M I N U T E S
7-2006
JOINT WORKING GROUP MEETING
Thursday, October 12, 2006
9:00 a.m. - Noon
City of Hamilton Central Composting Facility
1579 Burlington Street East, Hamilton

Attendance:

Hamilton Contingent:
Councillor Dave Braden, Co-Chair
Councillor Phil Bruckler
Councillor David Mitchell
Councillor Art Samson
David Hart Dyke, Chairperson, Waste Reduction Task Force
Beth Goodger, Director, Waste Management Division, Public Works Department
Pat Parker, Manager of Solid Waste Planning, Public Works Department
Andrea Ciparis, Administrative Secretary
Ida Bediou, Legislative Assistant

Niagara Contingent:
Councillor Gary Burroughs, Co-Chair
Councillor Judy Casselman
Councillor David Eke
Councillor Damian Goulbourne
Councillor Tim Rigby
Doug Symington, Waste Management Advisory Committee
Ian Neville, Commissioner, Public Works Department
Barry Friesen, Director, Waste Management Services, Public Works Department
Derek Ali, Waste Policy & Planning, Waste Management Services Division

Consultants:
Steve Plaice, Jacques Whitford Limited
Kerrie Skillen, Jacques Whitford Limited
David Merriman, MacViro Consultants Inc.
Janine Ralph, MacViro Consultants Inc.

Observers
Councillor Janice Wright, Region of Halton
Eric McGuinness, Hamilton Spectator
Cheryl Crawley
Co-Chair Dave Braden, called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

1. Adoption of Agenda:
   Moved by Councillor David Eke
   Seconded by Mr. David Hart Dyke
   That the agenda for the October 12, 2006 Niagara-Hamilton WastePlan Joint Working Group meeting, be adopted as presented.
   Carried.

2. Delegations
   None.

3. Approval of the Previous Minutes

   David Hart Dyke expressed concerns with the following statement under Item 6c) of the Minutes: “It was suggested that the new Taro facility in Hamilton is an example of a well engineered landfill with respect to containment and collection of leachate and gas” The Committee noted that this was a comment that was made during the discussions. The Chair requested that the Legislative Assistants identify individual comments by using quotation marks or other means in order to differentiate them from statements representing the position of the Working Group.

   Moved by Councillor G. Burroughs
   Seconded by Councillor A. Samson

   (a) That the minutes of the July 13, 2006 Niagara-Hamilton WastePlan Joint Working Group meeting be amended by inserting the words “by one member of the Working Group” after the words “It was suggested” in the second line of the second last paragraph in item 6c) as follows:

   It was suggested by one member of the Working Group that the new Taro facility in Hamilton is an example of a well engineered landfill with respect to containment and collection of leachate and gas.

   (b) That the minutes be approved as amended.
   Carried.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

   Pat Parker referred to Item 8 in the Minutes with respect to the draft diversion programs inventory and provided comments.

   Barry Friesen referred to subsection c) of Item 10 of the Minutes. He indicated that he will e-mail the information on the presentation/remarks from the Canadian Urban Institute Presentation to the Working Group. He advised that the Canadian Urban Institute is holding another workshop in Toronto and also, a Waste Expo is being held at the end of November. He will check and see if any electronic copies of the aforementioned are available and if so he will distribute them to the members of the Working Group.
5. **Halton Region Energy from Waste Announcement – Update from Region of Halton**

Beth Goodger advised the Working Group that Peter Crockett, the Commissioner of Public Works for the Region of Halton has sent his regrets indicating that he is not ready to present at today’s meeting with respect to Halton’s energy from waste initiative and has asked to postpone his presentation until the New Year. Beth Goodger distributed copies of print-outs of the information which is available on the Region of Halton’s web site with respect to this issue. She added that in the meantime staff will continue to pursue contact with the Region of Halton at the staff level.

A discussion followed with respect to the Region of Halton’s situation and whether Niagara/Hamilton can help in the progress. It was acknowledged that Halton has already approved incineration. Staff explained that the procedures are different. The Niagara-Hamilton Wasteplan is following an Environment Assessment process whereas the next step for Halton is to prepare its business plan.

Moved by Councillor D. Goulbourne
Seconded by Councillor D. Eke

That staff be directed to explore in what role Niagara/Hamilton could participate with the Region of Halton with respect to its energy from waste program and report back at the next Working Group meeting.

Carried.

Staff advised that a stabilized landfill study will be completed by the end of the year and will be presented to the Working Group by next February or March. However, other recommendations may affect the timing – i.e. if more public consultation is required then the study may not be presented until the spring.

The Working Group asked if the timing of a decision to work with the Region of Halton would be critical. Staff responded that working with another municipality is not part of the EA terms of reference. It has not been determined if that would be a viable solution and therefore it is premature to speculate at this point.

A discussion followed on the issue of whether it is necessary for the Working Group to make a decision quickly and whether it could partner with the Region of Halton. The following issues were considered:

- the Working Group must remain open minded to public input
- the Members want to reach a decision sooner rather than later
- it was suggested that once the consultant’s report has been prepared that it be provided prior to the meeting and the Working Group try to make a decision within one or two meetings
- after the Working Group selects the preferred alternative, then it could be determined if it would mesh with Halton’s program
- the consultants advised that Halton’s business plan will be with respect to Halton’s issues – there is a process to follow
- Halton already has EA approval
- The 3 key areas that need to be considered are: cost, tonnage (probably most important because it will affect cost), and the type of facility (i.e. energy use/energy generated)
- concerns were expressed with respect to public perception – the message must be clear that this will be a method to dispose of waste first and if energy is generated by the process that would be a bonus but not the goal
- Hamilton has already started to harness energy from various treatment centres (waste water and landfill)
- Halton would want Niagara and Hamilton to commit for a long term
- The Environmental Assessment Act and Environmental Protection Act would have to be complied with

6. Environmental Assessment Study
   a) Status of Short Term Initiatives
      For the benefit of the Working Group Pat Parker provided a brief synopsis of what has happened to date. She reminded the members that last March, the Working Group decided to look at stabilized landfill as an option. They took a tour of the stabilized landfill in Nova Scotia and authorized a detailed study of stabilized landfills which is underway. The study is currently in the screening process of opportunities and looking at sensitivity analysis.
   b) Overview of Stabilized Landfill Study
   and
   c) Status of Stabilized Landfill Study
      Derek Ali referred to the attachment in the agenda (Item 6.b) and handed out Item 6(c). He provided a brief overview. He confirmed that Toronto is participating in the cost of the study.

7. Budget – PowerPoint presentation and handout
   a) 2006 Budget & Work Plan
   and
   b) 2007 Budget & Work Plan
      Janine Ralph made a PowerPoint presentation and distributed a hard copy to members. She provided an overview of the 2006 Budget and Work Plan and advised the Working Group that they are currently on target with the budget but this could change.
      The Working Group discussed how the process could be advanced.
      Janine Ralph explained that she is providing an overview of the steps and not a fast tracked time table.
      Staff explained that joining Halton would be questionable. Halton must clarify whether they could bring other municipalities into their program.
      Councillor Rigby asked that in the future staff send copies of the PowerPoint presentations ahead of time so that the Members can have a chance to study the
content. Staff explained that this presentation was for information only and no approval was required at this time.

The Working Group requested that staff bring back reasonable ways to fast track the process.

Due to a lack of time, the Working Group did not consider Item 9, Staff Report on Municipal Waste Management Workshop and Item 10 Other Business but adjourned to undertake a tour of Hamilton's Central Composting Facility.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m. to meet again on January 11, 2007 at the Saltfleet Room, Stoney Creek Municipal Service Centre at 9:00 a.m.