MINUTES
SWMMP Steering Committee Meeting #07-09
Hamilton City Centre, 77 James Street North, Room 320B
Wednesday August 12, 2009
9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Present:
Councillor Maria Pearson
Councillor Russ Powers
Beth Goodger, Director, Waste Management Division
Pat Parker, Manager of Solid Waste Planning, Waste Management Division
Fabiano Gondim, Acting Manager of Waste Disposal, Waste Management Division
Blair Smith, Manager of Waste Collection, Waste Management Division
Anne Winning, Supervisor of Policy and Planning, Waste Management Division
Adrienne Press, Policy Analyst, Waste Management Division

Regrets:
Councillor Chad Collins
Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
Jim Sweetman, Waste Reduction Task Force

1. Adoption of Agenda
Moved by Councillor Powers, seconded by Councillor Pearson:

   The agenda be approved as presented.

   CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting on June 15, 2009
Moved by Councillor Powers, seconded by Councillor Pearson:

   The minutes be approved as presented.

   CARRIED

3. Business arising from the minutes
Councillor Pearson indicated that the amendments to Property Standards By-Law 03-117 were recommended for approval at the Economic Development and Planning Committee meeting on Monday, August 11 and will go to Council on Thursday August 13. This amended by-law will allow property managers more flexibility in providing waste management programs in multi-residential properties and it supports the Solid Waste Management By-Law 09-067.

4. Diversion Program Updates
   4.1 Multi-Residential Diversion Implementation
Staff reported on the progress of the green cart program roll-out to multi-residential buildings. To date 77% of all buildings have received the organics program, this represents 778 buildings. Of the Phase 3 (larger) buildings, 44% of the buildings are now on program. A total of 19,026 of the 40,973 units in Phase 3 have received green carts. The roll-out is proposed to be complete by the end of the year. The roll-out is now into the A1 zone (lower City) and will begin B1 (Mountain) in September.
4.2 Diversion Options
Staff gave a presentation on the goal of 65% waste diversion and reporting back as directed in PW07157 “Status of Solid Waste Management Master Plan, Options for Increasing Diversion and Landfill Capacity”, November 2007 on how to achieve 65% diversion. Main points from the presentation include:

- Status of Solid Waste Management Master Plan (SWMMP) Recommendations
- Waste diversion progress
- What’s left for diversion
- What it means for diversion targets
- Additional diversion options – short term and long terms

Committee asked if staff estimates an increase of the number of households due to population growth. Staff confirmed that a growth factor is included to project waste quantities.

Committee requested that “Reusarama” be revisited. This was a very successful community event in Dundas.

Committee requested that an introduction to single stream recycling be given to the Steering Committee sometime in the future. Staff suggested a tour of a single stream recycling facility would also be informative.

Staff will bring more detailed information on short term options forward to the September Steering Committee and to Public Works Committee in October.

4.3 Financing Options
Staff gave a presentation on the sustainable financing options study that is underway. This is in follow-up to a 2007 Council direction for staff to review and evaluate potential of user pay or utility-based system and report back in 2009 once garbage container limits have been reduced.

The presentation outlined 7 options for user pay/utility-based systems:

1. Status Quo
2. Flat Fee, Property Tax, No Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT)
3. Flat Fee, no PAYT
4. Variable Fee (separately identified), full PAYT
5. Variable Fee (single fee), full PAYT
6. Flat Fee, Partial PAYT
7. Property Tax, Full PAYT

Committee enquired as to how the flat rate cost for waste management will be explained on the tax bill. Staff explained that decisions will need to be made in conjunction with the Finance tax staff to best present the cost to the community.

Three alternatives for PAYT were presented:

- One container/week, residents can buy bag tags for additional garbage
- One container/week, residents are provided 6 free tags to supplement garbage
- Residents are provided 58 tags per year

Staff’s suggested approach is the Flat Rate, Property Tax, Full PAYT:
• One container limit for garbage, effective April 2010
• 6 tags provided per household would be distributed in conjunction with waste collection calendar to be used as needed by resident through the year
• No need for grace periods
• Special Considerations still required, but on tag system
• Flat rate for collection, receipt and disposal of curbside garbage, plus cost associated with tag production and distribution and all other costs continuing to be on the property tax bill
• A program could be phased in over a number years to a full rate based system.

Methods of collecting fees were discussed. Committee suggested that if the flat rate is on the utility bill landlords would receive the bills if the tenant does not pay. If a flat rate were to be implemented, the Committee indicated a preference to collect the flat rate via the tax bill so that waste management costs are transparent and not part of a separate utility bill.

Staff indicated that there will be further detailed costing developed by the consultant. This will be back to the Steering Committee in September and a report will go to Public Works Committee in October.

Committee suggested that the diversion options and financing strategy presentations should be presented to the Steering Committee members who were absent at this meeting before the September Steering Committee meeting. Staff will try to meet with them.

5. Waste Reduction Task Force (WRTF) Update

Staff reported that the WRTF did not meet in July.

6. Operations Update

6.1 Transfer Station Renovations

Staff indicated that the contract for concrete floor renovations at Kenora Transfer Station should be finished August 22. The contractor will then move on to renovate the floors at Mountain and Dundas Transfer Stations.

The committee discussed the July 26 flooding impacts. The Public Works Department is gathering cost information to submit to the Province. Waste Management spent approximately $45,000 to clean up Mountain CRC’s flood damage. There was significant damage to the Rennie St. landfill and repair costs are estimated to be $300,000. The value of the lost landfill space is $75,000. In total it was estimated that Waste Management costs associated with the flood were valued at $430,000.

6.2 Glanbrook Landfill Building Renovations

The tender for landfill building renovations will close August 13. The mandatory bidders’ meeting was held the week of August 4th. The construction will begin in September and last approximately 6 to 7 weeks.

6.3 Recycling Program Update

Staff updated the committee that the recycling revenue is beginning to slowly increase.
6.4 Waste Collection Operations Relocation to the Material Recycling Facility
Staff indicated that they are moving forward toward the relocation of the waste collection operations to the MRF. The design is currently being finalized.

6.5 Green Cart Distribution
Staff indicated that the Information Update regarding Green Cart Distribution will be issued shortly. The trailer will be available from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. three days during the work week plus one of the three Community Recycling Centres for three consecutive Saturdays each month on a rotating basis from September to December 2009 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Residents can trade in a broken green cart for a new green cart.

7. Outstanding Action Items
A concern was expressed about security at Kenora CRC. Staff will address the concerns with the contractor.

8. Other Business
Staff announced regrettable news regarding the sudden death of Joe Scala, a Waste Collection Operator within our division. Joe leaves behind a wife and three (3) sons.
Staff reminded the committee that September 26 will be the Resource Recovery Centre Open House. The event will run from 10 am – 3 pm.

9. Next Meeting
The next meeting will be rescheduled to be in the afternoon of September 9, 2009 from 2 pm to 4 pm. There being no further business, the Committee adjourned 11:20 am.

Motion by Councillor Powers, Seconded by Councillor Pearson:

That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED
Distribution List:

SWMMP Steering Committee Members
Gerry Davis, General Manager, Public Works
Beth Goodger, Director, Waste Management Division
Pat Parker, Manager of Solid Waste Planning, Waste Management Division
Craig Murdoch, Manager of Disposal, Waste Management Division
Blair Smith, Manager of Collections, Waste Management Division