

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES

July 7, 2011

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

REGRETS: Councillor: Lorelei Nicoll
Dawn Sloane

STAFF: Mr. Phillip Townsend, Director, IAM
Mr. Richard MacLellan, Manager, SEMO
Mr. Gord Helm, Manager, SWR
Mr. Angus Doyle, Manager Utilities Coordinator, TPW
Ms. Krista Tidgwell, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 2, 2011

MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Councillor Watts that the minutes of June 2, 2011 be approved, as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

- 6.1.3 Correspondence from Dan O’Sullivan, Sweet Cheeks Diaper Service, dated July 4, 2011 re: impact of disposable diapers in landfill
- 8.1 Councillor Watts – Request for Staff Report re: Resolutions for UNSM
- 8.2 Councillor Watts – Request for Staff Report re: Review Functional Plans Identified in the Regional Municipal Planning Strategy
- 8.3 Councillor Watts – Request for Staff Report re: Status of the Community Energy Plan
- 9.1 Information Item 6 – Briefing Note dated July 7, 2011 re: Compost & Recycling Videos
- 9.2 Councillor Fisher – Request for Presentation re: Dartmouth Watershed
- 9.3 Councillor Watts – Discussion re: Wind Turbines
- 9.4 Information Item 2 – Information Report dated June 20, 2011 re: Requests for Presentation

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

- 4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE**
- 5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE**

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

6.1 Correspondence

- 6.1.1 Email submission from John Power dated May 27, 2011**
- 6.1.2 Email submission from Art & Nancy Herve dated May 25, 2011**
- 6.1.3 Email submission from Dan O’Sullivan, Sweet Cheeks Diaper Service, dated July 4, 2011 re: impact of disposable diapers in landfill**

Correspondence accepted, as presented.

6.2 Petitions – None

Item 7.1.1 - Save our Lakes Policy Project was discussed at this time.

7.1.1 Save Our Lakes Policy Project

A staff report dated June 15, 2011 was before the Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Fisher that the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee:

- 1. Accept the summation report as outlined in Attachment 1 of the June 15, 2011 staff report;**
- 2. Direct staff to arrange a two hour workshop in September to discuss the community recommendations and community input/submission, and provide a recommendation for prioritization of actions and direction to staff; and**
- 3. Forward a copy of the June 15, 2011 staff report to the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee as an Information Report.**

Councillor Barkhouse entered the meeting at 1:25 p.m.

Councillor Fisher requested inviting Ms. Anna McCarron of the Shubenacadie Watershed Environmental Protection Society (SWEPS) make a presentation at the next meeting respecting the Dartmouth Watershed, to which the Standing Committee agreed.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

6.3 Presentations

6.3.1 Heritage Gas re: 2011 Update/Expansion Issues

A copy of the presentation was before the Standing Committee.

Mr. Jim Bracken, President of Heritage Gas, introduced himself and Mr. Michelle Sarrouy, Vice President of Engineering and Construction, Heritage Gas and delivered a presentation to the Standing Committee.

A brief discussion was held on the update, with the Chair thanking Mr. Bracken for the presentation.

6.3.2 Our HRM Alliance re: Regional Municipal Planning Strategy

A copy of the presentation, along with background materials was before the Standing Committee.

Ms. Jennifer Powley, Our HRM Alliance Coordinator with the Ecology Action Centre, introduced herself and members of Our HRM Alliance and delivered a presentation to the Standing Committee.

Discussion was held on Our HRM Alliance's role in the review of the Regional Municipal Plan Strategy, with the Chair thanking Ms. Powley for the presentation.

7. REPORTS

7.1 STAFF REPORTS

7.1.1 Save our Lakes Policy Project

Matter discussed earlier in the meeting, see page 4.

7.2 MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEE

7.2.1 Councillor Watts – Request for Report re: Best Management Practices, Plans, Regulations and Policy to incubate Solar Energy

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Barkhouse that the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee request a staff report outlining the best management practices, plans, regulations and policy to incubate Solar Energy. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

7.3 MOTIONS/REQUESTS FROM OTHER STANDING COMMITTEES

7.3.1 Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee

An email extract of Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee follow up from June 9, 2011 meeting was before the Standing Committee.

The Standing Committee reviewed the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee's request for a copy of the Environment and Sustainability's work plan and information on how the initiatives will be achieved. It was noted that concerns have been raised regarding the extensive work outlined in the staff report on electric vehicles and the staff resources that would be required.

During the discussion, concern was expressed with sharing work plans with just one Standing Committee, noting that if work plans are to be shared then it should be done so amongst all Standing Committees.

It was noted that all Standing Committee work plans are available on the R: drive under HRM's Common Directory.

The Standing Committee requested the Clerk provide a copy of their work plan for review at the next meeting.

Councillor Dalrymple exited the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

8. MOTIONS

8.1 Councillor Watts – Request for Staff Report re: Resolutions for UNSM

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Hum that the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee direct staff to provide a report outlining the Provincial Invasive Species Strategy, Eco Nova Scotia Municipal Program and Nova Scotia Environment: Sedimentation Control Plans, including draft resolutions for consideration by the Standing Committee for the August 4, 2011 meeting.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

8.2 Councillor Watts – Request for Staff Report re: Review Functional Plans Identified in the Regional Municipal Planning Strategy

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Hum that the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee:

- 1. Direct staff to provide a report outlining the functional plans identified in the Regional Municipal Planning Strategy in order to identify the functional plans that impact environment and sustainability issues; and**
- 2. Direct staff to develop three (3) to five (5) priorities for each of the plans that are linked to the environment and sustainability in order to inform the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee of issues that need to be considered in the overall Regional Plan review.**

Councillor Lund requested a status update respecting the Standing Committee's motion of April 7th regarding timeline of the Rural Road Standards within the Regional Plan review.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

8.3 Councillor Watts – Request for Staff Report re: Status of the Community Energy Plan

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Fisher that the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee direct staff to provide a report outlining the current status of the Community Energy Plan and how the recent decisions around the COMFIT program, Solar City, district energy projects, NSPI hearings, and Heritage Gas hearings impact the plan and provide guidance on possible updates/changes that need to be considered to the plan.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9. ADDED ITEMS

9.1 Information Item 6 - Briefing Note dated July 7, 2011 re: Compost & Recycling Videos

Due to time constraints, staff advised that the videos are available online at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VNmMHES29G8>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AXegj_MRb7Y

9.2 Councillor Fisher – Request for Presentation re: Dartmouth Watershed

This matter was discussed under Item 7.1.1 – Save Our Lakes Policy Project, see page 4.

9.3 Councillor Watts – Discussion re: Wind Turbines

Item deferred to the next meeting.

9.4 Information Item 2 – Information Report dated June 20, 2011 re: Requests for Presentation

Information Report dated June 20, 2011 re: Requests for Presentation was before the Standing Committee.

The Standing Committee requested that Mr. Stephen King of King's Gardens – Park and Enviro Planning provide additional background information respecting Elmsdale Landscaping's presentation before making a decision.

10. NOTICES OF MOTION

10.1 Councillor Watts

“Take notice that at the next regular meeting of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee to be held the 4th day of August, 2011, I intent to make a motion 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.”

11. NEXT MEETING DATE – August 4, 2011

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Krista Tidgwell
Legislative Assistant

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Information Report dated April 28, 2011 re: Environmental and Social Implications: LED Streetlight Conversion
2. Information Report dated June 20, 2011 re: Requests for Presentation
3. Briefing Note dated July 7, 2011 re: Nova Scotia Youth Conservation Corps Project
4. Briefing Note dated July 7, 2011 re: Copy of Presentation from Green Build Atlantic
5. Briefing Note dated July 7, 2011 re: Curbside Give Away Event Weekend
6. Briefing Note dated July 7, 2011 re: Compost & Recycling Videos
7. Briefing Note dated July 7, 2011 re: Additional Plastics: Advertising & Communications Campaign
8. Briefing Note dated July 7, 2011 re: HRM's Super Sorter Program
9. Briefing Note dated July 7, 2011 re: Litter Clean-ups & Communications