



FINANCE COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, April 16, 2014
PLACE: Northwest RSC
Planning services Edmundston Office
36 Court Street, Edmundston, NB
TIME: 9:30 a.m.

MINUTES OF MEETING

1. Call to order

The president, Mr. Pierre Michaud, called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m., he welcomed the members attending.

Members attending

Mr. Pierre Michaud, President

Mayor of Clair

Mr. Carmel St-Amand, Vice-President

Mayor of Saint-Léonard

Mr. Luc St-Jarre

Representing the LSD

Staff attending

François Picard

General Manager

Maurice D'Amours

Planning Manager

Jean Bourque

Waste Management Services
Manager

2. Waste Management Services

a) **Resnet**: The Northwest Regional Service Commission (NWRSC) has supported Resnet's social mission and mandate to recycle computer hardware for many years. In 2013, a study was performed and several problems were raised, including the cost of transportation. These recurring costs are mainly funded by NWRSC (\$50,000). A meeting was held with the regional delegation to identify a solution while waiting the proclamation of the *Computer and Other Equipment Recycling Act*.

b) **Atelier des copains**: After discussing the challenges facing *Atelier des copains*, the Finance Committee decided to review the impact of the City of Edmundston's recycling program on the Atelier's operations. The manager was also tasked with continuing the study and evaluating the possibilities of improving the Atelier's recycling capacity. NWRSC is an important financial partner of the Atelier.

A meeting will take place in the next few weeks with the Atelier's management and a representative of ACOA (Mr. Richard Bélanger) will be invited to participate.

The Finance Committee believes that it is important to recognize the importance and role of Resnet and the Atelier des copains for our region and to identify what needs to be done to ensure their financial viability.

- c) **Capital budget:** A draft capital expenditures budget for the next five years was presented to the Finance Committee. Investments of around \$5 million are needed (cell, compactor, etc.).

After discussion, the Finance Committee moved to have an accurate accounting evaluation of the budget after receiving the 2013 financial statements for waste management in order to evaluate accurately, on a yearly basis, the impact of loans and debentures for capital spending on operating costs.

The capital budget will then be presented to the Board of Directors.

- d) **Recycling program:** The Finance Committee acknowledged receipt of the documentation prepared by EXP (April 2014) on starting a recycling program for the area served by NWRSC.

Implementation costs would be \$6,550,000 and represent an increase of \$28.43 in the cost per ton. The waste management manager mentioned that Mr. Roland Leblanc, P.Eng., is available to meet with the Board of Directors at a convenient time.

3. **Planning**

The review of planning services was discussed, along with certain practices that could be improved.

The reports presented to the various municipal councils were discussed, as well as projects developed by employees as a value-added to planning services provided.

Three budgets for the 2015 fiscal year were presented to the Finance Committee for discussion.

- 1) Partner contribution (adjusted) 2015
- 2) Partner contribution (equal basis) 2015
- 3) Partner contribution (equal basis) – minus partners leaving

Scenario #3 would have the greatest effect on operations, decreasing the planning budget by \$658,717.17 (48.99%). This would mean a drastic reduction in staff and have an impact on the governance budget.

The committee proposed continuing our work with the municipalities and preparing a transition budget covering a period of three years as opposed to two as is being done now.

4. Nadeau et al. V. Desjardins et al.

Mr. Gary McLaughlin gave an update on the suit, which has been going on for over 10 years. He explained briefly the various stages of the suit. No costs have been assumed by NWRSC; they are looked after by our insurance.

Given that the matter is confidential and is running its normal course, little information can be divulged at this time.

Mr. McLaughlin will send us the information as the matter continues. He emphasized that members and staff must regard the information discussed today as confidential.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by the President at 4:00p.m.

.....
PIERRE MICHAUD
President

.....
FRANÇOIS PICARD
General Manager