City of Hamilton  
Public Works Department  
WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION  

MINUTES  

Glanbrook Landfill Coordinating Committee  
Meeting  
Monday, November 24, 2008  
Glanbrook Landfill Meeting Room  
4:30 - 6:30 pm  

ATTENDEES:  
MEMBERS  
Allan Freeman, Chair  
Andy Fevez  
Sheila May  
Brooke Ryan  
Councillor Dave Mitchell  
Dan Rodrigues (WRTF)  

CITY OF HAMILTON, WASTE MANAGEMENT  
Craig Murdoch, Manager of Waste Disposal  
Fabiano Gondim, Supervisor, Landfills  

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT  
Joanne Placko (Resource)  

NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY  
Frank Falcone, Project Manager, Landfills  
Joshua Diamond (Resource)  

WASTE MANAGEMENT OF CANADA CORPORATION  
Ron Wright (Resource)  

Review of Minutes from Previous Meeting  
Minutes of August 25, 2008 meeting were distributed, reviewed and were previously approved by the GLCC and Council.  

ITEM  
1. Landfill Operations Contract Update  
Craig distributed the Transfer Station and Disposal Operations Request for Proposals C11-40-08 Selection of Successful Proponents Recommendation Report and highlighted that:  
- BFI Canada, a Toronto based company, was recommended as the successful Proponent for Project A for the operation and maintenance of the Transfer Stations/CRCs and the Reuse Centre and the haulage of materials;  

ACTION
ITEM

- Waste Management of Canada Corporation (WMCC) was recommended as the successful Proponent for Project B for the operation and maintenance of the Glanbrook Landfill and Composting Facility. Should this be accepted by Council, WMCC will operate the Glanbrook Landfill and Composting Facility for the next 10 years.

- During the first meeting, Public Works Committee (PW) referred the Recommendation Report back to staff as overall costs were $1.3 million higher than current budget; more in-depth numbers and information were presented at the second PW Committee meeting, providing explanations and reasons for the cost increase;

- Landfill portion priced out separately to make sure city is receiving best value; and

- The Recommendation Report is going back to PW Committee on December 1st.

If any GLCC members have any questions regarding the report, they can be directed to Fabiano or Craig. The report has also been posted on the City of Hamilton website.

Councillor Mitchell stated the following:

- Council has asked staff to meet with BFI to explore ways to try to keep costs lower in times of restraints and economic downturn.

- Thanked Ron Wright from WMCC for all his support at the Landfill.

- Asked staff if anything was in place if conflicts arise in the working relationship between the two (2) companies (BFI and WMCC). Craig answered that the new contract does have a conflict resolution clause and also requires them to have radio contract to communicate times in which the trucks will be arriving and also the time the last truck is leaving. The City will also have staff in the field to oversee the rollover of the contract.

A question was asked if the truck traffic will increase. Craig answered that truck traffic will not increase, additionally the City will be exploring a value added option proposed by BFI to use compactors at the Transfer Stations to compact the waste and reduce the number of trucks going to the landfill. If there is a financial or operating benefit to this, it will be explored further.

The Committee recommended that a community notice be posted in the local paper, the Glanbrook Gazette, regarding the switch over of operators for the transfer trucks and also to note to the public that the same amount of trucks will be traveling through. The only difference will be that there will be two (2) companies versus one (1), and residents will notice different colour trucks. 2010 is the year of the contract change over.

Brooke Ryan suggested an Open House after turnover of contracts to introduce BFI to the residents. Bring forward closer to rollout of new contract in 2010.

Allan Freeman mentioned that if another meeting is needed to discuss any of the above issues it can easily be set.

C. Murdoch
2. **Environmental Review Tribunal Appeal, C of A Amendment**
   - Craig provided an update on the Environmental Review Tribunal Appeal. The City and MOE reached an agreement and a C of A amendment will be issued soon.
   - Once the final document is signed, Fabiano will email the C of A amendment.
   - To maintain the landfill capacity and meet the requirements of the MOE to increase surface run-off, an increase in height of no more than 2.5 metres was approved for the final contours and final slopes of the landfill are:
     - Stages 1 & 2 – minimum top slopes of 3% slope instead of 5%; and
     - Stage 3 – minimum top slope of 5%.

3. **Landfill Gas Project Update**
   - The project is currently in the commissioning phase and was hooked up to the grid two (2) weeks ago. The engines are running on and off and generating revenue since last Wednesday, November 19. The flare has been running now for two (2) weeks.
   - Once the engines operate at full load (expected for early December,) the system will provide a more effective odour control. Currently, both odour control systems have been running concurrently; candlestick flares and enclosed flare as backups to each other for effective odour control.
   - An official opening will be in the Spring – April or May. A media event will be discussed at the next GLCC meeting.

4. **Tree Planting Update**
   - Fabiano Gondim talked to Bill Longley (City’s Forestry Division) to get an update.
   - Out of the three (3) properties, south of Hall Road, who have had trees removed by Hydro One; two (2) properties have had their trees replaced already by the Forestry Division. Councillor Mitchell, Ward Councillor and Chair of Hamilton Renewable Power Inc. and Jim Hamnun, VP of Hamilton Renewable Power Inc. met with the residents and came to a resolution with the homeowners to replace tree species and sizes of their choice, planted on their property and not within the hydro right of way.
   - At the request of one (1) of the homeowners, trees will be planted in the spring.
   - Landfill Buffer area – we are currently planting additional trees, and are on schedule to plant around 200 trees before the ground freezes. Forestry will be maintaining these trees to help with survival rate.
   - Two (2) sizes of trees will be planted, 100 of a height of 6-7 ft for the smaller trees and also 100 bigger trees for a quick fill in this area.
   - Landfill buffer trees will be pines, spruces and deciduous trees.
   - Early spring, more trees will be planted. The City of Hamilton’s Forestry Division will undertake the work.

5. **Pond Data**
   - On October 28, latest pond sampling data was sent to the MOE with samples from ponds 1 and 5 taken on October 27. With the exception of pond 3, all ponds passed the discharge criteria. In August, right after the last meeting, ponds 1 and 5 were tested, and both passed.
Water run-off quality has improved. The landfill cover around Pond 3 is thinner and is raising the levels of chloride in that pond. In the spring, final cover and vegetation will be Ron Wright's next project, and this will improve the water quality at Pond 3.

After tested, if passed, ponds are released. If not, they are pumped into the leachate collection system. No specific dates are set for testing; it depends on the amount of precipitation that has occurred and the water levels within the ponds.

The Niagara Regional Conservation Authority (NPCA) also checks the surface water quality upstream and downstream of the landfill and no impacts from landfill have been detected.

6. Culvert Review

As a follow up to last meeting, the City is reviewing the size of the culvert that the GLCC believes is contributing to floods at a resident's property. The City completed a survey but the results were not clearly showing that the culvert is contributing for the flooding. The City contacted the NPCA and requested flood plain mapping, but there is no floodplain mapping for the landfill and many of the adjacent properties.

Steve Miller, from the NPCA stated that if the City wants to upgrade the existing culvert or install a new culvert of same diameter, a permit must be obtained before starting the work. The NPCA said that the City will need to prepare a floodplain map for the landfill and adjacent property and show that any proposed culvert upgrading will have no impact on the floodplain.

The City has hired a consultant, SNC Lavalin, to map out and determine the size of culvert that may be needed. We can have permit by the end of winter and if needed, we will be ready to complete upgrades in the spring.

The City is required to follow the regulations and proper procedures because the culvert is located in a regulated floodplain. We cannot install a new culvert until a permit is received from the NPCA.

Councillor Mitchell expressed concerns regarding the expense involved in getting the NPCA permit as our own PW Department could have installed a new culvert already. He said the culvert is visibly ½ the size of the one currently up the street.

Andy Fevez said he understands why the NPCA is requesting a permit. This is because if we upgrade the culvert without a proper study we may affect another downstream area or culvert.

7. Daily Cover Update

We received soil from Centre Mall, St. Josephs Hospital & Home Depot. The stockpiled clay should last until the Summer of 2009 when the construction season will be open and more soils are expected to be available.

It appears the next source of soils will be Fennell/Mountain Plaza. We are continuously looking for new sources of soil.

Craig mentioned positive feedback was received regarding our landfill site being very clean when compared to others. Feedback was also received regarding expertise of Ron Wright and how well City staff are working together with the operator.
8. **Installation of New Monitoring Wells, Status of Leachate Mound**
   - Handouts were provided showing cells and the location of the new leachate well, LM4-I.
   - LM4-I is an additional well drilled in September and was a deep well installed close to the base of the landfill.
   - Now with data from LM4-I, it became evident that LM4, which was the well with high leachate levels, was showing perched conditions, and not actual leachate mounding.
   - The current leachate level at cell 4 is 23 ft (7 metres) as measured at well LM4-I, which is consistent with leachate levels in other cells.
   - The leachate levels at the edge of the landfill are minimal and effective leachate control has been demonstrated by the lack of leachate seeps in the side slopes.

9. **Waste Reduction Task Force Update**
   - The WRTF supported a proposed change to the green cart program where the 2 additional bags with the green cart would be eliminated and prevent further impact on the Central Composting Facility which is caused by excessive amounts of grass. The L&Y material would then be sent to the Leaf & Yard Composting Pad. Public Works Committee met and has asked for other options to come forward. The City did present four (4) additional options as part of the original report. PW Committee chose not to endorse any of these four (4) options as they could potentially be seen as a reduction in the level of service provided by the City and would also be seen as another change. The WRTF agreed with the original staff recommendation changing policy for only allowing top up in green bins. A revised report will be going back to PW Committee on January 19, 2009.
   - Other item of interest is the review with Stewardship Ontario. They have put forth a recommendation to put back the refuse wording in the four (4) R’s. "refuse, reduce, reuse and recycle".
   - Dan Rodrigues also stated that currently litter containers provided throughout the City indicate, paper, plastic “litter or garbage”. The WRTF is requesting the wording be changed litter/waste to “landfill” with the concept that when the public is disposing, they will know where their garbage is going. Dan requested the support of the GLCC.
   - A motion was put forth by Sheila May, and supported by the whole GLCC supporting the language change on the waste containers from litter/waste to “landfill”. Motion passed by the GLCC.
   - Dan also mentioned that the Clean City Liaison Committee also supports this wording change on multi-street bins.

10. **New Business**
    - Sheila May enquired about Tim Horton’s cups causing litter. Dan Rodrigues met with the Regional Director of Tim Horton’s. Dan has asked Tim Horton’s to put wording on their cups stating “green bin” but their Regional Director indicated this would be problematic because Halton, for example, instructs residents to put coffee cups in blue boxes while Hamilton in green bins. Tim Horton’s is currently developing a waste program within their stores. They feel they can develop their own waste program, where customers will return their used cups at a Tim Horton’s and
they will manage the waste internally.

Question was posed by Sheila May regarding Niagara/Hamilton WastePlan and the money that was spent during the process. Councillor Mitchell stated the money spent between Hamilton/Niagara was shared 50/50 and represented 2-3 years of work. Niagara chose to take a different route, to bury their waste because this was the cheaper option. Niagara and Hamilton will continue to meet once a year and may consider future partnerships.

Brooke Ryan asked if a web site named Hamiltonrecycles.ca was a City website. Craig stated he believes this website is operated through Green Venture – a not for profit organization. Councillor Mitchell said the City helps to fund Green Venture, but Green Venture administers the actual web site.

Fabiano Gondim informed the GLCC the City is applying for an amendment to the Certificate of Approval (CofA) to accept leaf and yard waste material from other municipalities to process at the Glenbrook Landfill Leaf & Yard facility. If approved, the CofA will be amended to allow processing leaf & yard waste from Haldimand County.

Allan Freeman asked Craig Murdoch to provide a one page summary sheet to the GLCC regarding the leaf and yard waste operations as it relates to the proposed amendment.

Allan Freeman asked if future reports and literature relating to the upcoming GLCC meetings could be forwarded to the GLCC members a few days beforehand to give members the chance to read them before the meetings, especially for larger reports. Craig stated that they can be delivered for February’s meeting and that we will ensure reports and large documents are supplied in advance in the future.

A central location on the City website will be considered to provide members with links to documents so that the GLCC members can download the files.

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NEXT MEETING: Monday, February 23, 2009