



Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Committee of The Whole (COTW) Meeting
Wednesday, October 6, 2021

1. Meeting, Date & Time:

The COTW Meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council was called to order on Wednesday, October 6 2021 at 4:00pm in the Council Chambers Sherbrooke, N.S.

2. Attending:

Warden Wier	Councillor Mailman
Deputy Warden Fuller	Councillor Malloy
Councillor Baker	Councillor Zinck
Councillor Harpell	

Also Attending:

David Hutten, CAO
Marian Fraser, Director of Finance
Donna-lynn Provost, Municipal Clerk & Special Projects Coordinator

Absent with Regrets:

Councillor Harpell

3. Additions to the Agenda:

- 8d. Covid Vaccination Policy
- 8e. Community Health Board Wellness Fund Youth Literacy: Seeds for Growth.

4. Approval of the Agenda:

On motion of Councillor Malloy and seconded by Councillor Deputy Warden Fuller Council approved the agenda with additions.

Motion approved.

5. Approval of Minutes:

On motion of Councillor Zinck and seconded by Councillor Malloy, Council approved the minutes of the COTW Meeting held Wednesday, September 15, 2021.

Motion approved.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes:

- Updated amendment to the minutes that stated Councillor Mailman was to deliver the Proposal Letter to ERL Board, that has not happened yet. This will happen upon approval of the letter by Council.
- Climate Change: Minutes from September 15, 2021, stated that the Climate Action Plan would be on the agenda for review on October 6, 2021. Upon internal review, of the Land Use Bylaw and the Municipal Planning Strategy, as well as all the other large policy's currently in motion with the addition of legal representative, there is some examination that is needed. It is best to table it for now and bring it back in an appropriate way.

- Energy Management Plan, confirmation was received by Nova Scotia Power that one of the Recplex meters was used not two for the report. Efficiency Nova Scotia to amend the original document.

7. Presentations:

a) Regional Solid Waste Management Committee, Regional Coordinator/Educator, Nicole Haverkort

- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is a policy approach considering principles of a circular economy (reduce, reuse, recycle) that shifts the responsibility and costs of managing specific wastes/recyclable materials from municipalities to producers (i.e. brand owners and manufacturers). This empowers the producer to become invested in the efficient end-of-life management of their product package.
- Municipal curbside recycling programs are an example of producer funded EPR in every province from Quebec west to British Columbia, except Alberta. This represents 82% of the Canadian population. Materials included in the curbside recycling program in Nova Scotia are referred to as 'printed paper and packaging' (PPP).
- Provincial legislation is required in Nova Scotia to shift both the responsibility and the cost of recycling programs away from the taxpayer to the producer. This is referred to as EPR for PPP. In Nova Scotia, the Solid Waste-Resource Regional Chairs, represented by elected municipal officials, and supported
- In Nova Scotia, the Solid Waste-Resource Regional Chairs, represented by elected municipal officials, and supported by solid waste staff, engage other stakeholders, including NSFAM, Divert NS and NS Environment & Climate Change, to ensure the interests of municipalities are met.
- In 2019, the Chairs Committee in partnership with NSFAM submitted a proposal for EPR to NS Environment, sensitive to both municipalities and small businesses for consideration. In preparation for this, NSFAM confirmed EPR for PPP is an area of priority for municipalities. There is support for EPR as a policy tool as it benefits both the environment and the economy.
- Encouraged by provincial mandates and consultations which also identify EPR as a priority. Most importantly, Nova Scotian municipalities want to be a valued and engaged partner throughout the process of introducing EPR to Nova Scotia. We are prepared to offer our expertise to this exercise and look forward to continuing the stakeholder consultation process. Development of legislation and industry plans must:
 - build on the consensus proposal developed by municipalities that included feedback from businesses
 - continue to be sensitive to the voice of small businesses
 - review and encourage use of existing municipal infrastructure (i.e. MRFs);
 - offer municipalities first right of refusal to provide collection and education services
 - develop a uniform provincial program, maintaining current or enhanced service levels to ensure maximum recovery
 - consider how ICI materials will be managed within the system
 - consider the lifecycle costs of packaging that continues to be disposed in landfill
 - include a transparent reporting system to ensure public confidence that products are being recovered and recycled; and incorporate principles of circular economy and mitigation of greenhouse gases.

- Municipal solid waste costs have doubled in the last 15 years and marketing recyclable material has become increasingly challenging. It is clear the current system is unsustainable. EPR is a crucial next step in supporting a circular economy and solidifying Nova Scotia's position as a leader in waste management.
- EPR – What's in it for municipalities?
 1. Funding to support recycling programs
 - Under this framework, producers are responsible for funding collection, processing, and marketing of materials, as well as supporting education.
 - Across Canada, in 2016, producers provided more than \$367 million to fund provincially-regulated PPP programs. Nova Scotia received \$0.00.
 - It is estimated that a Nova Scotia EPR model could generate a financial benefit of up to \$16M per year.
 - Municipalities would no longer manage the risk of rising costs and fluctuating commodity markets.
 2. Access to PPP programming for which Nova Scotia consumers are already paying.
 - Producers fund PPP programs in Canada by incorporating program costs into their national product pricing. [i.e. no eco-fees are charged as an added cost at point-of-sale.] This means the selling price on a box of cereal in Nova Scotia is helping to fund recycling programs for that same packaging elsewhere.
 - Nova Scotia consumers are already paying for the incremental costs of PPP programs in other provinces, but without an EPR program here, are receiving none of the benefits.
- Atlantic Canada approach, with New Brunswick getting ready to release a similar program. The time line for New Brunswick was 18 months vs Nova Scotia 3 year plan.
- British Columbia and Quebec are at 100% of costs paid by the industry to recycle packaging.
- CAO, David Hutten asked Ms. Haverkort, "What can we do to help?" Ms. Haverkort suggested a letter to the Minister to meet with their counterparts in New Brunswick to discuss this matter and to move ahead as soon as possible as it is important to the Municipality.

8d. Covid Vaccination Policy:

- Continue to change as Government protocols change, giving the public clear representation as to what is changing, how it will affect the public with a FAQ document to help guide the public that is plain, simple and easy to read.
- May require a Special Council Meeting if a policy needs to be implemented.

8e. Community Health Board Wellness Fund Youth Literacy: Seeds for Growth:

- Deputy Warden Fuller presented an application he crafted towards receiving books for a youth literacy program.
- Program potential is noted as an excellent program and excellent opportunity for the Municipality to partner with other community partners who many like to be involved, making a healthy long-term commitment.
- CAO, David Hutten, recommended that Council take this application opportunity to staff, and not apply for this specific funding. The Recreation and Community Development Director will work on to seeing if there is more funding, partners to turn this into something bigger.

On recommendation of Councillor Mailman and seconded by Councillor Zinck, Council agreed to task staff with further research into specific funding and partnership opportunities for the potential Seed of Growth youth literacy program.

Recommendation Approved

On motion of Deputy Warden Fuller and seconded by Councillor Zinck, Council moved to in-camera session for Contract Negotiations at 4:40pm.

Motion approved

On motion of Councillor Deputy Warden Fuller and seconded by Councillor Malloy, Council reconvened to regular session at 5 pm.

Motion Approved

8a. Snow Removal 2021-2024 – Tender:

- CAO, David Hutten, reported to Council that there was no bids were received, by 4:00pm, today, October 6, 2021.
- The Tender will be re advertised tomorrow, October 7, 2021.

8b. Transfer Station 2021 C&D Burial Tender: All bids plus HST

CAO, David Hutten, reported to Council 3 bids were received by 4:00 pm, today October 6, 2021.

- Liscomb Trucking & Backhoe Services, bid at \$19,900.00
- George F. MacDonald & Sons Ltd, bid at \$27,650.00
- Wilson Cove Excavation & Trucking Inc, bid at \$7400.00

On recommendation of Deputy Warden Fuller and seconded by Councillor Zinck, Council accepted the bid of \$7400.00 from Wilson Cove Excavation & Trucking Inc for the Transfer Station 2021 – C&D Burial Tender.

Recommendation approved

8c. Pioneer Park

On the recommendation of Deputy Warden Fuller and seconded by Councillor Malloy, Council accept the lease for \$1.00 the 5 year lease agreement from the Trustees of the St. John's United Church, Sherbrooke.

Recommendation Approved

10. Adjournment

On motion of Councillor Malloy and seconded by Councillor Baker there being no further matters of business, council adjourned at 5:04.

Motion approved.



Recorded By
Municipal Clerk/Special Projects Coordinator



Approved By
Warden Wier