MINUTES
SWMMP Steering Committee Meeting #02-11
Hamilton City Hall, 71 Main Street West
Room 816
Wednesday, February 9, 2011
10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Present:
Councillor Judi Partridge
Councillor Maria Pearson
Councillor Russ Powers
Craig Murdoch, Director of Environmental Services
Pat Parker, Director of Support Services
Jennifer DiDomenico, Manager of Policy and Programs
Blair Smith, Manager of Waste Collections
Dennis Guy, Project Manager of Community Outreach
Adam Watson, Policy/Program Analyst
Jim Sweetman, Waste Reduction Task Force

Regrets:
Beth Goodger, Senior Director, Operations and Waste Management Division
Bryan Shynal, Director of Operations

1. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Powers, seconded by Councillor Partridge:

That the agenda be approved.

CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting on January 12, 2010

Moved by Councillor Powers, seconded by Councillor Partridge:

That the minutes be approved as presented.

CARRIED

3. Business arising from the minutes

No business from the minutes.

4. SWMMP Review Update

4.1 January 24th Public Workshop Summary

Staff presented an overview of the workshop and the methods that feedback is being solicited from residents – including the workshop workbooks and the online survey at the www.hamiltonwastereview.ca website.

Staff stated that the consultant will be providing a summary of workshop findings in the next week.

Staff noted that there was a good diversity of participants and good input was provided from those who attended.
4.2 Next steps

Discussion took place on future workshops and Councillor Partridge indicated that she would like one to be held with her new community council in March or April.

Councillor Powers indicated that he would like to have the SWMMP Review as part of the Dundas Community Council meeting in March as well.

Staff also noted that a Councillor workshop is also being planned in follow-up to the dialogue at Public Works Committee last week.

5. Diversion Programs

Staff provided a presentation on the results of the diversion options report and the follow-up work being done to research and report back on issues raised at the February 7th Public Works Committee meeting. The discussion related to each diversion option is outlined below:

Recycling of street sweepings – Staff reported that the costs presented in the report have been verified. The request from Councillor Ferguson to verify in-house processing capability was completed previously and this information will be brought back to Public Works Committee.

Drywall recycling– Staff has followed up on the request to further investigate the Voortman plant as a possible recycling option. It has been verified that this facility acts as a transfer station for drywall and is not a processor. This information will be communicated back to Council. An inquiry was made into whether the processor would accept the material for free. Staff indicated that the processor has to charge a fee in that it is a for profit entity.

Leaf & Yard Waste – Staff outlined the issues raised at the Public Works Committee regarding the removal of grass from the Green Cart and Leaf & Yard Programs and the work being done to develop alternative arrangements to remove tonnage currently being sent to the CCF.

Councillor Powers emphasized the need to remove this material in order to maintain the existing contracts at the CCF and to minimize the breakage of green carts due to the presence of heavy, wet grass.

Jim Sweetman inquired on the number of broken green carts documented by the City. Staff is following up on this and plans to include these numbers in the report back.

Discussion took place on how other municipalities deal with grass. Many other municipalities do not accept grass in their green cart, as well as many don’t allow in leaf and yard programs.

Staff outlined the potential cost impacts from continuing to accept and process grass at the CCF and implications of eliminating contracts with outside municipalities in order to address the capacity pressures at the facility.

Discussion took place on the separate recommendations in the Public Works report and how they will go forward to Council. Councillors indicated that the recommendation pertaining to the removal of grass will be put forward to refer the matter to budget discussions.

Illegal Dumping – Staff outlined the follow-up taking place on this issue and discussion took place on what dumping takes place in the City. Councillor Powers noted that MLE staff is not following up consistently on this issue in Dundas. Staff noted that OWM and MLE staff are now collaborating to follow-up on dumping issues.

SWMMP Review Councillor Workshop – Staff indicated that a workshop has been requested for Councillors on the SWMMP Review. It is planned to take place as part of the June 13 General Issues Committee Meeting and will focus on the systems options that could be considered. Councillor Powers asked that the WRTF be invited to the workshop.
MRF Capital – Staff provided information on MRF Capital funding and how it relates to the current Collection System Review.

6. Collection System Review

Staff gave a presentation on the Activity Based Costing (ABC) work being done as part of the Collection System Review.

Discussion took place on how the current arrangement of public/private collection came into place and how the comparison of public and private costs has changed since the review was initiated in 2003. Staff outlined how the results of the ABC analysis will translate into the recommendations coming forward in the Scoping Report pertaining to the Collection System Review. Staff also indicated that they will provide information on the number of customer service calls received, comparing public and private collections.

Discussion took place on the RFP process that will take place following the Collection System Review. Staff provided information on the process commonly followed with waste management RFPs.

Discussion took place on comparing the findings of the ABC analysis and the current issues in the media surrounding the privatization of waste collection taking place in Toronto.

7. Waste Reduction Task Force Update

Jim Sweetman provided an update on the January WRTF meeting and reiterated that the majority of WRTF members support the removal of grass from the organics and leaf & yard programs.

Jim Sweetman provided a graph of single-family diversion projections. Councillor Pearson inquired whether the WRTF could be involved in the June GIC meeting with Councillors and whether this graph could be shown. Discussion took place and the preferred way to communicate this data to Councillors.

8. Federal/Provincial Legislation and Regulations Update

There was no business under this agenda item.

9. Operations Update

9.1 Community Outreach – 2011-12 Leaf & Yard Waste Schedule

Staff presented the work being done on the 2011 Waste Collection Calendar and the changes proposed in light of the new accessibility requirements in the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act. Discussion took place on the different options and Councillors expressed support for combining all current waste management print materials into one booklet and then sending out a calendar insert to provide the collection schedule for each year.

Discussion took place on the positive environmental impacts of the proposed printing process and the need to highlight this on the publication itself.

9.2 Disposal Activities

No updates were provided under this item.

9.2 Collection Activities

An update was provided on the impacts of the February 2\textsuperscript{nd} storm and the modifications to operations that were instituted, including switching Wednesday collection to Saturday and utilizing the waste fleet to assist with winter operations. Councillor Pearson noted that this
was the best handled snow event that she can remember and commended staff on their work.

Councillor Partridge inquired into how collection is dealt with in some of the tight/more constrained streets in Waterdown. Staff provided information on how staff deals with these issues and indicated how the Councillor can have these problems dealt with, should they occur again.

10. Outstanding Action Items

Staff addressed the two action items currently on the Outstanding Action Items List. It was noted that single-stream recycling would remain on the list until the Collection System Review Scoping report comes forward and this matter has been addressed. Councillor Powers made a request to possibly visit a single-stream facility. Staff suggested Peel would be a good choice and will look into arranging a tour. Councillor Powers asked that representatives from Niagara Region be invited as well.

Staff provided an update on the work undertaken regarding polystyrene densification and informed the Committee that it was determined that this was not economically feasible to pursue. Polystyrene will continue to be sent to the Port Hope facility for processing. Staff will bring any additional information on this matter to the Steering Committee if it becomes available. This item will now be removed from the Outstanding Action Items List.

11. Other Business

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Moved by Councillor Partridge, seconded by Councillor Powers CARRIED

12. Next Meeting: March 9, 2011, City Hall Room 718, 10:00 am

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