in this regard.
- Projects highlighted include:
 - installation of 30 Vending Misers at a cost of \$7,500 and with savings of \$7,500 - a return on investment of 85% and it has

- The Sackville Landfill project by Highland Energy is reducing 100,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions per year; all other HRM Energy Efficiency initiatives have reduced a total of 10,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions.
- some projects, such as wind power and district energy have fallen by the wayside due to legislative changes which are required at the Provincial level.

Mr. Boyle responded to questions.

The Chair thanked Mr. Boyle for his presentation and put forward the following suggestions for when staff are ready to provide the presentation to Council:

- remind Council that all savings from the energy efficiency projects are being reinvested back into energy efficiency buildings or projects.
- include a comment in the presentation in regard to the expected project savings with Gordon R. Snow centre.
- the Sackville Landfill project is very interesting and suggested that a representative from Highland Energy be invited to speak for about 5 minutes; also, staff should offer to take Council on a tour of various sites.
- make reference to the wind energy project and district energy project as ongoing initiatives, and explain the legislative requirements in order for them to proceed.

5.1.2 Sweden Tour Report

Councillor Watts provided a presentation on the recent trip to Sweden that she participated in, along with some staff and other members from the Community. The focus of the tour was on the foundations of sustainability in that country, i.e. economic, social, and environmental and the integration of these concepts.

Following this presentation and the presentation on energy projects, the Chair suggested that they be forwarded to a meeting of Committee of the Whole for presentation to Council.

Ms. Donovan advised that Mr. Austin French was working on these two presentations,

7. **NEXT MEETING DATE** - November 20, 2009

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds
Legislative Assistant