

The Regional Municipality of Durham

Minutes

Energy From Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee

Thursday, October 14, 2021

A special meeting of the Energy From Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, October 14, 2021 in Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, at 7:02 PM. In accordance with Provincial legislation, electronic participation was permitted for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: G. Gordon, Whitby, Chair
W. Baszyk, Brock
V. Daram, Ajax
R. Fleming, Pickering
P. Haylock, Clarington, Vice-Chair attended the meeting at 7:10 PM
K. Meydam, Clarington
G. Rocoski, Oshawa attended the meeting at 7:10 PM

Absent: S. Elhajjeh, Clarington
J. Vinson, Clarington

Non-Voting Members

Present: Councillor Janice Jones, Local Councillor, Municipality of Clarington
L. Kwan, Environmental Specialist, Covanta
B. Marsden, Facility Manager, Covanta

Staff

Present: G. Anello, Director of Waste Management Services
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist – Information Technology
A. Porteous, Supervisor of Waste Services
S. Glover, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Administrative Matters

A) EFW-WMAC Comments on Durham Region's Long-Term Waste Management Plan (LTWMP) (2021-2040) Draft Targets and Actions

Detailed discussion ensued regarding adjustments to the Region's battery and electronics collection programs, and potential issues if recycling bins are changed to carts similar to those used in the City of Toronto.

Further discussion ensued regarding waste collection at new multi-residential developments. Staff advised that there is guidance in regard to the road widths within new developments. If the road width is not large enough for regional collection vehicles, that would mean they would not receive service from the Region but would still be obliged to obtain private services for the waste collection. Staff also responded to questions regarding organics collection at multi-residential buildings, and whether or not developers can be encouraged or mandated to install under the sink garburators as a possible solution to organics management. Comments were received and retained by staff for consideration.

Moved by R. Fleming, Seconded by B. Bastzyk,
That the following EFW-WMAC comments on the Durham Region's Long-Term Waste Management Plan (LTWMP) (2020-2040) be approved and forwarded to staff for consideration:

Battery Collection Containers:

- Provision of a rectangular box resembling a 9-volt battery, constructed of heavy cardboard or plastic instead of a bag to potentially increase the quantity of batteries collected and keep more batteries out of the regular garbage.

Electronic Item Collection:

- Inclusion of an annual electronic waste collection drive whereby electronic waste would be set out by the resident on a specific day for pick up from the curb for recycling, to potentially reduce the amount of electronics that are placed in the regular garbage.

Organics Management in New Developments:

- Under the collection mandate, encourage or mandate developers to install under the sink garburators in new multi-residential developments.

CARRIED

B) EFW-WMAC Work Plan (2021-2022)

Detailed discussion ensued regarding the proposed EFW-WMAC Work Plan including partnering with local libraries to offer information regarding backyard composting or indoor composting; conducting individual research on various waste topics; optimization of the Brock/Scugog Waste Transfer station; and how the EFW-WMAC could assist with the long-term waste management plan.

G. Anello advised that staff will be hiring a consultant to look at opportunities for the optimization of the Brock/Scugog Waste Transfer Stations and will be bringing that forward to the EFW-WMAC for their input.

In response to a question regarding Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional (ICI) sector waste as it relates to organics, G. Anello advised that organic waste from the ICI sector is not within the Region's mandate, but that staff will be looking at organics management in multi-residential units and single dwelling homes.

In response to a question from V. Daram regarding the volume of propane bottles and ink cartridges that the Region collects in a year and how those items can be recycled, G. Anello advised that staff are looking to find an agency that will recycle those items, but that staff would have to get back to V. Daram directly regarding the volume collected.

Moved by R. Fleming, Seconded by K. Meydam,
That we recommend to the Works Committee for approval
and subsequent recommendation to Regional Council:

That the proposed 2021-2022 EFW-WMAC Work Plan be amended as follows, and as amended, be approved:

Under the heading of Section 4. strike out "2021-2022 EFW-WMAC Members and" so that Section 4 will now be titled "Workplan Elements";

Delete all of Section 4.1 up to and including the heading "Workplan Goals";

Under Section 5. Workplan Tasks, rename Item #2 from "Green Bin Usage" to "Increased Organics Diversion";

Under Section 5 Workplan Tasks, add a new part ii. to Item #4 Waste Pre-Sorting that reads, "Communication outreach for home-based pre-sorting"; and

Under Section 7. Community Outreach and Stewardship (potential actions), add an additional bullet that reads, “For example - composting, organics diversion, with a requirement to notify Works staff beforehand”.

CARRIED

4. Adjournment

Moved by K. Meydam, Seconded by R. Fleming,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 PM.

G. Gordon, Chair, Energy from Waste –
Waste Management Advisory Committee

S. Glover, Committee Clerk