

Business Arising from the Minutes

Implementation and Action Plan re: Energy Management Plan

Staff provided updates on the following items:

- Electrical audits for Salford, Foldens, Dereham Centre and Brownsville Halls
 - Audit for the Brownsville Hall is complete – it does not tell us exactly why the usage is high; Darryl will contact Tim Smith to interpret this and provide more information.
 - Direction to Adam to ask Tim Smith which facilities he has completed and which remain outstanding.
 - Councillor Buchner suggested the increase could be due to the use of the kitchen (as a commercial kitchen). The Committee inquired if the rental income is covering the cost of the use of the kitchen, as it is booked quite frequently.
 - Request for Nicole to provide the monthly data from 2022 to 2024 for the Committee to review at the next meeting.
- Motion Sensors at Mount Elgin Fire Station (Adam/Darryl)
 - This was for the lights in the apparatus bays. Adam notes there is one light that stays on all the time in the south end at the man door, other than that, the lights are all shut off at all times if nobody is there. Adam spoke with the District Chief, who noted that there have been times they have forgotten to shut these lights off but they will be diligent in reminding them going forward.
 - Additional motion sensors are not required at this time.
- Quotation for Replacement of Council Chamber lights with LEDs (Adam/Darryl)
 - Darryl changed a fixture in Julie's office to a 4' by-pass (by-passes the ballast). This is working very well so far.
 - Replacing the Council Chamber lights (including wages) would cost approximately \$60 per fixture (around \$600 to change to LED).
 - Unable to determine return on investment at this time (especially considering new office build in coming years). Room is also not used frequently enough.
 - Moving forward, if a ballast quits, staff directed to replace the fixture with LEDs.

Lifecycle Cost of Solar Panels/Electric Vehicles

It was noted that this was a request of Council. Mayor David Mayberry has requested the environmental and economic life cost of solar panels and electric vehicles from EARTH and will provide an update at an upcoming meeting. Oxford County has also

done a study around 5/6 years ago regarding the cost of disposing solar panels at the end of their lifecycle – he has requested this information as well. They have not done a study on the related environmental costs.

George expressed his surprise that there isn't more information out there regarding the disposal costs of solar panels and electric vehicle batteries. David noted that EARTH hasn't looked further into this but they will obtain the data and report it back to the Committee.

Discussion took place regarding the lifecycle of wind turbines – it was noted that Pro Wind will be delegating to Council at their meeting on February 4th.

Solar Panels at the Public Works Shop

At the previous meeting it was noted that the Public Works Shop would require a 36 kW generating system to meet the estimated energy usage of 40,000 kWh per year. The project cost was estimated at \$63,000. This was not discussed further at this time.

Energy Consumption Reports

The 2024 data will be provided at an upcoming meeting – we are just waiting for some of the bills from the community halls. We will include the data from the fuel consumption reports.

Dereham Centre Hall – Insulation

Darryl and Adam looked into this, there is not an opening large enough to reach inside the attic to insulate it ourselves. If we want to add walls, we will have to construct them. Adam will inquire with Darryl to obtain quotes for this work (Wall Construction and Great Northern) – unsure if there would be cost recovery for this. Councillor Pickard will ask the Committee if we are able to add insulation to the ceiling, if they would like to proceed this year as there are funds in the budget.

Discussion Items – None

New Business

Oxford County Motion – 6 Day Garbage Collection

County Council today voted to move to a six-day collection cycle with the new contract – this will remain relatively unchanged for South-West Oxford. At the end of 2025, SWOX will be out of the recycling business and producer-responsibility will begin. County will be responsible for garbage and organic collection. Federal government noted that by 2030, the disposal of organics would no longer be permitted in landfills (due to methane gas production). County is looking to divert organics from the landfill, and they have put out an RFP for garbage and organic co-collection. Emterra won the contract, but it was broken out so that Woodstock and SWOX sections were bid separately from the rest of the County.

South-West Oxford Council now has to decide if we are going to pursue bidding on the contract, or let Emterra bid on it (report requested from Adam once he receives more details from Oxford County).

Oxford County will have to do more public education as to what goes into the green bin, garbage, etc.

Discussion took place regarding non-eligible sources of recycling, and if we will be able to collect this ourselves? It was noted that Council may choose to collect at places that are not eligible for collection (e.g., municipal halls) even if the County is not paying us to do so via the contract. Adam will also have to look at the timelines for ordering new trucks – this contract will go to 2034.

Collection for South-West Oxford and Woodstock will begin January 1, 2026 to avoid having a truck only collecting one stream of waste.

Discussion took place regarding details for the organic collection (green bins). Unsure if the material will be loose in the bin, or if a bag will be required. It was noted that the energy will be taken out of the organics after it has been disposed. South-West Oxford will continue to dump material at the Salford Waste Management Facility. Oxford County will be supplying each household with one green bin.

By 2034, Oxford County is expecting to be in the organics business as well. They are exploring options to extract energy.

New Provincial Energy Efficiency Programs

David noted that a new program was announced yesterday but despite the announcement, the program isn't completely ready because they are still completing the

RESOLVED that there being no further business, the Environment and Energy Innovation Committee adjourn at 5:34 p.m. to meet again on February 5th, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.

DISPOSITON: Motion Carried