

ENERGY AND UNDERGROUND SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES

April 16, 2010

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

REGRETS: Councillor Debbie Hum, Vice Chair  
Councillor Stephen Adams

STAFF: Mr. Angus Doyle, Manager of Utilities Coordination  
Ms. Mary Ellen Donovan, Municipal Solicitor  
Mr. Carl Yates, General Manager, Halifax Water Commission  
Mr. Richard MacLellan, Manager, Sustainable Environmental  
Management Office  
Mr. Julian Boyle, Energy Auditor  
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	CALL TO ORDER .....	3
2.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES .....	3
3.	APPROVAL OF ORDER OF BUSINESS / ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS . . . .	3
4.	BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES/DEFERRED ITEMS:	
4.1	Energy Efficiency Revision to ByLaw A-200 Automatic Machines . . . . .	3
5.	REPORTS:	
5.1	Staff: .....	4
5.1.1	Green Thermal Energy (GTU) .....	4
5.1.2	GHG Emission Initiatives .....	4
5.1.3	LED Street Light Project .....	4
5.1.4	Heritage Gas MOAA .....	4
5.2	Committee Members: .....	5
6.	ADDED ITEMS .....	5
7.	NEXT MEETING DATE .....	5
8.	ADJOURNMENT: .....	5

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. in the Media Room, City Hall.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOVED by Councillor Fisher, seconded by Councillor Dalrymple that the minutes of March 19, 2010 be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Addition:

In Camera: Property Matter: Correspondence from Matrix Consulting RE:  
Alderney 5 Project

**MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Fisher that the agenda, as amended be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES/DEFERRED ITEMS:**

**4.1 Energy Efficiency Revision to ByLaw A-200 Automatic Machines (*deferred from February 19, 2010 meeting*)**

- A supplementary information report dated April 5, 2010 was submitted.

Mr. Richard MacLellan, Manager, Sustainable Environmental Management Office advised that following up from February's meeting, staff had further discussion with representatives from the beverage industry and they came forward with a couple of options which did not involve a legislated approach. He added that staff are supportive of the option to enter into an agreement with Refreshments Canada to voluntarily improve the energy efficiency of its entire fleet by 25% over the next 3 years. He noted that Refreshments Canada were requesting it for 4 years, but staff feel 3 years is appropriate.

Mr. MacLellan responded to questions.

In response to a question in regard to timelines, Mr. MacLellan advised that if the Committee and Regional Council approved that this go forward, staff would work with industry on an agreement, and come back in one year with an update.

Councillor Uteck indicated that she was supportive of this approach, and that should things not work out as expected, the legislated approach is something that could be considered at that time.

At 10:12 a.m. Councillor Barkhouse entered the meeting.

**MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Councillor Fisher that in regard to energy efficiency initiative for vending machines, the Energy and Underground Services Advisory Committee recommend an overall Kwh Percentage Improvement Approach whereby Refreshments Canada enters into an agreement with the HRM to voluntarily improve the energy efficiency of its entire fleet by 25% over the next 3 years. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**5. REPORTS:**

**5.1 Staff:**

**5.1.1 Green Thermal Energy (GTU) (*verbal update*)**

Mr. Carl Yates, General Manager, Halifax Water Commission advised that staff have been pursuing a district energy opportunity in the Mill Cove area with Provident Development. He explained that an application for funding was submitted to Eco Trust, however this was not approved. Mr. Yates advised that without an external funding source, the project is not economically feasible for the Municipality and it would be very difficult to proceed. He noted that staff were informed of this decision informally and have not yet received official word in writing. Mr. Yates added that staff are still pursuing their studies and are doing their best to refine the cost, however, if it turns out that it is still in the range of \$3.5 million, the project does not look feasible. He advised that if staff do not pursue the project with Provident, they are reviewing the potential to carry out some conceptual studies of the Halifax Plant.

Ms. Mary Ellen Donovan advised that the Mayor intends to issue a letter within the next few days either to the Minister or Premier noting that the Province had initially showed strong support for this type of project and, in turning it down, this sends a mixed message to HRM.

**5.1.2 GHG Emission Initiatives**

It was noted that the staff report regarding this item was still in the signing-off process, therefore, it was deferred.

**5.1.3 LED Street Light Project (*verbal update*)**

Mr. Doyle advised that the Municipality's submission to Eco Trust for funding for streetlights was accepted and with the \$920,000 received from Eco Trust and \$150,000 received from Nova Scotia Power, staff are ready to move forward with a tender for 2200 street lights. Installation is expected by end of 2010.

**5.1.4 Heritage Gas MOAA**

- A draft staff report dated April 12, 2010 was submitted.

Mr. Doyle referred to the draft staff report and advised that it was currently going

through the review and sign-off process. He explained that the report recommends Council accept a new agreement with Heritage Gas, and that the main change with this agreement over the previous one is that it is more defined in terms of permit fees. Mr. Doyle advised that Heritage would pay on a permit basis rather than being billed quarterly. He added that a fee structure will be in place that reflects cost recovery of permits.

In response to a question, Mr. Doyle advised that staff will be moving to a classification system depending on the level of detail; adding that most of Heritage Gas permits will be a Class 2 or a 3, with 2 being a \$200 permit and 3 will be \$700. Category 4 would be a full cost recovery based on hours billed to the project. Mr. Doyle added that staff have identified a process map for the permitting process which will identify timelines in terms of responsibilities.

A discussion ensued and Ms. Mary Ellen Donovan noted that the Utility and Review Board has a hearing scheduled on May 12 and staff are hoping for a decision on that date because of potential project disruptions that may occur if the decision were delayed. She noted that it was a 'paper' hearing but there is the option to submit comments and she suggested that the Councillors of the affected areas could present letters noting the timeline challenges.

The Chair suggested that staff could assist in drafting letters for the Councillors whose districts are in the area of the proposed gas line and have them submitted for the Utility and Review Board's hearing.

**5.2 Committee Members:** None.

**6. ADDED ITEMS**

**7. NEXT MEETING DATE** - May 21, 2010

**8. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 p.m. The Committee then convened an in camera meeting.

Sheilagh Edmonds  
Legislative Assistant