

## **The Regional Municipality of Durham**

### **Minutes**

#### **Energy From Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee**

**Tuesday, June 27, 2023**

A meeting of the Energy From Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, June 27, 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. Gordon, Whitby, Chair  
G. Best, Whitby  
M. Cannon, Oshawa  
R. Fleming, Pickering  
P. Haylock, Clarington, Vice-Chair  
K. Palinka, Oshawa  
T. Shomar, Clarington  
J. Vinson, Clarington

**\*all members of the Committee participated electronically**

Absent: C. Des Granges, Clarington

#### **Non-Voting Members**

Present: N. Ratnasingam, Climate Action Response Coordinator, Municipality of Clarington  
L. Reck, Manager of Corporate Performance and Innovation, Municipality of Clarington

#### **Staff**

Present: M. Barta, Systems Support Specialist – Information Technology  
A. Evans, Director, Waste Management Services  
R. Jagannathan, Acting Commissioner of Works  
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. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **3. Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by G. Best, Seconded by T. Shomar,  
That the minutes of the EFW-WMAC meeting held on Tuesday,  
March 28, 2023, be adopted.

CARRIED

**4. Presentations**

There were no presentations heard.

**5. Delegations**

There were no delegations heard.

**6. Correspondence**

There were no correspondence items to be considered.

**7. Administrative Matters**

**A) EFW-WMAC Work Plan (2023-2024) – Next Steps**

A. Evans advised that the EFW-WMAC Workplan was approved by the Works Committee and Regional Council in May. He advised that there are three key areas of the workplan that the Committee can examine:

- 1) Plan and Program Implementation;
- 2) Diversion Program Assessment; and
- 3) Technology and Facility Review.

Discussion ensued regarding what areas of the workplan Committee members would be interested in investigating, and how the Committee can move forward with the workplan such as how the Committee could help in increasing outreach to the community.

Committee members expressed their interest in investigating organics diversion, community outreach activities (such as presenting to elementary and secondary school classes), and investigating what Durham's infrastructure needs are.

**8. Other Business**

**A) Update by Andrew Evans, Director, Waste Management Services, the Regional Municipality of Durham, regarding Oshawa Landfill – Biocover Pilot**

A. Evans advised that the Biocover Pilot Systems are comprised of an above ground filter and in-cover bio window that were constructed in May 2023. He advised that these systems will now be evaluated to assess their performance in terms of methane reduction as materials move through the biocover. He

further advised that staff will be reporting to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks (MECP) next Spring, and that an assessment of whether the monitoring should continue will be made.

A. Evans advised that longer term monitoring would allow staff to see the effectiveness of the biocover over multiple seasons.

B) Update by Andrew Evans, Director, Waste Management Services, the Regional Municipality of Durham, regarding Community and Outreach Activities

A. Evans advised that the Works Department recently hosted a number of successful and well-attended outreach activities such as: compost giveaways throughout the Region; an open house at the Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC) for National Public Works Week (NPPW) that was attended by roughly 180 visitors; staff attendance at several watershed festivals hosted by the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA); and communications with local schools boards to learn about the Waste programs that staff have developed.

A. Evans responded to questions from the Committee regarding online community engagement activities that the Region has completed in the past; whether Committee will be advised of when events are taking place in the Region so that they can share this information within their networks; how residents are accessing the Region's waste management information and how the online calendar can be better utilized/advertised; and the possibility of establishing a Waste Reduction Achievement Award.

C) Update by Andrew Evans, Director, Waste Management Services, the Regional Municipality of Durham, regarding Durham Region's Organics Management Project

A. Evans advised that the contract for Durham Region's Organics Management Project (for the processing of green bin materials) is out for tender, and that staff are continuing to work on developing a model for multi-residential collection of green bin materials which includes surveying buildings across the Region to assess their readiness. He advised that staff will be looking at a Request for Proposal (RFP) in the Fall and will then be bringing the program to Council for budget approval as it would be a new service program.

D) Update by Andrew Evans, Director, Waste Management Services, the Regional Municipality of Durham, regarding Extended Producer Responsibility

A. Evans advised that the first communities are transitioning to extended producer responsibility (EPR) this weekend, and that Durham is about one year out to transitioning. He advised that staff continue to work with Circular Materials Ontario (CMO) on a number of issues including the use of Waste

Material Facilities (WMF) as collection points, how complaints and inquiries will be processed, and the transition with regards to promotion and education.

In response to a question from the Committee regarding an update on the Region's Material Recovery Facility (MRF), A. Evans advised that last Fall there was a tender put out to the private sector. HGC was the successful bidder and they will be operating the facility under contract to the Region up until Durham's transition to EPR.

E) Update by Andrew Evans, Director, Waste Management Services, the Regional Municipality of Durham, regarding Durham York Energy Centre

A. Evans advised that the Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC) facility remains fully operational with no issues to report.

A. Evans responded to questions from the Committee regarding organizing a DYEC tour for the new Committee members; an update with respect to the 20,000-tonne increase in capacity at the DYEC; and what the effect would be at the DYEC if organics were reduced through diversion.

**9. Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EFW-WMAC will be held on Thursday, September 26, 2023 in Council Chambers, at 7:00 PM, Regional Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

**10. Adjournment**

Moved by G. Best, Seconded by P. Haylock,  
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

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

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S. Ciani, Committee Clerk