

Minutes of a Meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee held in the St. Albert Business Centre, on the above date at 6:00 pm.

Present

T. Doran - Chair
B. Thronson
B. Marsh
S. Pearson
Councillor B. Russell

Absent

V. Neary
B. Korobanik
K. Crutchfield

Guests

Mayor Crouse
Elke – Resident

Staff

M. Mellross, Manager, Environment & Sustainability
E. Isaac, Environmental Coordinator - Community

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Chair declared the agenda adopted as presented.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The Chair declared the minutes of February 25, 2016 adopted as presented.

STORMWATER RATE SYSTEM

In attendance: Stephen Graham, Senior Business Analyst, Financial Services

- The City was looking for a more equitable stormwater rate system by assigning the cost to those rely the most on the service. Net revenue is the same. The new structure will not based be based on impermeable surfaces because we don't currently have the data and it's too cost prohibitive to acquire it. Analysis and rate system will be developed based on property size.
- Next part of project will be to go through property and billing data and then go back to Council in June 2016. Single family units are not a problem, however the biggest issues are with multi-unit/dwelling buildings i.e.

townhomes, condos, commercial. Share out common areas and other areas that are not the buildings themselves.

- The City anticipates that multi and single family will see a decrease in their current rate whereas larger commercial properties will be the ones who will see the most significant difference.
- St. Albert Trail is entirely commercial and will be the most time consuming to review. Some properties are straight forward and others require more subjective decision making
- Considering how best to define buildings/organizations that are somewhat unique and currently exempt from charges i.e. hard surface vacant lots (paved and with or without a building), brownfields
- Changes are being managed with an incremental approach and the expectation is that processes and decision-making will evolve over time.

EAC initial feedback

- Integrate incentives for onsite capture strategies, zoning requirements, retrofit alternatives, right size parking, green roofs.
- Likely will need a method for residents and businesses to challenge the process or attributed rate.

GREEN BUILDING POLICY

In attendance: Gilles Prefontaine, Chief Community Development Officer

Background

- Last year Council tasked P&E to develop a Sustainable Building Policy with the focus being on corporate facilities.
- We don't currently have an administrative directive or standard on buildings right now. Have engaged consultant for best practices in other communities, similar in size and also those with unique innovative approaches.
- Some cities are very prescriptive in their policies. This approach is a little different with the focus being on the objectives to establish standards not focus on the rating tool i.e. LEED Silver. Administration is hesitant to put standards into a policy. Standards in a separate document can be reviewed every couple of years by Administration
- Next meeting will be with the Green Assets Committee and then going to Council end of June. Would require EAC advice in late April.

EAC initial feedback

- Reviewed draft document and highlighted areas to modify for clarity.
- Establish set of standards to accompany the policy.
- It is critical that there is a person in the organization who is responsible and takes ownership for implementation of the policy.

ANNUAL REPORT ON ENVIRONMENT

Update, Erin Isaac, Environmental Coordinator – Community

- No teaser this year
- Refining artwork for clarity - image graphics mixed with bar graphs

- Will send out an email with draft copy in about a week
- Hope to have a public feedback survey

ROUND TABLE

B. Marsh – Will be attending the WaterTech conference in April.

B. Thronson – Interested in how the Federal environmental plan will impact St. Albert.

E. Isaac – Reported on Earth Hour results and program and announced the date for the 3-year priority setting workshop.


M. Mellross – Announced that the new air quality monitoring station has power. Also, the corporate energy audits go to Council in May and he will bring the report to EAC in April for information.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the EAC is scheduled for Thursday, April 28, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.



CHAIR



DESIGNATED OFFICER

DATE: **Thursday, March 24, 2016**
TIME: **6:00 pm - 8:00 pm**
PLACE: **St. Albert Business Centre
29 Sir Winston Churchill Ave.**

File No: 165-E4-2014

AGENDA

- 1. Adoption of Agenda**
- 2. Adoption of Minutes – February 25, 2016**
- 3. Green Building Policy (6:00pm)**
Presentation and Discussion, Gilles Prefontaine, Chief Community Development Officer, Planning and Engineering Services
- 4. Stormwater Rate System (7:00pm)**
Update, Stephen Graham, Senior Business Analyst, Financial Services
- 5. Annual Report on Environment**
Update, Environment
- 6. Round Table**
- 7. Next Meeting Date**
 - a. April 28, 2016
- 8. Adjournment**