
ATTENDING

Councillor Mercedes Brian, Mayor Jeff Cantwell, Director Public Works & Parks Kevin Kerr, Acadia University Sustainability Coordinator Jodie Noiles, Bill Zimmerman, Janet Eaton, Hayden McKee-Godry and Recording Secretary Dan Stovel

ABSENT WITH REGRETS

Chief Administrative Officer Erin Beaudin and Grace Hamilton-Burge

CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Councillor Brian, called the meeting to order at 10:31 am

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED

CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 1, 2017

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 1, 2017 MEETING BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED

CARRIED

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING, MAY 1, 2017:

a. Committee Work Plan

i. [Solar Electricity for Community Buildings Pilot Program](#)

- Inquiry put forward to the Committee as to whether or not there was an Action item for staff
- Program Overview:
 - The Solar for Community Buildings Program enables eligible community groups and organizations to generate solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity on their roofs or properties and sell it to their utility under a 20-year contract
 - This is a pilot program run by the Nova Scotia Department of Energy
 - Eligible groups and organizations are invited to submit an application for review. Within the application, the organization is to propose the price at which they want to sell the electricity generated back to the utility
 - This is a competitive process. An independent procurement administrator reviews all applications, but only those with the most competitive price per kWh will be accepted
- The Committee inquired as to whether the Town had looked at putting an installation on the Public Works building?
 - Director Public Works indicated that the concern was that with a competitive bid process, there would not be the staff time to put together a bid, therefore there would likely be the need for a consultant to be hired – not in the current budget plan
- Director Public Works will bring forward this issue at the next Management meeting for further discussion and report back at next meeting



MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING MOTION TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: THAT COUNCIL ENCOURAGE STAFF TO PURSUE THE SOLAR ELECTRICITY FOR COMMUNITY BUILDINGS PILOT PROGRAM PROJECT

CARRIED

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING MOTION TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: THAT COUNCIL DIRECT STAFF TO INVESTIGATE A SOLAR WOLFVILLE BE PUT ON THE TOWN'S FUTURE WORKPLAN

CARRIED

ii. Single Use Plastic Bags

- At the last informal meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Committee, it was discussed that single-use plastic bags end up in the environment
- In looking to reduce the number of plastic bags that end up in the environment, there is the option of either an outright ban on all single-use plastic bags, or a cost applied to use of each bag
- Montreal, as of January 1, 2018, is putting in place an overall ban on single-use plastic bags which applies to light-weight bags
- The thought was put forward that, while a good initiative for the Town of Wolfville, it may be better as a Regional initiative. While a regional initiative would be excellent, this should not influence Wolfville's decision to pursue the concept of reducing the use of single-use plastic bags
- Valley Waste has indicated that they would provide legal advice to the drafting of a Town Bylaw if pursued
- The Committee will look at ways in which to pursue educating the municipality through informational articles in the Town's Newsletter – "seriousness of plastics in the environment"
- An educational program developed in conjunction with Valley Waste would be very useful
- It was identified that there needs to be two general campaigns
 - A general educational campaign, and
 - Engagement campaign surrounding the development of a municipal Bylaw
- There needs to be a broader discussion with the Business community, specifically the Wolfville Business Development Corporation (WBDC)

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING MOTION TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: THAT COUNCIL APPROACH VALLEY WASTE TO DEVELOP A JOINT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM WITH REGARD TO THE PROBLEM WITH PLASTICS AND THEIR HARM ON THE ENVIRONMENT

CARRIED



b. Fluorescent Light Disposal

- To close the issue, Director Public Works highlighted that the Town does have a program in place for the disposal of residential fluorescent lights

c. [Ecology Action Centre Workshop – Sea-Level Rising](#)

- Janet Eaton has written to Samantha Page, Ecology Action Centre Coastal Adaptation Coordinator, to determine as to whether or not a Workshop can be developed for Wolfville, but has not yet received a response
- Seeking to find out if a Workshop can be developed for the Town of Wolfville
- An Asset Management Plan is being developed, and there is a proposal to also look at Risk Assessment being developed as part of the Plan

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Cittaslow Criteria

- Discussed the issue of how the efforts of the Environmental Sustainability Committee can increase the Town's ranking within Cittaslow
- Proposed that the Community Group that worked on the Cittaslow designation be invited to the next Environmental Sustainability Committee meeting to further discuss the Town's designation

b. Electric Car Charging Station

- Electric vehicles are quickly becoming a viable option for drivers in Nova Scotia. Nearly 11,000 electric vehicles have been sold in Canada since 2011, and that number is growing every day.
- There are almost 50 charging stations across Nova Scotia
- There have been municipal discussions with regard to the installation of an electric car charging station but it is not on this year's work plan.
- Any future Town installation of an electric car charging station will be discussed with Acadia University to combine efforts

5. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

- The regular meetings will be scheduled every two months and the Committee will schedule informal meetings on a more regular basis, if the meetings are required. Informal meetings will be coordinated and conducted by the committee without support of staff
- Disposal sites for fluorescent lights will be posted to the Town of Wolfville website
- On Monday, July 31st there is a presentation by the Ecology Action Centre at the Wolfville Farmers' Market at 7:00pm, talking about Tar Sands supertankers in the Bay of Fundy

6. QUESTION PERIOD

- No questions put forward to the Committee



7. NEXT MEETING

- The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Committee is Monday, September 11, 2017

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 11:59 AM

CARRIED

Approved at the September 11, 2017 Environmental Sustainability Committee Meeting

As recorded by Dan Stovel, AA Corporate Services