

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 6, 2011

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

REGRETS: NONE

STAFF: Mr. Phillip Townsend, Director, Infrastructure and Asset
Management
Mr. Gord Helm, Manager, Solid Waste Resources
Mr. Richard MacLellan, Manager, Sustainable Environment
Management Office
Mr. Angus Doyle, Manager, Utilities Coordination
Ms. Krista Tidgwell, Legislative Assistant

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. CALL TO ORDER.....	4
2. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR.....	4
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES	
3.1 SOLID WASTE RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE	
(i) September 23, 2010.....	5
(ii) November 25, 2010.....	5
3.2 ENERGY AND UNDERGROUND SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE	
(i) October 15, 2010	5
4. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS.....	5
5. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS	
5.1 Correspondence – None	5
5.2 Petitions - None.....	5
5.3 Presentations	5
5.3.1 Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee Overview (update by Cathy Mellett & Phil Townsend).....	5
6. REPORTS	
6.1 SOLID WASTE RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE	
6.1.1 Solid Waste Resources Operational Issues Overview	7
6.2 ENERGY AND UNDERGROUND SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE	
6.2.1 Sustainable Environment Management Office Overview.....	7
6.2.2 Update on Utility Issues and Initiatives	8
6.3 STAFF REPORT	
6.3.1 Second Generation LED Street Light Pilot Project	8
7. ADDED ITEMS	
7.1 Information Item 1 - Briefing Form dated January 6, 2011 re: Update: Solar City Initiative.....	9

7.2 Information Item 7 - Information Report dated December 17, 2010 re: Provincial Water Resource Management Strategy.....	9
8. NEXT MEETING DATE	
8.1 Proposed 2011 Meeting Schedule	10
9. ADJOURNMENT	10

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Legislative Assistant called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

The Legislative Assistant called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee for the 2011 term.

Councillor Watts nominated Councillor Hum.

Councillor Nicoll nominated Councillor Lund.

There being no further nominations, both Councillors Hum and Lund provided comments in support of their nomination.

Following a vote by way of secret ballot, Councillor Lund was declared Chair for the 2011 term.

The Legislative Assistant called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee for the 2011 term.

Councillor Lund nominated Councillor Hum.

Councillor Watts nominated Councillor Sloane.

There being no further nominations, both Councillors Hum and Sloane provided comments in support of their nomination.

Councillor Barkhouse entered at the meeting at 10:09 p.m.

Following a vote by way of secret ballot, Councillor Hum was declared Vice-Chair for the 2011 term.

Councillor Lund assumed the Chair at 10:12 p.m. and the Legislative Assistant took her seat.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 SOLID WASTE RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(i) September 23, 2010

(ii) November 25, 2010

MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Nicoll, that the minutes of September 23, 2010 and November 25, 2010 be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3.2 ENERGY AND UNDERGROUND SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(i) October 15, 2010

MOVED by Councillor Hum, seconded by Councillor Sloane, that the minutes of October 15, 2010 be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

- 7.1 Information Item 1 - Briefing Form dated January 6, 2011 re: Update: Solar City Initiative
- 7.2 Information Item 7 - Information Report dated December 17, 2010 re: Provincial Water Resource Management Strategy

Councillor Watts requested that staff arrange site visits to the various HRM Solid Waste Resource facilities, to which the Committee agreed.

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

5. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

5.1 Correspondence – None

5.2 Petitions - None

5.3 Presentations

5.3.1 Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee Overview *(update by Cathy Mellett & Phil Townsend)*

The following was circulated to the Committee:

- A draft copy of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee Terms of Reference.

- A copy of the presentation entitled: First Meeting Standing Committee on Environment & Sustainability.

Ms. Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk, and Mr. Phil Townsend, Director, Infrastructure and Asset Management, delivered a presentation to the Committee.

Ms. Mellett provided a brief overview of the Committee's draft Terms of Reference and suggested that they review/discuss this at their next meeting. She noted that there is a requirement to appoint an HRM representative to the Provincial Chairs Committee, indicating that the Chair of the former Solid Waste Resource Advisory previously held this position. As well, the Committee has the opportunity to recommend to Halifax Regional Council one of HRM's liaison appointments to the Halifax Water Commission. She suggested that these appointments be made at their next meeting.

Ms. Mellett further indicated that staff will be bringing forward a recommendation report to discuss the work staff has been doing over the last year with watershed advisory committees and direction to consider moving to policy based advisory committees due to the substantial support costs. The existing watershed advisory committee's will remain as status quo until the Committee has made a recommendation to Regional Council.

Councillor Watts referred to the structure of the Committee's webpage and made the following suggestions:

- provided information links respecting related HRM webpages (ie. Solid Waste Resources webpage)
- identify that meetings are open to the public
- provide links to meeting minutes
- identify the public participation component and whether there will be opportunities for presentations

Ms. Mellett advised that the Committee's webpage has been established with sections related to the agendas and minutes. Additional links to other HRM's webpages will be taken into consideration. The Standing Committees operate under Admin Order 1 and therefore, a formal request to make a presentation would be made through the Clerks Office (clerks@halifax.ca). Ms. Mellett indicated that there is no formal public participation under the Committee's structure; there are requests to present which are reviewed as part of the agenda.

In response to a comment made by Councillor Hum respecting discussions around climate change initiatives and other good news stories, Mr. Townsend noted that this could be added as a category to the Committee's Terms of Reference during the review.

Councillor Nicoll suggested the possibility of having an information bullet on the Committee webpage respecting the oval, climate change and other related issues.

In response to a question raised by Councillor Nicoll, Mr. Townsend indicated that Ken Reashor, Director/Traffic Authority, Transportation and Public Works (TPW), is the main contact for transportation matters. TPW will play a key role in speaking to this Committee and making presentations as required that relates to suitability.

6. REPORTS

6.1 SOLID WASTE RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

6.1.1 Solid Waste Resources Operational Issues Overview

A briefing form dated January 6, 2011 entitled: Solid Waste Resources Operational Issues Overview was before the Committee.

Mr. Gord Helm, Manager, Solid Waste Resources, introduced Laurie Lewis, Diversion Planning Coordinator and Robert Orr, Collection & Processing Coordinator of Solid Waste Resources and provided an overview of the January 6th briefing form.

Staff responded to a number of questions regarding the proposed revisions to By-law S-600. Note was made that the report to Regional Council included information regarding the use of transparent bags.

Further points noted by staff during the Committee's ensuing discussion:

- a briefing note will be prepared and provided for the next meeting respecting HRM's existing contracts
- By-law enforcement is undertaken by By-law and their resources and staff are responsible to conduct the oversight tours of the commercial facilities and neighbourhoods to identify where the issues are and provide direct engagement with those individuals/facilities; Solid Waste Resources works with By-law Enforcement respecting waste management concerns; HRM has three (3) compliance officers who inspect HRM's facilities and four (4) education officers

6.2 ENERGY AND UNDERGROUND SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

6.2.1 Sustainable Environment Management Office Overview

A briefing form dated January 6, 2011 entitled: Presentation: Brief SEMO Overview was before the Committee.

An overview of the Sustainable Environment Management Office was circulated to the Committee.

Mr. Richard MacLellan, Manager, Sustainable Environment Management Office provided an overview of the Sustainable Environment Management Office to the Committee.

Councillor Dalrymple suggested that staff provide their list of items (ie. environmental and cost saving ideas) they consider would be achievable over the next few years.

In response to a question raised by Councillor Nicoll regarding pesticide issues, Mr. MacLellan noted that there will continue to be lobbying from both sides regarding the Pesticide By-law and how HRM will integrate with the Provincial Regulations. The Committee can choose to bring forward recommendations to Regional Council should they want to make changes to the By-law. Over the next few months the Committee can discuss whether they want to do a communication piece to the public identifying which products are not permitted under the By-law. Mr. MacLellan further noted that there are issues regarding signage, buffer zones and restricted areas that can also be discussed over the next few months.

6.2.2 Update on Utility Issues and Initiatives

A copy of the presentation entitled: Update on Utility Issues and Initiatives was before the Committee.

Mr. Angus Doyle, Manager, Utilities Coordination, delivered a presentation to the Committee.

Staff responded to questions raised by the Committee regarding undergrounding of infrastructure and street lighting.

6.3 STAFF REPORT

6.3.1 Second Generation LED Street Light Pilot Project

A staff report dated December 21, 2010 entitled: Second Generation LED Street Light Pilot Project was circulated to the Committee.

Mr. Angus Doyle, Manager, Utilities Coordination, provided an overview of the December 21, 2010 staff report.

MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Barkhouse, that the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council approve:

- 1. HRM's participation in a two year LED street lighting pilot project which is designed to test, measure and validate variables of a second generation LED technology;**

2. **An increase to capital project CBX01161 of \$300,000 to install 2400+ additional LED street lights in HRM as part of the pilot project; and**
3. **A withdrawal of \$300,000 from Q131 Energy and Underground Services Co-location Reserve to fund the increase in CBX01161. All savings derived from the project will be transferred back to Q131 to comply with the requirements of the reserve and fund future energy efficiency projects.**

The Committee entered into a brief discussion.

In response to a question raised by Councillor Nicoll, Mr. Angus Doyle, Manager, Utilities Coordination, advised that the LED lights have a life expectancy of close to 20 years and HRM is asking for a 10 year warranty.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

7. ADDED ITEMS

7.1 Information Item 1 - Briefing Form dated January 6, 2011 re: Update: Solar City Initiative

In response to a question raised by Councillor Lund, Mr. Richard MacLellan, Manager, Sustainable Environment Management Office, clarified that the 48,000 is the estimated number of man hours for installation. Staff requested that the Greater Halifax Partnership provide an economic multiplier that can be applied to this project for economic benefit. Mr. MacLellan further indicated that he and Julian Boyle, Energy Auditor, Facility Development, Infrastructure and Asset Management, are presently working on this project. If this project moves forward, project management resources would be required; however, this would be self contained/paid for and there would be no further stress on staff.

7.2 Information Item 7 - Information Report dated December 17, 2010 re: Provincial Water Resource Management Strategy

In response to a question raised by Councillor Watts respecting how the report will be integrated with HRM's Regional Plan, Mr. Richard MacLellan, Manager, Sustainable Environment Management Office, advised that the two main concerns staff has is respecting water quality and water management, which will have a profound impact on planning work.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE

8.1 Proposed 2011 Meeting Schedule

A copy of the Proposed 2011 Meeting Schedule was before the Committee for review.

Following a brief discussion it was, **MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Sloane, that the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee approve the Proposed 2011 Meeting Schedule as presented; meeting the first Thursday of each month from 1-4 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Nicoll, to bring forward the In Camera information report for the next meeting for discussion. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Krista Tidgwell
Legislative Assistant

INFORMATION ITEMS
January 6, 2011

1. Briefing Form dated January 6, 2011 re: Update: Solar City Initiative
2. Briefing Form dated January 6, 2011 re: Student Intern: Municipal Solar Policy Opportunities
3. Briefing Form dated January 6, 2011 re: Community Recreation Centre Solar Hot Air Initiative
4. Briefing Form dated January 6, 2011 re: Provincial Pesticide Regulations
5. Email from UNSM dated December 21, 2010 re: "Water for Life" News Release and Official Online Document
6. Information Report dated December 17, 2010 re: FCM Sustainable Communities Conference
7. Information Report dated December 17, 2010 re: Provincial Water Resource Management Strategy
8. Correspondence to Honourable Sterling Belliveau from Mayor Peter Kelly dated December 13, 2010 re: Environmental Goals and Sustainable Prosperity Act (EGSPA) Targets