

## MINUTES

### THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SIOUX LOOKOUT

#### **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL OFFICE Thursday, December 7, 2023 5:30 P.M.**

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#### 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

##### A. Attendance

##### Committee Members

Mr. George Hoggarth, Chair  
Ms. Anne Saltel, Vice Chair  
Cllr. Joyce Timpson  
Ms. Joanne Falk  
Mr. Bruce Van Horne  
Cllr. Reece Van Breda

Staff Ms. Komal Shah, Development Services Administrative Assistant

Excused Ms. Jennifer Hancharuk  
Mr. Hari Sankar

Absent

Guest Mr. Todd Nadon - Fresh market Foods Owner

B. Chair called the meeting to order at 5:29 pm.

#### C. MEMBERS EXCUSED

Motion to excuse members: Ms. Jennifer Hancharuk and Mr. Hari Sankar

Moved by: Ms. Falk  
Seconded by: Ms. Saltel

CARRIED

## 2. AGENDA

### a) Additions to Agenda

- Committee would like to change the meeting time of Environment committee after confirming with Mr. Brinkman.

### b) Confirmation of Agenda

THAT the Agenda for the Environment Committee Meeting of December 7, 2023 be approved, as presented.

Moved by: Ms. Saltel

Seconded by: Cllr. Timpson

CARRIED

## 3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

## 4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Motion to Adopt Minutes.

THAT the Minutes of the October 19, 2023 Committee Meeting be adopted, as presented.

Moved by: Ms. Saltel

Seconded by: Ms. Falk

CARRIED

## 5. DELEGATIONS

Mr. Hoggarth mentioned committee to proceed the meeting with Mr. Todd Nadon – Owner of Fresh market Foods (FMF).

Mr. Van Horne invited Mr. Nadon to discuss more about the food waste and composting options for our community. Mr. Nadon started conversation with **Sustainability**. Sustainability comes with Employee satisfaction. After Employee survey at Fresh market foods (FMF) invested 6 million dollars in accommodations (28 Apartments and 2 houses) on king street for their employees – Subsidized housing for the staff. The other thing Mr. Nadon mentioned about Food security- Food available in the staff room for all the employees, for the Health and wellness FMF have their own private gym, Staff can access free mental health counselors at

any time. In addition, the FMF building new homes near Airport, which way employees can have their own house instead of renting. FMF make things onsite like baking own bread, muffin, meats, bacon, cakes, buns, Smokies, Sausages to reduce logistics and shipping costs. For example, the English muffin produce at Vancouver, which can be much farther to ship the truck of muffins.

All over Canada – 20% food goes to garbage. FMF waste is approximately 3 to 4%, which is the industry standard. FMF initiated charity to Food bank, and planning to launch another initiative by next year with Food bank. Once the product is closer to expiry date, it will go to Food bank so they can distribute it promptly. Ms. Falk pointed about the produce waste. Mr. Nadon answered the produce picked up by 3 farmers on frequently basis and some of the produce goes to dump.

FMF operates retail and online store. Online products delivers to the 28 Northern communities to their doorstep. Airlines come to the back door of the store, pick up the food, and deliver it to Northern communities due to Ecommerce transparency there is no hidden charges. 7 Airlines merged with FMF to delivers the food to up north. Recently, FMF bought a new building to make it as a warehouse for Northern community orders especially with partnership with some of the local businesses. FMF have government license to deliver food and it all transparent to buyers.

Jennifer Esposito – Economic Development officer is working with Mr. Nadon about other composting options. The first thing needs to be done to reduce the food waste is “**Education**” to the staff as 160 people working at the store. FMF is such a diverse organization in our community. Mr. Nadon is interested to educate staff and bring new ideas to a business. The managers will work as coaches, which will help staff to guide and order the food accordingly which can able to reduce food waste to half.

The second thing is “**Technology**” – Many innovations are coming out recently. Mr. Nadon mentioned about “Edge computing”, which can allow data to track easily. This will be very helpful to digital pricing, stocking and connected to main POS software to reduce the waste.

Mr. Hoggarth asked about FMF participation in the Mr. Peter Kirby and Doug’s pilot program with the help of Municipality of Sioux Lookout. Mr. Nadon expressed interest in the pilot program and decided to connect to Jennifer Esposito regarding this. Committee member were not sure about the staff person who will be responsible for the Pilot program run by Municipality. Ms. Shah will connect with Mr. Brinkman and confirm about the contact person name.

Mr. Van Horne checked about “Cardboard” waste. Mr. Nadon informed the cardboard compactor is located in the back of the store and then deliver back to Winnipeg. Mr. Nadon expressed joy to talk to Environment committee.

## 6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

### 6.1 ACTION ITEMS

03-2023-01 – Discuss with high school about litter pick up, and incorporating leadership experience to school kids. Speak to Nicole Carbone - Mr. Hoggarth

❖ Ongoing

03-2023-02 –Contact the hospital to discuss an industrial-scale composter. - Mr. Hoggarth & Ms. Saltel

❖ Ms. Saltel will set up a time to meet Hospital and chat about composting options

04-2023-03 –Contact Mr. Todd Nadon from Freshmarket about food waste and discuss more initiative options about the composting – Mr. Van Horne

❖ Completed

05-2023-10 – Prepare report for Council requesting that Big Belly garbage cans be included with the 2024 budget – Mr. Brinkman

❖ Cllr Van Breda will speak to Mr. Brinkman regarding reports for 2024 budget

06-2023-10 – Prepare report for Council requesting that a list of hazardous items typically included with the annual hazardous waste day – Mr. Brinkman

❖ Ms. Shah will remind Mr. Brinkman about bringing the report to December council meeting to approve the standard list of Hazardous waste. Once council will approve the list, Ms. Saltel will connect to Catspaw regarding 3 Sandwich board signs.

## 7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

### 7.1 Annual Work Plan and Budget Request

#### ***Curbside Swap***

- ❖ **Goals:** Continue promoting Curbside Swap
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Cllr. J. Timpson
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media, Municipal Website
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Biweekly (Saturday and Sundays) April through October

- ❖ **Tasks:** Ads and signs to encourage participation in Curbside Swap. Continue promoting Curbside Swap Facebook page and add link to Environment Committee's Facebook page.
- ❖ **Updates:** None

### ***Explore Composting Options***

- ❖ **Goals:** To explore options for composting. To promote composting.
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Municipal World magazine
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Tasks:** Research and promote municipal composting options. Promote backyard composting. To act in an advisory capacity to the municipality to ensure infrastructure and initiatives supporting eco-friendly transportation are being considered.
- ❖ **Updates:** Mr. Hoggarth would like to know about the staff assign person for the pilot program, which will be run by Mr. Peter Kirby. Ms. Shah will check with Mr. Brinkman regarding the contact person. Committee will be assuming Jennifer Esposito as a staff assign person for the composting options.

### ***Communication and Education***

- ❖ **Goals:** To communicate with residents and educate regarding sustainable environmental practices.
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media (Facebook), Ads
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Tasks:** Through a variety of media, including the Environment Committee Facebook page, educate the community regarding sustainable environmental practices of any nature.

- ❖ **Updates:** None

### ***Community Garden***

- ❖ **Goals:** To establish and maintain community gardens that promote and encourage locally grown produce, food security, the reduction of carbon footprints, composting and educational opportunities.
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Ms. J. Falk
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Municipal staff needed to help with maintenance as required.
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** April through October
- ❖ **Tasks:** Maintaining the gardens, advertising, gardening classes.
- ❖ **Updates:** Environment committee passed the motion to purchase a wood worth of 1000\$ for community garden from budget 2023.

Moved by: Ms. Saltel

Seconded by: Cllr Timpson

CARRIED

### ***Municipal Projects Review***

- ❖ **Goals:** To review municipal projects that may have an environmental impact and report on their environmental effect
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** List of Capital Projects
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Tasks:** Review environmental impacts of capital projects

- ❖ **Updates:** None

### ***Environmental Recognition***

- ❖ **Goals:** Recognize groups or individuals for their environmentally sustainable activities/initiatives
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Ms. A. Saltel
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Tasks:** Recognizing groups or individuals on Social Media and distributing certificates.
- ❖ **Updates:** Ms. Saltel mentioned the name of “Margaret Kitchkeskic”. Mr. Pollard will make an article for the Municipal website and social media for Margaret.

### ***Adaptation and Mitigation to Climate Emergency***

- ❖ **Goals:** To communicate with and educate residents about effective strategies to adapt to the effects of climate change including the impact of the environment on people’s health
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media, Policies
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Tasks:** Present information through a variety of media and act in an advisory capacity to the Municipality.
- ❖ **Updates:** None

### ***Promotion of Locally Sourced Food and Self-Sustainability***

- ❖ **Goals:** To communicate with and educate residents about access to sustainably sourced food
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media, Workspaces
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Tasks:** Present information and education through a variety of media and act in an advisory capacity to the Municipality. Promoting different gardening options (examples: raised gardens and containers). Provide support to local gardeners by providing a platform for knowledge exchange. Promote sustainably sourced food. Through education and promotion at the farmer's markets, increase awareness about sustainably sourced foods. Advertise and encourage people to share their produce through activities such as gleaning. To approach other Northern Communities for ideas related to locally sourced food.
- ❖ **Updates:** None

#### ***Waste Reduction/Diversion***

- ❖ **Goals:** To reduce and divert waste
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Task:** Introduce policies, practices, and by-laws to eliminate single use plastics. Advertise Waste Reduction Week. Promote reduction of litter around town. Encourage the enforcement of the existing littering By-law. Educate people on hazardous waste and how to dispose of it. To encourage households and commercial businesses to reduce the amount of recyclables thrown out with garbage
- ❖ **Updates:** None

#### ***Promoting the Establishment of Natural Ecosystems***



- ❖ **Goals:** To promote the use of and benefits of mow free zones. To increase mow free zones in the community on municipal properties. To encourage pollinator friendly residential yards. Create a pollinator friendly community. To support native ecosystems.
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Staff
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Task:** With the assistance of the Staff Resource, discuss potential mow free and pollinator friendly areas with the Recreation and Culture Manager for municipally owned property. To communicate with and educate residents on the benefits of mow free zones. Inform the Community of the benefits of pollinator friendly yards, and promote the growth of native species.
- ❖ **Updates:** None

### ***Eco Friendly Transportation***

- ❖ **Goals:** To promote different means of eco-friendly transportation
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Social media, attend trade shows, Internet
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Task:** Research different means of eco-friendly transportation and promote them to the Community. To act in an advisory capacity to the municipality to ensure infrastructure and initiatives supporting eco-friendly transportation are being considered.
- ❖ **Updates:** None

## 7.4 COMMITTEE BUDGET

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Hoggarth mentioned to committee about the “Heat Pumps”. Heat pumps take the cold air and process it to hot air to heat up the house, which can be very useful for Northern communities as per CBC radio speaker. Government subsidized some amount to install the Heat pump at house, as per the Government programs mentioned by Cllr Van Breda. Ms. Saltel Suggested to invite someone to learn more about “Heat pump”.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Environment Committee is scheduled for Thursday, January 4, 2024 at 5:30 pm in Council Chambers at the Municipal Office.

10. MEETING ADJOURNED

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.