MINUTES
SWMMP Steering Committee Meeting #02-12
Hamilton City Hall, 71 Main Street West
Room 433
Wednesday February 8, 2012
2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Present:
Councillor Judi Partridge
Councillor Maria Pearson
Beth Goodger, Senior Director, Operations & Waste Management Division
Craig Murdoch, Director of Environmental Services
Pat Parker, Director of Support Services
Jennifer DiDomenico, Manager Policy and Programs
Adam Watson, Program Analyst
Jim Sweetman, Waste Reduction Task Force

Regrets:
Bryan Shynal, Director of Operations
Councillor Russ Powers

1. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Partridge, seconded by Councillor Pearson:
That the agenda be approved.

CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting on January 11, 2012

Moved by Councillor Partridge, seconded by Councillor Pearson:
That the minutes be approved as presented.

CARRIED

3. Business arising from the minutes

No business was brought up under this item.

4. Solid Waste Management Master Plan Review Update

Staff provided an update on the current status of the Solid Waste Management Master Plan Review. Staff spoke about the Information Report that was sent to PW Committee that presented the Draft Report for Council and community review. A survey on the draft report has been posted on the project website and a copy was provided to Councillors. Staff indicated they have received 50 completed surveys so far and a Facebook ad has been launched to direct people to the project website and the online survey.

Staff stated that further consultation with other stakeholders will be undertaken throughout this month. Discussion took place on plans to meet again with the Community Councils. Councillor Partridge requested that the link to the survey be sent to her to direct to the members of the Flamborough Community Council. Councillor Partridge will also include the survey in her e-news, on her website and will post it on her Twitter feed and direct this to the other Councillors who use Twitter.
Discussion took place on also running a PSA in the community newspapers.

5. Collection System Review Update

Staff provided information on follow up to the presentation at Monday’s PW Committee meeting. A one page information sheet has been prepared for Council to assess the costs of each of the available options for the proposed collection system. Discussion took place on how this information will be provided at the upcoming GIC meeting. The preferred options of the Collection System Review were also discussed, particularly the adoption of a tag system versus a voucher system for extra garbage at the CRC’s.

Staff provided information around the urgency of awarding the contracts for 2013. Staff provided some explanation on the timing issues around having trucks ready for the commencement of the contracts. Councillor Partridge noted some recent pushback from constituents and expressed the need for Council not to rush the decision so that everyone is comfortable with the system for the next seven years.

Councillor Partridge suggested having some YouTube clips prepared for people to be educated on certain waste diversion issues. Staff discussed some other options that could be used, such as Cable 14 and Daily Web TV.

6. Waste Reduction Task Force Update

Jim Sweetman provided a brief update indicating that the WRTF is not meeting monthly at this time, but may meet in April once there are more issues to address.

An inquiry was made into the possibility of diverting pet waste to the L&Y waste composting stream. Staff indicated that this is not possible to have the compost retain its high quality certification. Discussion took place on the reasons why this material can’t be dealt with in either of the City’s composting operations.

Jim Sweetman suggested holding a referendum to allow residents to decide on how the Collection System issue should be settled. Discussion took place on the feasibility of this and also on how the decision-making around this issue has been addressed by Council. Discussion took place on how sending the issue to GIC may allow for the decision to be successfully addressed.

7. Federal/Provincial Legislation and Regulations Update

Staff provided an update on the MHSW program and discussed the Information Update that was provided to Council to describe the current issues. The recent email from Stewardship Ontario to municipalities was discussed as well as the negotiations taking place with Hotz to continue processing MHSW material for the City outside of the Stewardship Ontario program. Staff stated that there is an existing contract in place with Hotz that would not lead to an increase in costs or a decreased level of service for residents. Discussion took place on how long the existing contract remains and how the new contract would be set up. Staff intends to continue the partnership with Halton to provide the same significant cost savings achieved under the current contract.

Staff will continue to update the committee on this matter. Discussion took place on how Council could support any initiatives to deal with the issue with Stewardship Ontario. Staff informed the committee that any lobbying or submissions will likely go through AMO or other municipal associations and staff will bring this to Council prior to signing on to these lobbying efforts.

Jim Sweetman also offered WRTF support to lobby industry groups and companies who should be supporting the proper functioning of the program, as well as Provincial government representatives.
8. Operations Update

8.1 Community Outreach
Staff indicated that the new calendar has been prepared and sent to print and will be mailed out next month. Also a mailer has been prepared to send out on bi-weekly collection in advance of the 2013 calendar.

8.2 Disposal Activities
Staff distributed an update on the January MRF revenues and discussion took place on the value of providing information to the public on how marketed recyclables offset a large piece of the current waste management budget.

Councillor Pearson made a comment on the positive experience she has had at both of the CRCs she recently visited.

8.3 Collections Activities
Discussion took place on the potential implications of contractor performance if the current contractor is not awarded the next contract. Staff provided information on how performance will be monitored and enforced through provisions in the contract.

9. Outstanding Action Items
No business was brought up under this item.

10. Other Business
No business was brought up under this item.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm.

Moved by Councillor Partridge, seconded by Councillor Pearson CARRIED

11. Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 8th, 2012, 2:00-3:30 PM, Hamilton City Hall, 71 Main St W, Room 433

Distribution List:
SWMMP Steering Committee Members
Gerry Davis, General Manager, Public Works
Beth Goodger, Senior Director, Operations and Waste Management Division
Pat Parker, Director of Support Services, Operations and Waste Management Division
Craig Murdoch, Director of Environmental Services, Operations and Waste Management Division
Bryan Shynal, Director of Operations, Operations and Waste Management Division
Jennifer DiDomenico, Manager of Policy and Programs, Operations and Waste Management Division
Jim Sweetman, Waste Reduction Task Force