

**THE CITY OF TORONTO**

**Clerk's Department**

**Minutes of the Works and Utilities Committee**

**Wednesday, January 14, 1998**

The Works and Utilities Committee met on Wednesday, January 14, 1998, in Committee Room A, 2nd Floor, Metro Hall, Toronto, commencing at 9:35 a.m.

Members Present:

Councillor Betty Disero, Chair  
Councillor Gerry Altobello  
Councillor Lorenzo Berardinetti  
Councillor Ila Bossons  
Councillor Sandra Bussin  
Councillor Jack Layton  
Councillor Bill Saundercook  
Councillor Sherene Shaw  
Councillor David Shiner  
Councillor Michael Walker

Regrets:

Councillor Tom Jakobek  
Mayor Mel Lastman

Also Present:

Councillor Doug Holyday  
Councillor Irene Jones  
Councillor Pam McConnell

**1. Standing Committee Briefing.**

The Committee had before it presentations from the following regarding the programs and services under the responsibilities of the Works and Utilities Committee:

- Mr. Barry H. Gutteridge, Acting Executive Commissioner for Emergency and Protective Services;

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- Mr. John N. Brooks, President and Chief Executive Officer, Toronto Hydro-Electric Commission;
- Mr. Michael G. Thorne, Interim Functional Lead for Water Supply and Water Pollution Control, and submitted a copy of his presentation; and
- Mr. Michael A. Price, Interim Functional Lead for Solid Waste Management, and submitted a copy of his presentation.

Councillor Walker raised the question of the order of speaking for guest Members of Council, and the Committee concurred in the suggestion that they be extended the courtesy of speaking first, prior to Committee Members, if they so wish, with the opportunity of speaking again following Committee Members.

Councillor Bossons moved that:

- (1) the President and Chief Executive Officer, Toronto Hydro-Electric Commission, be requested to submit a report to the Committee on:
  - (a) the status of capital spending and cutbacks of the former Hydro-Electric Commissions; and
  - (b) a methodology to ensure that the new Toronto Hydro-Electric Commission utilizes a rate structure which does not encourage waste; and
- (2) the appropriate staff be requested to submit a report to the Committee on the feasibility of keeping the water supply and water pollution control budget separate and free standing.

Councillor Shiner moved that:

- (1) the President and Chief Executive Officer, Toronto Hydro-Electric Commission, be requested to submit a report to the Committee for its meeting scheduled to be held on June 17, 1998, on the progress to date of the harmonization of the hydro rates of the former municipalities, with a request that staff work towards the lowest possible rates;
- (2) the Acting Executive Commissioner for Emergency and Protective Services and appropriate staff be requested to submit a report to the Committee on financial commitments made by Metropolitan Toronto for waste disposal with respect to the trucking of solid waste to Michigan, and the cost thereof to the new City of Toronto; and

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- (3) the Acting Executive Commissioner for Emergency and Protective Services and appropriate staff be requested to submit a report to the Committee for its next meeting, scheduled to be held on February 11, 1998, on the waste management facilities proposed for the Dufferin Transfer Station site.

Councillor Saundercook moved that the Acting Executive Commissioner for Emergency and Protective Services and appropriate staff be requested to submit a report to the Committee on the policy with respect to combined sewer overflows (CSOs), and, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, at the appropriate time, to provide guidance on how changes might be made to such policy.

Councillor Layton moved that Councillors Berardinetti and Layton be requested to submit a proposal to the next meeting of the Committee on the Terms of Reference for a committee similar to the former Metro 3Rs Task Force to review the various pilot projects undertaken during 1997.

Councillor Berardinetti moved that the foregoing motion by Councillor Layton be amended to include the establishment of a residents group similar to the former City of Scarborough's Environmental Advisory Committee.

Upon the question of the adoption of the foregoing motions, they were carried.

The following is the action therefore taken by the Committee:

The Committee received the aforementioned presentations; and directed that:

- (1) the President and Chief Executive Officer, Toronto Hydro-Electric Commission, be requested to:
- (I) submit a report to the Committee for its meeting scheduled to be held on June 17, 1998, on the progress to date of the harmonization of the hydro rates of the former municipalities, with a request that staff work towards the lowest possible rates; and
  - (ii) submit a report to the Committee on:
    - (a) the status of capital spending and cutbacks of the former Hydro-Electric Commissions; and

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- (b) a methodology to ensure that the new Toronto Hydro-Electric Commission utilizes a rate structure which does not encourage waste;
- (2) the Acting Executive Commissioner for Emergency and Protective Services and the appropriate staff be requested to submit a report to the Committee for its next meeting, scheduled to be held on February 11, 1998, on the waste management facilities proposed for the Dufferin Transfer Station site;
  - (3) the Acting Executive Commissioner for Emergency and Protective Services and the appropriate staff be requested to submit a report to the Committee on:
    - (I) financial commitments made by Metropolitan Toronto for waste disposal with respect to the trucking of solid waste to Michigan, and the cost thereof to the new City of Toronto;
    - (ii) the policy with respect to combined sewer overflows (CSOs), and, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, at the appropriate time, to provide guidance on how changes might be made to such policy; and
    - (iii) the feasibility of keeping the water supply and water pollution control budget separate and free standing; and
  - (4) Councillors Berardinetti and Layton be requested to submit a proposal to the next meeting of the Committee on the Terms of Reference for a committee similar to the former Metro 3Rs Task Force to review the various pilot projects undertaken during 1997, and on the establishment of a residents group similar to the former City of Scarborough's Environmental Advisory Committee.

(Acting Executive Commissioner, Emergency and Protective Services; President and Chief Executive Officer, Toronto Hydro-Electric Commission; Councillor Lorenzo Berardinetti; Councillor Jack Layton; c: Interim Functional Lead, Water Supply and Water Pollution Control; Interim Functional Lead, Solid Waste Management; Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer; Interim Lead, Legal Services - January 14, 1998)

**(Clause No. 2(a), Report No. 1)**

**2. Deposit/Return Systems for Beverage Containers.**

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The Committee had before it a communication (December 19, 1997) from the Metropolitan Clerk forwarding, for information and any attention deemed necessary, Clause No. 2 of Report No. 13 of The Environment and Public Space Committee, headed "Deposit/Return Systems for Beverage Containers; Amendment to Ontario Regulation 26/96 and Product Stewardship Discussions", which was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto at its meeting held on December 10 and 18, 1997, wherein it recommended that:

- (I) the recommendations embodied in the communication dated November 24, 1997, from Councillor Judy Sgro, North York - Humber, be adopted, subject to adding to the beginning of Recommendation No. (1) the words "in addition to the Council direction to staff of September 24 and 25, 1997, by the adoption of Clause No. 4 of Report No. 12 of The Environment and Public Space Committee, as amended," , so that such recommendations read as follows:
  - "(1) That in addition to the Council direction to staff of September 24 and 25, 1997, by the adoption of Clause No. 4 of Report No. 12 of The Environment and Public Space Committee, as amended, the Commissioner of Works develop a plan to mandate a deposit/return system being established for wine and spirit beverage containers sold in the new City of Toronto;
  - (2) that the Solicitor, in consultation with the Commissioner of Works, report on any legal remedies that may be used to help establish a deposit/return system for wine and spirit beverage containers sold in the new City of Toronto; and
  - (3) that the Commissioner of Works' and Solicitor's reports be presented to the appropriate Committee of the new City of Toronto Council at the first available opportunity";
- (ii) the following recommendations be added thereto:
  - "(4) that the Commissioner of Works pursue this matter with his peers across the Province of Ontario; and
  - (5) that Councillor Joan King, as President-Elect of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, be directed to pursue a Province-wide policy on wine and spirit containers as well as soft drink containers;" and
- (iii) the report dated November 6, 1997, from the Commissioner of Works be received.

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The following persons appeared before the Committee in connection with the foregoing matter:

- Mr. Usman Valiante, Principal, General Science Works, on behalf of the Brewers of Ontario;
- Mr. Gord Perks, Toronto Environmental Alliance;
- Mr. Joseph P. Hruska, Vice-President, Municipal Development, CSR: Corporations Supporting Recycling, and submitted material with respect thereto;
- Ms. Karen Buck, Toronto, Ontario; and
- Councillor Judy Sgro, North York Humber, and submitted a copy of a communication dated December 3, 1997, from the former Metro Commissioner of Works forwarding a waste management cost analysis with respect to beverage containers.

Councillor Saundercook, on behalf of Councillor Sgro, moved:

- (1) the adoption of the aforementioned recommendations embodied in Clause No. 2 of Report No. 13 of The Environment and Public Space Committee, adopted by the Council of the former Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto at its meeting held on December 10 and 18, 1997; and further, that the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto; and
- (2) that the Province of Ontario be requested to reimburse the City of Toronto in the amount of approximately \$2.2 million for the costs of handling Liquor Control Board of Ontario containers.

Councillor Shiner moved that:

- (1) the Province of Ontario be requested to immediately mandate a deposit/return system for all beverage, wine and spirit containers;
- (2) the appropriate staff be requested to submit a report to the Committee on:
  - (I) the implementation of a deposit/return system for all beverage, wine and spirit containers in the City of Toronto; and
  - (ii) the implications of withdrawing the collection of such materials from the Blue Box Program; and

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- (3) the foregoing motion by Councillor Saundercook be amended to provide that:
- (I) Recommendation No. (5) embodied in the aforementioned Clause No. 2 of Report No. 13 of The Environment and Public Space Committee be deleted; and
- (ii) the following recommendation be added thereto:
- “That the Association of Municipalities of Ontario be requested to support the aforementioned recommendations with respect to deposit/return systems.”

Councillor Bossons moved that the appropriate staff be requested to provide to Members of the Committee all available material from the Recycling Council of Ontario product stewardship process.

Upon the question of the adoption of the foregoing motions, they were carried.

The following is the action therefore taken by the Committee:

The Committee recommended to Council:

- (A) the adoption of the following recommendations embodied in Clause No. 2 of Report No. 13 of The Environment and Public Space Committee, adopted by the Council of the former Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto at its meeting held on December 10 and 18, 1997:
- “(1) That in addition to the Council direction to staff of September 24 and 25, 1997, by the adoption of Clause No. 4 of Report No. 12 of The Environment and Public Space Committee, as amended, the Commissioner of Works develop a plan to mandate a deposit/return system being established for wine and spirit beverage containers sold in the new City of Toronto;
- (2) that the Solicitor, in consultation with the Commissioner of Works, report on any legal remedies that may be used to help establish a deposit/return system for wine and spirit beverage containers sold in the new City of Toronto;

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- (3) that the Commissioner of Works' and Solicitor's reports be presented to the appropriate Committee of the new City of Toronto Council at the first available opportunity; and
- (4) that the Commissioner of Works pursue this matter with his peers across the Province of Ontario”;

and further, that the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto;

- (B) that the Province of Ontario be requested to:
  - (1) immediately mandate a deposit/return system for all beverage, wine and spirit containers; and
  - (2) reimburse the City of Toronto in the amount of approximately \$2.2 million for the costs of handling Liquor Control Board of Ontario containers; and
- (C) that the Association of Municipalities of Ontario be requested to support the aforementioned recommendations with respect to deposit/return systems.

The Committee further requested the appropriate staff to:

- (1) submit a report to the Committee on:
  - (I) the implementation of a deposit/return system for all beverage, wine and spirit containers in the City of Toronto; and
  - (ii) the implications of withdrawing the collection of such materials from the Blue Box Program; and
- (2) provide to Members of the Committee all available material from the Recycling Council of Ontario product stewardship process.

(Acting Executive Commissioner, Emergency and Protective Services; Interim Functional Lead, Water Supply and Water Pollution Control; Interim Functional Lead, Solid Waste Management; Interim Lead, Legal Services; Councillor Judy Sgro, North York Humber; All Interested Parties - January 14, 1998)

**(Clause No. 1, Report No. 1)**



**3. Biosolids Demonstration Facility -  
Harbour Remediation & Transfer Inc.**

The Committee had before it a communication (December 23, 1997) from the Metropolitan Clerk forwarding a copy of Clause No. 1 of Report No. 13 of The Environment and Public Space Committee, headed "Biosolids Demonstration Facility - Harbour Remediation & Transfer Inc.", which was adopted, as amended, by the Council of The Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto at its meeting held on December 10 and 18, 1997, wherein it recommended:

- (1) the adoption of the report dated November 20, 1997, from the Commissioner of Works;
- (2) the adoption of the confidential report dated November 25, 1997, from the Metropolitan Solicitor;
- (3) that the confidential report dated December 9, 1997, from the Commissioner of Works, entitled "Beneficial Biosolids Re-use Demonstration - Harbour Remediation & Transfer Inc.", be adopted, such report to remain confidential until approval for entering into the agreement with Harbour Remediation & Transfer Inc., as appended to such report, is granted by the Financial Advisory Board;
- (4) that the Commissioner of Works be requested to submit a report to the appropriate Standing Committee of the new City of Toronto Council on the criteria which are to be used to determine the success of the biosolids re-use demonstration project;
- (5) that the Biosolids Monitoring Committee be disbanded and the Commissioner of Works, in consultation with the new City of Toronto Ward Councillors for Don River, Councillors Jack Layton and Pam McConnell, be requested to submit a report to the new City of Toronto Council, through the appropriate Standing Committee, on a public participation and monitoring process which will ensure immediate remediation of odour problems, should they occur in the future; and
- (6) that the Metropolitan Clerk be requested to append to the foregoing Clause the full text of the communication dated December 10, 1997, from the President and Chief Executive Officer, City of Toronto Economic Development Corporation (TEDCO).

Ms. Karey Shinn, Chair, Public Committee for Safe Sewage Treatment in Metropolitan Toronto, appeared before the Committee in connection with the aforementioned matter, and submitted a communication with respect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Layton, the Committee deferred consideration of the aforementioned matter until its next meeting, scheduled to be held on February 11, 1998, to be considered as the first item of business, with a request that the appropriate staff submit a report to such meeting on the status of the project and on further demonstration projects which move towards 100 percent diversion of biosolids from incineration.

(Acting Executive Commissioner, Emergency and Protective Services;  
c: Interim Functional Lead, Solid Waste Management; Interim Functional Lead, Water Supply and Water Pollution Control; Interim Lead, Legal Services; All Interested Parties - January 14, 1998)

**(Clause No. 2(b), Report No. 1)**

**DEFERRED**

#### **4. Membership of Works and Utilities Committee.**

The Committee had before it a communication (January 9, 1998) from the City Clerk advising that on January 2, 6, 8 and 9, 1998, City Council appointed the following as Members of the Works and Utilities Committee for a term of office expiring on May 31, 1999, and/or until their successors are appointed:

Councillor Betty Disero, Chair  
Councillor Gerry Altobello  
Councillor Lorenzo Berardinetti  
Councillor Ila Bossons  
Councillor Sandra Bussin  
Councillor Tom Jakobek  
Councillor Jack Layton  
Councillor Bill Saundercook  
Councillor Sherene Shaw  
Councillor David Shiner  
Councillor Michael Walker  
Mayor Mel Lastman (ex officio)

The Committee received the aforementioned communication.

**(Clause No. 2(c), Report No. 1)**

**5. Location of Meetings.**

The Chair of the Committee, having conducted an informal poll of the Members present and having determined that such Members were equally divided with respect to their preference for the location of Committee meetings, advised the Committee that the next meeting scheduled to be held on February 11, 1998, would be held in Committee Room A, Metro Hall.

The Committee adjourned its meeting at 12:40 p.m.

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Chair.