



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

MINUTES

Community Energy Planning Committee

June 5, 2014 at 3:00 p.m.

City Hall – Downstairs Boardroom

Minutes of a meeting held on Thursday, June 5, 2014 at 3:05 p.m. in the City Hall Lower Boardroom. The following Committee members were in attendance:

Chairperson: Councillor D. Wong,
D. Everett,
A. Fowler,
J. Hazenburg,
K. Lailey,
K. Lange-Knox,
J. Pickett,
C. Scott,
J. Sparling,
Mayor M. Heyck, ex officio.

The following members of Administration were also in attendance:

R. Gervais,
C. Hand,
L. Dunsmore.

Absent: L. Azzolini,
D. Wohlgemuth.

Call to Order

1. Councillor Wong called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Introductions

2. Round table introductions were made for the benefit of new members.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

3. There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

Change in Minutes Format

4. The minutes of the City's various committees have taken on a more concise format that places the emphasis on the decisions and work of the committees.



Status update on CEP projects

5. a) Pumphouse #1 – A pellet boiler has been purchased and the design work completed. Administration plans to put out a tender for installation of the boiler by the end of June.
- b) Centralized Boiler System – This project would connect the heating system at the Multiplex with the seven City facilities around it. Administration has already received the draft design and expects an engineering report shortly. With these documents and other background information, Administration will create a business case on which City Council can base its discussions and decisions about the project.

Presentation on CEP Renewal (Mr. Gervais)

6. a) Committee heard Mr. Gervais's presentation ("A Vision for Renewable Energy") on the pending renewal of the Community Energy Plan and measures to be taken in the interim.
 - Objective: Use best practices in energy planning and integrated community energy management to facilitate the community's transition to renewable energy sources and to maximize the social and economic benefits for Yellowknifers.
 - Potential Long-Term Targets:
 - Municipal operations to use 100% renewable energy by 2025
 - Municipal operations to be carbon-neutral by 2025
 - Energy costs to be limited to 25% of inflation
 - Community targets for 2025 to be set after new community energy inventory is compiled
 - Action Areas, 2015-2025:
 - Biomass
 - Power Generation
 - Waste to Energy
 - Energy Efficiency Retrofits
 - Communications and Public Awareness
 - Energy Monitoring
 - Transportation

The new CEP will provide the City with funding of \$130,000, some of which will pay for a consultant to investigate how the City might be able to provide low interest loans to homeowners and businesses that wish to do energy-saving retrofits. Another portion of the funding would be used to hire an independent firm to do a greenhouse gas inventory and projections, based on which the City would set its targets.

- b) Comments by members –
 - GNWT anticipates that the wood pellet industry, from harvest to retail, will eventually create employment for northern communities and associated economic development opportunities for Yellowknife.
 - Insurance companies in northern jurisdictions are still reluctant to provide insurance coverage for homeowners with wood pellet stoves, although they pose a much lower fire risk than wood-fired stoves. Since the CEP will provide incentives for energy-saving home and business retrofits, perhaps GNWT would take the next step and create an insurance program for homeowners and businesses with pellet stoves.

Action: Mr. Gervais will add the insurance companies to Committee's list of local stakeholders to ensure that they have reliable, up-to-date information about energy-saving technologies.



- c) Overview of next steps:
- Interviews
 - Greenhouse Gas (GHG) inventory
 - Innovative Financing Study

Action: The agenda for the next meeting will include a presentation by Mr. Lailey (Northland Utilities) about the results of the company's LED street lighting project, and a presentation on Innovative Financing by a Vancouver City Councillor.

Next Meeting: End of August (date to be determined)

Adjournment

7. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY