



THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF PEEL

WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

WMSAC - 4/2019

The Region of Peel Waste Management Strategic Advisory Committee met on October 31, 2019 at 1:01 p.m., in the Regional Council Chambers, 5th Floor, Regional Administrative Headquarters, 10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A, Brampton, ON.

Members Present: G.S. Dhillon*; P. Fortini; J. Innis; M. Mahoney; K. Ras; I. Sinclair; R. Starr

Members Absent: A. Groves, due to other municipal business; N. Iannicca, due to a personal matter; J. Kovac, due to a personal matter; M. Palleschi, due to other municipal business

Also Present: N. Polsinelli, Interim Chief Administrative Officer; S. Baird, Commissioner of Digital and Information Services; C. Matheson, Commissioner of Corporate Services; S. VanOfwegen, Commissioner of Finance and Chief Financial Officer; P. O'Connor, Regional Solicitor; A. Farr, Acting Commissioner of Public Works; J. Sheehy, Commissioner of Human Services; C. Granger, Acting Commissioner of Health Services; K. Lockyer, Regional Clerk and Director of Legal Services; N. Lee, Director, Waste Management; S. Jurrius, Committee Clerk; S. Herod, Legislative Assistant; S. MacGregor, Legislative Assistant

Chaired by Councillor R. Starr.

1. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST - Nil

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION WMSAC-13-2019:

That the agenda for the October 31, 2019 Waste Management Strategic Advisory Committee meeting be approved.

3. DELEGATIONS - Nil

* See text for arrivals

♦ See text for departures

4. REPORTS

4.1. Proposed Waste Management Fee Increases

Received

4.2. Proposed Waste Management Fees Increases – Supplemental Information

RECOMMENDATION WMSAC-14-2019:

That the fees proposed in the report from the Acting Commissioner of Public Works titled “Proposed Waste Management Fees Increases – Supplemental Information” be included in the 2020 budget submission;

And further, that regular fee increases to reflect increases in the consumer price index be included in subsequent budget submissions;

And further, that the collection of grass clippings in Peel’s curbside yard waste collection program and at Peel Community Recycling Centres be discontinued, effective January 1, 2020;

And further, that the necessary by-law be presented for enactment to discontinue the collection of grass clippings.

Councillor Dhillon arrived at 1:05 p.m.

Norman Lee, Director, Waste Management, stated that Region of Peel staff conducted further analysis of the proposed increases to waste management fees as directed by the Committee. Subsequent to the review, staff recommend the following waste management fees, effective January 1, 2020:

- \$3 garbage bag tag fee to fully recover the cost of collecting and disposing a bag of garbage.
- \$118 per tonne Community Recycling Centres drop-off fee to reflect inflation since the last increase in 2012 and a minimum of \$6 for loads weighing up to 50 kilograms.
- Flat fee per visit (in the event weigh scales are not operational)
 - \$6 for a car, mini van and pick-up truck
 - \$12 for a car, mini van and pick-up truck with trailer
 - \$18 for a cube van, stake truck, or larger vehicle.
- Eliminate the waived fee for disposal of yard waste at the Bolton Community Recycling Centre.
- Change the waiver provisions at the Caledon Community Recycling Centre for loads of yard waste up to 150 kilograms per trip and charge regular drop-off fees for loads of yard waste over 150 kilograms.
- \$10 per tonne agricultural compost fee. An update will be presented to the Committee should the agricultural compost sales drop to the point where an adjustment may be needed.
- Eliminate grass clippings from yard waste to result in a total annual savings of approximately \$627,000 in collection and processing costs.

- Implement a targeted Communication Plan to inform the public of the proposed waste management fee increases prior to January 1, 2020.
- Develop and implement a Communication Plan prior to March 1, 2020 to inform impacted residents of the change to the collection of grass clippings.

The 2020 Region of Peel budget submission currently reflects the proposed fees increases. It will be adjusted accordingly should the proposed fees increases not be approved by Regional Council.

Norman Lee stated that the feasibility and implications of offering waste management fee discount to seniors requires further analysis. The findings will be presented to a future meeting of the Committee prior to the 2021 budget cycle.

Norman Lee informed the Committee that, similar to the decision to close the Caledon Composting facility to save money, decisions were made to increase waste management fees to minimize tax increases resulting from provincial funding cuts.

Councillor Innis expressed support for increasing the cost of garbage tags to \$3, noting that garbage bag tag fees have not been increased since the tags were introduced in 2002. Councillor Innis requested that the Region's Fees By-law is regularly reviewed and updated to have minimal impacts to residents.

In response to a question from Councillor Innis, Norman Lee stated that approximately 25,000 residents bought garbage bag tags annually; however, there is no record of who purchased the tags.

Councillor Mahoney stated that the proposed changes to waste management fees could result in an increase in illegal dumping. He expressed his support for full cost recovery with the proposed waste management fees. Councillor Mahoney requested that Regional staff communicate to residents that the rationale for the changes to waste management fees is to increase cost recovery.

Councillor Ras suggested that staff conduct surveys to learn why residents buy tags and to determine where they are purchased, by obtaining postal codes, without collecting personal information. She indicated that such surveys may provide valuable information in analyzing the effectiveness of the garbage bag tags.

Councillor Ras requested that Regional staff notify Landscape Ontario should Council endorse the elimination of grass clippings from yard waste collection in Peel.

Councillor Innis requested that Regional staff report back to a future meeting of the Committee with strategies to address the issue of illegal dumping within the Region of Peel.

In response to a question from Councillor Dhillon, Norman Lee stated that Peel does not offer a waste pick-up online registration.

In response to a question from Councillor Starr, Norman Lee stated that the flat fees charged at Community Recycling Centres are only applied if the weigh scales are non-operational due to system failure or power outage. Otherwise, the Community Recycling Centre drop-off fee per tonne is applied.

In response to a question from Councillor Fortini, Norman Lee stated that blue box recyclables, tires and household hazardous waste can be dropped off at the Community Recycling Centres free of charge. Due to recent changes in provincial legislation, the Region no longer gets paid to collect tires.

4.3. Waste Management Financial Plan Update

RECOMMENDATION WMSAC-15-2019:

That the public consultation plan to engage Peel residents for initial feedback on potential volume-based user-pay funding models as outlined in the report from the Acting Commissioner of Public Works titled "Waste Management Financial Plan Update" be endorsed.

Norman Lee provided an overview of the waste management financial plan including the key objective to generate stable funding and incent higher diversion; and an environmental scan conducted to identify models in use that could be implemented in Peel. Staff is seeking Committee's endorsement of the Phase 1 public consultation to obtain initial feedback on the potential volume-based user-pay funding model.

In response to questions of clarification from Councillor Ras, Norman Lee stated that it would take at least another year to conduct public consultation, cost analysis and bring recommendations to Council. Staff anticipates that, if approved, the applicable fees could take effect at the beginning of the next waste collection contract in 2024.

5. COMMUNICATIONS - Nil

6. IN CAMERA MATTERS – Nil

7. OTHER BUSINESS - Nil

8. NEXT MEETING

Andrew Farr, Acting Commissioner of Public Works, advised that an exhibition has been launched at Peel Art Gallery Museum and Archives (PAMA) called "Trash Talk: Local Action, Global Change". As part of the exhibition, staff propose that the January 16, 2020 Waste Management Strategic Advisory Committee meeting be held at PAMA and include a tour of the facility and the exhibition.

Councillor Starr requested that Committee members notify Region of Peel staff of potential scheduling conflicts prior to the January 16, 2020 meeting.

The next meeting of the Waste Management Strategic Advisory Committee is scheduled for Thursday, January 16, 2020, 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Peel Art Gallery Museum and Archives (PAMA), Council Chamber, 9 Wellington St. E., Brampton, ON.

Please forward regrets to Stephanie Jurrius, Committee Clerk, (905) 791-7800, extension 4502 or at stephanie.jurrius@peelregion.ca

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:47 p.m.