MINUTES
SWMMP Steering Committee Meeting #8-05
Tuesday, August 9, 2005
Hamilton City Hall, Room 264
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Present:
Councillor Dave Braden
Councillor Maria Pearson
Councillor Philip Bruckler
Beth Googder, Director, Waste Management
Blair Smith, Manager of Waste Collections, Waste Management Division
Pat Parker, Manager of Solid Waste Planning, Waste Management Division
Craig Murdoch, Manager of Disposal, Waste Management Division
Colleen Brakewell, Policy Analyst, Waste Management Division
Jackie-Lee McInnes, Business Administrator, Finance
Phil Homerski, Communications Officer, Waste Management
David Hart Dyke, Chairperson, Waste Reduction Task Force

Regrets: Councillor Chad Collins

1. Adoption of Agenda
The agenda was adopted as presented (moved by Councillor Pearson, seconded by Councillor Bruckler). CARRIED

2. Adoption of Minutes from previous meetings, June 14, 2005
The minutes were adopted as presented (moved by Councillor Pearson, seconded by Councillor Bruckler). CARRIED

3. Solid Waste Management By-Law Enforcement Strategy
Staff consulted with the Waste Reduction Task Force, Building and Licensing Division and Legal Services on the Solid Waste Management By-Law Enforcement Strategy. Council passed the Solid Waste By-Law #05-190 on June 29th, 2005. Pat Parker outlined what the purpose of the By-Law was and that currently the City is enforcing over half of the violations listed as set fines. Information was given on the relatively small number of complaints that are currently received. Councillor Bruckler requested information on the most common complaints. Pat Parker will get back to the committee with this information. Dave Hart Dyke informed the committee that the Waste Reduction task force supports the By-Law and set fines as long as there is no penalty for shift workers and the elderly or disabled. Councillor Bruckler stated that fairness is needed.

Staff reiterated that this is an enforcement strategy and that there will be leniency. Councillor Bruckler had concerns with the wording of some set fines and would like to see the wording amended so as to reflect that residents are responsible for their waste and not factors such as animals that may impact waste placed out for collection. Pat Parker said that an amendment to the By-Law would be needed in early 2006 and those changes could be accommodated then.

Discussion took place with regards to scavenging and staff noted that we would need to be careful with wording encouraging scavenging as we do not want to promote blue box scavenging. Councillor Bruckler and Councillor Pearson want staff to proceed with the Set-fine process. Councillor Pearson stated that residents have to be responsible for their garbage until it is collected. Councillor Braden stated that the call volumes do not indicate a big problem and...
questioned staff as to the cost of enforcement. Beth Goodger informed the group that the total cost of enforcement is approximately $170,000 per year and that the thought is to increase this by $150,000 for the next couple of years. Discussion will take place with regards to whether the increase goes towards funding Customer Service or Enforcement or both. Phil Homerski will work with the media and Council with regards to getting the message out with regards to set fines. Councillor Pearson moved to proceed with the Set-fines process and Councillor Bruckler seconded the motion. CARRIED

4. Budget Update
   a) 2005 Budget Update

Staff informed the Steering committee of some good news. $1,200,000 was budgeted for WDO funding for 2005 but in fact we have received $2,111,000 from WDO. We received 41% of our program costs and this shows we have a cost efficient program. This will leave us with an approximate $900,000 favourable variance. This will be needed to fund $100,000 in changes at the MRF and an additional $150,000 is needed for the bin haulage service at the CRC. Staff would like to see the surplus variance put towards the recycling reserve. Councillor Bruckler questioned the variance report with respect to Cost Allocations and how they looked very high. Staff will investigate and respond accordingly.

b) 2006 Budget Development

Staff will present the preliminary budget to the Steering Committee at the September meeting. David Hart Dyke wanted to know if the Task Force would see the budget also. Councillor Braden stated that the proposed 2006 budget should be presented to the Steering Committee in September and at that time they will decide when it should be shown to the Task Force.

c) Financing Strategy

Pat Parker presented an overview of the financing strategy. The financing strategy will allow for long term sustainability of the waste management system. Councillor Bruckler asked if any benchmarking of waste management costs in other municipalities had been done. Staff will look into investigating similar comparators. Staff will also review the study principles with the group. Councillor Bruckler felt that a reduction in taxes has to be shown to residents to show a balance and that timing is critical to show that residents can get down to one container.

5. Operations Update
   a) Contract Negotiations - Canada Fibres

Blair Smith reported that they have a draft agreement with Canada Fibres on extending the current contract. Canada Fibres will be contributing capital investment into the facility in the form of two new balers and a new fibre processing line. Canada Fibres will be investing approximately $960,000 and the City will invest $100,000 towards a second container receiving line. Further, Canada Fibres and the City will share the cost of 4 additional sorters required to process polystyrene and film plastic. This cost to the City is approximately $100,000 per year and will be funded from maintenance savings and transportation savings as a result of the new balers being supplied by Canada Fibres.

6. SWMMP Implementation
   a) Community Recycling Centres

The bin haulage tender for the CRC’s has been finalized and Thompson Metals and Disposal won the tender with a bid of $1.45 million for all three locations. The company will be responsible for finding end markets for the bin materials. The cost is on a per lift basis. Staff had budgeted $50,000 for 2005 but the cost will be approximately $206,000. The additional cost will be funded by the surplus in WDO funding. Staff explained that fuel costs and increases in metal cost and the capital cost of bins increased the cost. There was also uncertainty in
quantities of materials due to the fact that we have no history with this type of facility and this drove up the cost as well. Staff will do what they can to mitigate this cost increase. Councillor Bruckler asked what the benefits and cost savings on the other side is i.e. Diversion savings. Councillor Bruckler also asked if we could discuss with Thompson Metals the possibility of negotiating a lower price when we can provide them with some tonnage history. Councillor Braden noted that steel prices are dropping and asked if we could hold off on the purchasing of the bins for the remaining two CRC’s so we could realise this savings. Staff stated that they will review the options for managing the costs and will report back at next meeting.

Construction will start this week on the Dundas CRC. HIRA Limited has been selected as the contractor for this site. Councillor Samson will be running a story in the Dundas community paper and Councillor Braden will contact the Flamborough paper to do the same.

b) WastePlan

The joint working group will be meeting next Thursday. A delegation from Europe will be speaking as well as the Consul General of the Netherlands.

c) Corporate Recycling

The delivery of blue boxes and three stream containers commenced today. All municipal facilities will be completed by early September. Councillor Braden asked that staff provide an update at the September meeting.

7. Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 13th, 2005, City Hall, Room 264

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 13th, 2005 in Hamilton City Hall, Room 264.