Glanbrook Landfill Coordinating Committee

Special meeting for WastePlan Presentation

Monday, January 30, 2006
Glanbrook Landfill Meeting Room
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Attendees:

CITY OF HAMILTON, WASTE MANAGEMENT:
Beth Goodger, Director Waste Management
David Kerr, Supervisor of Landfills
Frank Falcone, Project Manager, Landfills

MEMBERS:
Allan Freeman, Chair
Andy Fevez
Brook Ryan
Job Manning
Mike Caruso (WRTF)
Councillor Dave Mitchell

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
Sheila May
Gary Birch
Anna Sagan
Gerald Smith
Henry Sagan
Lloyd Davies
Carol Stickney
Waste Plan Presentation

Alan Freeman brought the meeting to order and introduced Beth Goodger as the Niagara-Hamilton WastePlan representative who would be making a slide presentation to the GLCC this evening and discussing details concerning the preferred system.

Beth provided an overview of the WastePlan process from the beginning to where it is now recommending the selection of the preferred long-term waste disposal system identified as “System 2B-Thermal Treatment of MSW and recovery of Energy followed by Recovery of Materials from the Ash/Char”. Beth also provided handouts of the presentation.

At the conclusion of the presentation Beth mentioned that the last day for the public commenting period for the recommended preferred long-term waste disposal system was February 6, 2006 and she encouraged all those interested members of the public in attendance to provide comments. After the presentation Beth responded to questions and comments from members of the GLCC and public in attendance. Those comments and questions as well as Beth’s responses are as follows:

Job Manning stressed the importance of education of the public to reach 65% diversion. Beth mentioned that the City continues to support community outreach programs and education.

Brook Ryan questioned what the City would do if 65% diversion targets are not met since we are only diverting 28% at the present. Beth mentioned that once the Green Cart program is implemented there should be significant improvement in the diversion rate. However if 65% is not met the WastePlan would likely solicit public opinion as to how the long-term facility should be designed to compensate for change in diversion.

Brook wondered if the WastePlan process would be going through an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Beth responded by saying that this is the case and is currently following the EA process.

Councillor Mitchell said that some small communities have been able to meet 65% diversion although there has yet to be a community the size of Hamilton that has met this diversion rate.

Sheila May, one of the members of the public in attendance, requested that a Social and Economical Impact Study be undertaken. Beth responded by saying that these impacts will be studied in the site selection process.

Councillor Mitchell indicated the City has passed a motion that the facility should not be sited in areas of both municipalities where there were already air quality concerns.
Hugh Brown, a member of the public, inquired about the cost of recycling after which Beth provided an estimate of approximately $80-$90/tonne. Hugh also questioned the timing for the new facility and Beth replied that it was expected to be completed in 2012-2013. Hugh thought that the City may have to look at siting a new landfill as the Glanbrook landfill may be filled up by the time a new facility is built. However Beth replied that it would be unlikely that landfill would be filled up this soon. Hugh continued that 65% target was unlikely to be met and that there should be a buffer or contingency plan in place if the 65% target is not met.

Gary Birch, a member of the public, stressed that the City should do as much as possible to educate the public and teach children in schools about recycling and that the Municipal and Federal governments should foot the bill. Beth agreed that education was important and mentioned that the community outreach team has been quite successful with the separate school board however they have had some difficulty in getting involved with the public school board.

Lloyd Davies, a member of the public, mentioned that he didn’t appreciate certain councillors suggesting that the facility should be sited in the rural areas.

Brook Ryan stated that the plan was good however there should be a back-up plan if 65% diversion is not met.

Alan Freeman recommended that the province should legislate packaging to encourage recycling. Alan also suggested that the preferred system be modular in design and operation. Alan thought that the City will meet 47% instead of 65% diversion. As well he suggested the new system be sited as soon as possible so that good landfill space is not wasted. Alan would like to see a back-up plan in the event 65% is not met. Also Alan requested that the city look at making recycling easy.

After some discussion amongst themselves a motion was made by the GLCC as follows:

“The GLCC supports in principle the Niagara-Hamilton Waste Plan system of 2B, as being the concept for the preferred final system dealing with the residual waste after 65% diversion. The GLCC supports this motion provided that the Committee has the opportunity to comment further as the process proceeds.

By supporting 2B, the life of the Glanbrook Landfill site will be extended. This process should proceed as a priority.”

The motion was moved by Andy Fevez, 2nd by Brooke Ryan and Carried.

NEXT MEETING –February 27th, 2006

Minutes prepared by David Kerr