MINUTES

SWMMP Steering Committee Meeting #04-11
Hamilton City Hall, 71 Main Street West
Room 718
Wednesday, April 13, 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
Adam Watson, Policy/Program Analyst
Peter Hutton, Waste Reduction Task Force

Regrets:
Beth Goodger, Senior Director, Operations and Waste Management Division
Bryan Shynal, Director of Operations
Blair Smith, Manager of Waste Collections

1. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Partridge, seconded by Councillor Powers:

That the agenda be approved.

CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting on March 9, 2010

Moved by Councillor Partridge, seconded by Councillor Powers:

That the minutes be approved as presented.

CARRIED

3. Business arising from the minutes

No updates under this agenda item.

4. Solid Waste Management Master Plan Review Update

Staff provided an update on the SWMMP Review.

The Guiding Principles, Goals and Objectives workbooks have been sent out to all Councillors as requested. The workbook and summary is on the www.hamiltonwastereview.ca website and all participants have a chance to provide comments on the document.

The second public workshop will be held at the Courtyard Marriott Hotel on April 28th from 6:30-9:00 PM. The focus of the workshop will be on current waste programs and diversion rates and how to manage all waste streams up to 2036.

Staff stated that an Information Update on the review and the upcoming workshop is forthcoming.
It was stated that June 20th is the tentative date for the Councillor workshop to be held as a General Issues Committee meeting. Staff will continue to update the committee as the planning comes together.

Councillor Pearson requested that all Councillors receive a hardcopy in their mailbox to ensure they see it. Staff will follow up.

5. Waste Collection System Review

Staff provided an update on the upcoming Public Works Committee reports coming forward April 18th.

Councillor Powers expressed concern that a notice was needed to clarify these two projects so that Councillors don’t defer consideration on the CSR to the SWMMP Review as decisions need to be made now. Staff was asked to provide an email to Council on the SWMMP Review and Collection System Review to clarify how they are different.

Councillor Powers inquired into whether weekly garbage is being costed. Staff indicated that systems with weekly garbage collection are more costly. Councillor Powers stressed that staff need to be very clear on this in the report.

Councillor Pearson stated that staff needs to be very clear that it is only garbage collection and not green cart that is being considered for bi-weekly collection. Staff will provide this clarification.

Staff indicated that the Special Considerations Policy may need to be revisited to accommodate collection system changes.

6. Waste Reduction Task Force Update

Peter Hutton provided an update and noted that the three new WRTF members have been approved by Council. It was stated that some members of the WRTF feel that the SWMMP Review needs to improve the public engagement piece of the project.

7. Federal/Provincial Legislation and Regulations Update

Staff will be attending the Waste Diversion Ontario Annual General Meeting next week and will report back. Discussion took place on some of the current issues related to WDO and Stewardship Ontario, specifically the uncertainty and lack of information around the HSW program.

Councillor Partridge inquired if there was a timeline on when the new materials will be accepted into Phase 2 of the HSW program. Staff indicated that it was supposed to be July 1st, 2011 but no information has been provided on what the program would be.

Councillor Powers stated that AMO has expressed concern on this matter and is actively pursuing clarification from the Province prior to the fall election.

8. Operations Update

8.1 Community Outreach

Staff stated that the 2011 compost giveaways are beginning April 30th and an Information Update will be sent out to Council next week.

8.2 Collection & Disposal Activities

Staff provided an update on Disposal and Collections activities.

Seasonal leaf and yard waste collection has commenced, and collection arrangements have been made to divert portions of it from the CCF to the landfill processing facility.
Peter Hutton inquired into the budget implications for the changes in leaf and yard waste, staff indicated the changes would be implemented within the existing budget.

Councillor Powers stated that a solution still needs to be found to address grass in the green carts.

A small increase in CRC traffic was noted last weekend. Staff is hoping for a more gradual spring which will decrease the need for police traffic control during peak times.

Councillor Powers made a request for an update on MRF commodity prices, staff will provide this at the next meeting.

Councillor Pearson complimented staff on the operations at CRC Kenora and noted that improved signage has been implemented at all facilities.

Staff informed the committee that the issue of private access agreements will be brought to the May meeting.

Staff provided an update on the following proposed amendments to the waste management by-law:

- Clarification will be made regarding carcasses in the green cart that will allow for meat scraps/bones to be acceptable, but not wild animals. Staff indicated that ‘bona fide kitchen waste’ was the likely term that would be used to clarify the difference between kitchen wastes and wild animals.

- Amendments are proposed to remove tires as an acceptable bulk item, based on the availability of tire recycling opportunities. Councillor Partridge inquired into the possibility of running a tire drop-off event. Staff indicated this would be very costly and would be a legislative/CofA issue due to tires being a waste material. Councillor Powers requested information be prepared on where the tire depots are in the City. Staff will assemble a list of depots for each ward as part of the report.

- Clarification will be made for allowable garbage quantities for places of worship. Six containers per week is permitted, which is the same for commercial properties. Staff clarified that auxiliary halls at churches are not eligible for municipal service.

9. Outstanding Action Items

9.1 Region of Peel Single-Stream MRF Tour

It was agreed that June is the preferable month for the Peel tour. The Thursday June 9th Steering Committee date is the proposed date. Councillor Powers requested that representatives from Niagara and Haldimand be invited. Staff will follow up.

10. Other Business

10.1 Waste Collection in Condominium Developments (Request from M. Pearson)

Discussion took place on outstanding issues related to municipal collection service at some condominium developments. Staff noted that the problem exists at a small number of developments around the city and staff will be following up at some of these developments to try and find a resolution.

Councillor Partridge stated that a property in Waterdown is having a similar problem to Creekside Drive in Dundas. Staff provided background information on how this issue has come about and indicated that the City is looking at options to address it.
Councillor Powers stated that discussion is needed as a Committee to see if changes need to be put in place for ensuring proper waste collection access during the planning process. It was proposed that the City needs to remove the option for the developer to opt out of building the development so that it is conducive for municipal collection. This requirement should also not be appealable to the Committee of Adjustment. Staff indicated that this may not be something that is appealable as it’s not a planning document. Staff will be following up.

Peter Hutton noted that the WRTF will be making a similar motion to the proposed solution put forward by Councillor Powers.

Councillor Pearson noted that the waste collection and green cart issues have been resolved at City Hall and thanked staff for getting this addressed.

Councillor Pearson provided some information on an odour suppressant that is being sold by a constituent in her ward.

10.2 Committee Schedule – August meeting
Staff proposed to cancel the August meeting. All Councillors were in favour of it being cancelled.

Staff will look into rescheduling the May meeting and will be in contact regarding alternate dates.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:15am

Moved by Councillor Powers, seconded by Councillor Partridge  CARRIED

11. Next Meeting:  TBD

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