



**ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY  
STANDING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
July 3, 2014**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Barry Dalrymple, Chair  
Councillor Jennifer Watts, Vice-Chair  
Councilor Bill Karsten  
Councilor Lorelei Nicoll  
Deputy Mayor Darren Fisher  
Councillor Reg Rankin

**REGRETS:** Councilor Steve Craig

**STAFF:** Mr. Mike Labrecque, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Mr. Richard Maclellan, Manager Energy and Environment  
Mr. Gord Helm, Manager Solid Waste Resources  
Ms. Laurie Lewis, Diversion Coordinator  
Mr. Josh Judah, Solicitor  
Mr. Quentin Hill, Legislative Assistant

*The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.*

*The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m., the Standing Committee moved into an In Camera session at 3:20 p.m. and the Standing Committee adjourned at 3:30 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 1, 2014**

**MOVED by Councillor Karsten, seconded by Deputy Mayor Fisher that the May 1, 2014 minutes be approved as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Councillor Watts reminded staff that the Committee would be looking for regular updates on the Community Energy Plan.

Councillor Rankin requested that staff provide an update on the status of the request sent to the province looking for an extension of input to the Provinces Solid Waste Regulatory review.

**MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Nicoll that the agenda be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

**5. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE**

**6. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE**

**7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE**

**8. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

**8.1 Correspondence - None**

**8.2 Petitions - None**

**8.3 Presentation**

**8.3.1 Nova Scotia Nature Trust**

Ms. Bonnie Sutherland Executive Director with the Nova Scotia Nature Trust (NSNT) provided a presentation to the Committee on the 100 Wild Islands Campaign. The NSNT was seeking HRM's support for the project. She explained that NSNT is embarking on the 100 Wild Islands campaign that will create a nationally significant protected area HRM. Ms. Sutherland explained that this coastal wilderness will encompass an area the size of Fundy National Park and felt that it could be a tremendous asset for HRM. The area is located from Taylor Head to Clam Harbour Beach, NS. Ms. Sutherland advised that the Nature Trust has raised \$ 4 million of the \$7 million needed to protect the lands. She encouraged the Committee to request Regional Council support the campaign with a \$500,000 dollar donation.

Councillor Hendsbee asked how this reserve would promote eco-tourism in the area.

Ms. Sutherland stated that there was a movement to protect the lands in the 1960's as a National Park but it was met with resistance. She further added that eco-tourism was not in the Nature Trust mandate

but noted there is an initiative led by the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce and with ACOA support on how they can use this area to leverage some development and eco-tourism.

Councillor Karsten questioned how the 100 wild islands project will proceed if the other 20% of private property owners do not want to buy into the project.

Ms. Sutherland advised that while they have commitment on most of the islands there is still a lot of work to be done. She stated that there are already small cabins on some of the lands but they have a very low impact on the overall area. The remaining islands are also not extensive enough that would allow any real development on them so the Nature Trust is confident that it will not be an issue.

**MOVED by Councillor Watts seconded by Councillor Rankin that ESSC refer the presentation by NS Nature Trust to staff and request a staff report including the following information:**

- **Look at what requests that are currently before Council for the acquisition of land with dates and amounts of lands being considered and the financial costs to those commitments;**
- **to look at what previous commitments to similar campaigns HRM has been involved in with the NS Nature Trust.**
- **Identify any municipal lands that may be located in the area.**

Discussion on the motion ensued.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### **8.3.2 Sustane Technologies/Nova Renew**

Mr. Peter Vinall, CEO of Sustane Technologies and Mr. William Porter, Vice President of Nova Renew Incorporated provided the presentation to the Committee. They explained that the two companies are working together under a Memorandum of Understanding.

Mr. Vinall provided the following highlights/clarification to the Committee:

- Sustane Technologies Inc. is a technology company with a focus on commercializing and marketing new ways to extract fuels from municipal solid waste.
- Core technology extracts high purity biomass fuel from mixed municipal waste streams. The purity makes the biomass valuable as a fuel and it can be burned in a typical industrial boiler/heater.
- Environmental benefits include; greenhouse gas reduction, no leachates.
- Plant currently operating in Spain with second plant targeted for Nova Scotia.
- Nova Renew Inc. will take the unrecyclable plastics and convert it into fuel through a polymerization process.
- HRM Proposal is to divert approximately 60,000 tonnes from the Otter Lake Facility.

Mr. Porter provided the following highlights from Nova Renew Inc. to the Committee:

- Nova Renew is using licensing proven technology already installed in China, Europe and the United States
- Converts end of life plastic to value added road grade fuel through a patented reverse polymerization technology.
- Patent pending technology for volume reduction of Styrofoam.
- Nova Renew process is closed looped and will not change any operation at the Otter Lake site.
- The technology is not; high temperature thermal conversion, plasma gasification, incineration and does not produce conventional pyro-oil that requires additional processing.

The Chair thanked the presenters and opened the floor to further questions from the Committee.

A number of Councillors recommended that Sustane Technologies and Nova Renew Inc. forward their business case to staff and requested that staff come back with a report on their business case.

**MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Karsten forward the presentations from Sustane Technologies Inc. and Nova Renew Inc. to staff and request a staff report on their business case.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9. REPORTS**

**9.1 STAFF**

**9.1.1 Clean Foundation Memorandum of Understanding**

The following was before the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee:

- A recommendation report dated May 5, 2014

**MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Nicoll that the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee extend an invitation to Clean Foundation to attend the committee on an annual basis and present on current activities, successes, and recommend opportunities to collaborate with the Halifax Regional Municipality.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.2 REGIONAL WATERSHED ADVISORY BOARD**

**9.2.1 Tantallon Servicing Study Report**

The following was before the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee:

- *A recommendation report dated May 5, 2014*

The Committee agreed to deal with all three reports, 9.2.1; 9.2.2; and 9.3.3 at the same time.

In response to Councillor Rankin, Ms. Maureen Ryan, Senior Planner advised that the Committee was not approving anything but to request staff to draft a report to consider the recommendations in the three reports.

**MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Rankin that the ESSC request staff review the Tantallon Servicing Study Report, Musquodoboit Harbour Watershed Studies Report and the Porters Lake Watershed Servicing Study Report and prepare one report integrating the recommendations of the three reports and that report be brought back to the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.2.2 Musquodoboit Harbour Watershed Studies Report**

The following was before the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee:

- *A staff recommendation/information report dated June 23, 2014*

This matter was addressed under item 9.2.1. See above.

**9.2.3 Porters Lake Watershed Servicing Study Report**

The following was before the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee :

- *A recommendation report dated June 23, 2014.*

This matter was addressed under item 9.2.1. See page 4.

### **9.3 REGIONAL CHAIRS UPDATE**

Councillor Watts provided the Regional Chairs update to the Committee. She advised at the last meeting there had been a lot of discussion on the RFB AGM. She added that there is a letter coming from the Regional Chairs concerned about funding options for municipalities around education and will go to the Provincial Minister to request a meeting to look at further funding options.

### **10. MOTIONS - NONE**

### **11. IN CAMERA**

The Committee convened in camera at 3:20 p.m.

#### **11.1 Personnel Matter**

##### **11.1.1 Citizen Appointment to the Board of Halifax Water – Private and Confidential Report**

This matter was addressed during an in camera session.

### **12. ADDED ITEMS - NONE**

### **13. NOTICES OF MOTION - NONE**

### **14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – July 31, 2014**

### **15. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Quentin Hill  
Legislative Assistant