

The Regional Municipality of Durham

Minutes

Energy From Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee

Tuesday, March 28, 2023

A meeting of the Energy From Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 in Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, at 7:00 PM. Electronic participation was permitted for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: G. Best, Whitby
M. Cannon, Oshawa
C. Des Granges, Clarington
R. Fleming, Pickering
G. Gordon, Whitby
P. Haylock, Clarington
K. Palinka, Oshawa
T. Shomar, Clarington
J. Vinson, Clarington
***members of the Committee participated electronically**

Absent: None

Non-Voting Members

Present: Councillor Elhajjeh, Local Councillor, Municipality of Clarington
N. Ratnasingam, Climate Action Response Coordinator, Municipality of Clarington
B. Parayankuzhiyil, Facility Manager, Covanta

Staff

Present: G. Anello, Director of Waste Management Services
A. Evans, Manager, Waste Services
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist – Information Technology
L. Saha, Project Manager, Waste Management
D. San Juan, Environmental Health Specialist, Health Department, Durham Region
S. Ciani, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

2. Welcome and Introductions

A. Evans, Manager of Waste Services, welcomed the new and returning committee members who were then given the opportunity to provide some of their background and their interest in the EFW-WMAC.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Elections

A) Election of the Chair

S. Ciani, Committee Clerk, called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Energy from Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee (EFW-WMAC).

Moved by P. Haylock, Seconded by K. Palinka,
That Greg Gordon be nominated for the position of Chair of the
Energy from Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee.

Moved by P. Haylock, Seconded by R. Fleming,
That nominations be closed.

CARRIED

S. Ciani asked if G. Gordon wished to stand. G. Gordon indicated he would to stand.

G. Gordon was acclaimed to the position of Chair of the EFW-WMAC.

B) Election of the Vice-Chair

S. Ciani, Committee Clerk, called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Energy from Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee.

Moved by G. Gordon, Seconded by T. Shomar,
That Phil Haylock be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of the
Energy from Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee.

Moved by G. Gordon, Seconded by R. Fleming,
That nominations be closed.

CARRIED

S. Ciani asked if P. Haylock wished to stand. P. Haylock indicated he would to stand.

P. Haylock was acclaimed to the position of Vice-Chair of the EFW-WMAC.

G. Gordon assumed the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

5. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by C. Des Granges, Seconded by K. Palinka,
That the minutes of the EFW-WMAC meeting held on Tuesday,
September 27, 2022, be adopted.
CARRIED

6. Presentations

A) Presentation by Gioseph Anello, Director, Waste Management Services, and Andrew Evans, Manager, Waste Services, regarding Waste Management Services Programs and Initiatives

Gioseph Anello, Director, Waste Management Services, and Andrew Evans, Manager, Waste Services, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Waste Management Services Programs and Initiatives.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Why is Waste Management a Regional Service?
- Who Receives Waste Management Services?
- What Waste Management Services are Provided
- Long-Term Waste Management Plan 2022-2040
- Integrated Waste Management System
- 2022 Trends
- Green Bin Organics Tonnages 2013-2022
- Mixed Waste Pre-Sort and Anaerobic Digestion Facility
- Short and Long-Term Organics Management Solution
- Blue Box Marketed Tonnes 2013-2022
- Blue Box Material Tonnes 2013-2022
- Extended Producer Responsibility – Blue Box
- Garbage Tonnages 2013-2022
- Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC) Operations
- DYEC Capacity Increase
- Landfills

A. Evans responded to questions from the Committee regarding the process of flaring at the Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC); why recommendation A) ii) of Report #2023-WR-3: Organics Management Plan – Next Steps to reduce the number of garbage bags for collection from 4 to 3 was removed; whether the blue box, garbage, and green bin tonnages can be broken down by municipality, and whether that information is made public; the implementation of extended producer responsibility (EPR), and what will happen to the Region's existing recycling facilities once EPR comes into

effect, and whether there are concerns that producers would begin to charge residents for recycling collection; what the energy generation is at the DYEC; and whether there are long-term plans for a physical expansion of the DYEC in the future.

Detailed discussion ensued regarding the background of the proposed Clear Garbage Bag Pilot in the Municipality of Clarington and the subsequent termination of the pilot, including whether the Energy from Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee (EFW-WMAC) was consulted on the initial development of the pilot program. The Committee requested that Report #2023-WR-1: Update on the Proposed Clear Garbage Bag Pilot in the Municipality of Clarington be forwarded to all Committee members for their information.

7. Delegations

There were no delegations to be heard.

8. Correspondence

There were no correspondence items to be considered.

9. Administrative Matters

A) EFW-WMAC Work Plan (2023-2024)

G. Gordon stated that when the 2022 EFW-WMAC Annual Report to the Municipality of Clarington's Council was presented, the Council discussed the following matters: the need for clear garbage bags to assist with increasing waste diversion; having high school students tour the DYEC; the multi-residential aspect of waste and diversion of green bin materials; and how the DYEC potentially affects or changes the standard deviation of air quality across Ontario. G. Gordon also highlighted the importance of outreach to the community, and how waste diversion can be addressed without the Region having an anaerobic digester or pre-sort facility.

Detailed discussion ensued regarding the proposed changes to the EFW-WMAC 2023-2024 Workplan including whether the statistics noted in Section 3.1 of the workplan can be updated with 2023 figures; whether the inclusion of pet waste and/or diapers in the green bin would require specific devices such as biodegradable diapers and pet waste bags in order to be included in the green bin program; the curriculum program established by Works staff to be used when giving presentations to schools; and the possible establishment of a Waste Reduction Achievement Award.

Further discussion ensued regarding how propane tanks are addressed and disposed of at the Region's waste management facilities; donating the black

gardening pots back to local nurseries to be re-used by others as they cannot currently be recycled; and educating the public on the benefits of a compost bin and whether compost bins can be provided to the public as opposed to a second green bin.

Detailed discussion ensued regarding the Committee researching all avenues of waste diversion, including the viability of a clear garbage bag program within the Region, looking at what other municipalities/countries have done regarding innovative waste diversion methods, and then putting forward a recommendation to the Works Committee for consideration.

Staff advised that numerous reports have been presented to the Works Committee and subsequently Council with respect to a clear garbage bag pilot program in the Municipality of Clarington, who ultimately decided to terminate the pilot program.

The Committee also requested a copy of Report #2009-WR-12: Results of Clear Bags Pilot Study in the Municipality of Clarington and the City of Pickering for their information.

Moved by T. Shomar, Seconded by M. Cannon,
That we recommend to the Works Committee for approval and subsequent recommendation to Regional Council:

That the proposed 2023-2024 EFW-WMAC Work Plan be amended as follows, and as amended, be approved:

Under the heading of Section 5.2 b), add a new part ii) as follows, “Assist the Region’s Works Department with support to manage high density dwellings and their waste diversion”;

Under the heading of Section 5.2 c) iii.), add the word “what” after the words “assist with a communication of”; and

Under Section 5.3 c), add the word “innovative” after the word “assess”.

CARRIED

B) Proposed 2023 Meeting Schedule

Discussion ensued regarding whether the May 23, 2023 EFW-WMAC meeting could be rescheduled as it falls after the Victoria Day long weekend. Staff advised they would look into whether that would be possible and report back to the Committee.

Moved by R. Fleming, Seconded by M. Cannon,
That the following proposed 2023 EFW-WMAC meeting dates be approved:

- May 23, 2023
- September 26, 2023
- November 28, 2023

CARRIED

10. Other Business

A) Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Technical Memorandum regarding Overview of Ambient Air Monitoring Programs in Durham Region

A copy of the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Technical Memorandum regarding an Overview of the Ambient Air Monitoring Programs in Durham Region was received.

B) Participation in Waste Management Community Outreach Events

A. Evans advised that M. Smart will circulate the list of dates for the Community Compost Days and National Public Works Week at the DYEC if any members of the Committee are interested in participating in these events.

11. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EFW-WMAC will be held on Thursday, May 23, 2023 in Council Chambers, at 7:00 PM, Regional Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

12. Adjournment

Moved by K. Palinka, Seconded by G. Best,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:07 PM.

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

S. Ciani, Committee Clerk