MINUTES
SWMMP Steering Committee Meeting #12-09
Hamilton Convention Centre, 1 Summers Lane, Room 206
Thursday, December 10, 2009
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Present:
Councillor Maria Pearson
Councillor Russ Powers
Councillor Chad Collins
Pat Parker, Acting Director, Support Services
Craig Murdoch, Acting Director, Environmental Services
Blair Smith, Acting Director, Operations
Jennifer DiDomenico, Manager, Policy and Programs
Anne Winning, Supervisor, Program Development
Jim Sweetman, Waste Reduction Task Force
Rūta Morkunas, Policy Analyst, Support Services

Regrets:
Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
Beth Goodger, Senior Director, Operations and Waste Management Division

1. Adoption of Agenda
The agenda was adopted as written.

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

CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting on November 11, 2009
Moved by Councillor Powers, seconded by Councillor Pearson:
The minutes be approved as presented.

CARRIED

3. Business arising from the minutes
Staff informed committee that the commenting period for the Minister’s report regarding the Waste Diversion Act 2002 review, “From Waste to Worth: The Role of Waste Diversion in the Green Economy” has been extended to February 1, 2010. The new deadline will permit staff to report to the Public Works Committee on January 18, 2010 and receive Council approval on January 27, 2010.

4. Diversion Program Updates
   4.1 Multi-Residential Diversion Implementation
Staff reported that the roll out was continuing very well. Some of the more difficult buildings are currently being addressed. City wide, 913 building of 1,076 are now receiving organics service. This represents 76% of all multi-residential units. Roll out will be suspended on December 15, 2009 for the holidays and start up again in January 2010.
4.2 Diversion Options

Staff is researching drywall diversion programs in other municipalities. Next week, staff will tour the New West Gypsum recycling facility in Oakville as well as Halton’s Waste Management site where they have a drywall collection bin. Staff will continue exploring the feasibility of a drywall diversion program in order to report back to Council in 2010.

Staff is investigating reusing/recycling of street sweepings as a diversion option. Last week, staff toured a “Flow-Kleen” facility. This is a company that is able to receive road sand/salt mixture (street sweepings), process it (feed it through a centrifuge to separate particles; wash it several times) and sell it back to the City for reuse on our roads for winter control operations. Staff acquired a sample of the end product to analyze and determine its suitability for use, i.e., that it meets necessary specifications. Flow-Kleen is approved to handle 150 tonnes per day of street sweepings. Staff will be developing a business case for this initiative once all the necessary information has been gathered.

Committee asked if the end product is the same for all municipalities. Staff responded that the Roads Section needs to confirm that the product meets specifications approved for our roads. Committee remarked that this would be an environmentally responsible initiative to pursue since it promotes sustainability by keeping it out of the water system, and reusing previously applied sand.

5. Federal/Provincial Legislation and Regulations Update

5.1 “From Waste to Worth” Report

Staff informed committee that they will report to the Public Works Committee regarding the “Waste to Worth” report. This report was discussed at the recent Waste Reduction Task Force (WRTF) meeting. Jim Sweetman of the WRTF told committee that in general, members like what the report is about, but they are cautious about how it may be implemented. They feel that when moving forward, there may be unintended consequences because Hamilton already has existing integrated waste management facilities. The staff report to the Public Works Committee on January 18th, 2010 will provide comments on the five themes of the transition section of the Minister’s report. Proposed changes to the Blue Box program may finally address the Industrial Commercial and Institutional (ICI) sector which currently has very low diversion. The initiative includes a landfill disposal levy which is concerning to staff because of its potential impact on residential taxpayers (double taxation). Staff has attended Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Waste Management Task Force meetings including a meeting with the Ministry of the Environment staff where the details of the Minister’s report were discussed and it raised a lot of questions. City staff support the concept of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and agrees that ICI should be included in diversion initiatives but not at the expense of the residential sector. Staff also feel that communities that already have good integrated waste management systems should not be penalized. Councillor Powers (AMO Board member and sub-committee chair) has also attended meetings and mentioned that guidance from staff was appreciated to understand and speak to the Minister’s report to ensure that Hamilton’s concerns are being heard, understood and addressed.

5.2 Guideline for Composting Facilities and Compost Use in Ontario

The Ministry of the Environment has released new draft guidelines for compost operators. This guideline includes new national standards that will be enforced provincially. The guideline sets out quality standards and allowable uses for each compost category / grade. The public consultation document proposes three different grades: “AA” is best, has unrestricted use - may be used directly in gardens; “A” is second best - needs to be mixed with soil for garden application due to potential heavy metal content; and, “B” is restricted use - only suitable for landfill daily cover, possible roadside applications, or mine reclamation. Staff mentioned that it may be difficult for some technologies to meet these regulations given the short time frame to implementation. Although more restrictive, the new regulations should improve compost quality. The MOE is holding public consultation meetings throughout the province.
6. Waste Reduction Task Force Update (WRTF)

Jim Sweetman (WRTF representative) reported that most of the discussion at the last meeting concerned the Minister’s report, “From Waste to Worth: The Role of Waste Diversion in the Green Economy” as discussed earlier.

WRTF membership is changing as three positions have come to the end of the term. Two of the members – Jim Sweetman and Tom Thompson will return while one new member is needed. The WRTF requested that the Steering Committee support their recommendation that Jim Sweetman, Tom Thompson and Michelle Morris be appointed to the WRTF. A staff report on the appointment will be presented to the Public Works Committee on January 18, 2010.

Motion by Councillor Collins, Seconded by Councillor Powers:

That the SWMMP Steering Committee support the WRTF recommendation that Tom Thompson, Jim Sweetman and Michelle Morris be appointed to the WRTF.

CARRIED

7. Operations Update

7.1. Disposal Activities

Staff reported that they are getting ready to transfer the contract for the operation of the Transfer Stations (TSs) from Waste Management of Canada Corporation (WMCC) to BFI and to renew the contract with WMCC for the operation of the Glanbrook landfill. An information update concerning the contract change will be sent to Council next week. Staff will be working on January 1st, 2010 since BFI has to wait until the first of the month to come on site and set up so that all TSs and CRCs will be operational Saturday, January 2, 2010. The contract transition is going well and is expected to have no impact on residents.

7.2. Collections Activities

Collections operations staff has relocated to the Material Recycling Facility (MRF) at 1579 Burlington Street East. Construction of the additional office space is expected to be complete by June 2010.

Concerning recyclable commodity pricing, staff reported that the price for fibre has increased slightly. All material that is collected and sorted in December will be stored (as usual) until an inventory has been taken by staff and total recycling tonnages for 2009 is determined. Commodity revenues are forecast to reach $3.1 million by year end which is still well below budget.

Committee remarked that there is no signage on either the MRF or CCF buildings that identifies that these are City facilities. Staff responded that they do realize this but noted that the buildings are not open to the public. Committee suggested that signage be added to the front of the CCF building as it is a City facility and should be recognizable. Staff will investigate signage options.

8. Outstanding Action Items

Item b) Introduction to Single Stream Recycling will be put over to February 2010 as January’s schedule is very busy.

Motion by Councillor Collins, Seconded by Councillor Powers:

That all information presented and discussed be received.

CARRIED

9. Other Business

There was no other business to report.

The move for Operations and Waste Management staff that is relocating from Suite 1170 of the Standard Life building (120 King St. W.) to Suite 351 of the Hamilton City Centre is scheduled to take place December 30th, 2009. When Support Services staff return from Christmas shut down they will...
commence in Suite 351, 77 James St. North. Environmental Services and Operations staff will be working out of 120 King Street West.

10. **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 12, 2010 from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. in room 320B of the Hamilton City Centre. Lunch will be provided.

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

**Motion by Councillor Powers, Seconded by Councillor Collins:**

*That the meeting be adjourned.*

CARRIED
Distribution List:

SWMMMP Steering Committee Members
Gerry Davis, General Manager, Public Works
Beth Goodger, Senior Director, Operations and Waste Management Division
Pat Parker, Acting Director of Support Services, Operations and Waste Management Division
Craig Murdoch, Acting Director of Environmental Services, Operations and Waste Management Division
Blair Smith, Acting Director of Operations, Operations and Waste Management Division
Jennifer DiDomenico, Manager of Policy and Programs, Operations and Waste Management Division
Anne Winning, Supervisor of Program Development, Operations and Waste Management Division