


To view related Council minutes, select the Adobe hand tool  and click on the link below.  
<http://www.regional.niagara.on.ca/clerks/minutes/2001/cl/cl2-2001.pdf>

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA  
JOINT MEETING OF THE  
CORPORATE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE  
AND  
PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE**

**REPORT CFS 2 & PW 3-2001**

---

Minutes of a joint meeting of the Corporate and Financial Services and Public Works and Utilities Committees, held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Wednesday, January 24, 2001 commencing at 9:05 a.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

Committee: Councillor Martin, Co-Chair, presiding; Badawey, Co-Chair; Zimmerman, Regional Chair; Adams, Beamer, Bentley, Burroughs, Davidson, Harry, Hildreth, Muir, Saracino

Staff: Messrs. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Bacchus, Director of Corporate Services; Brcic, Assistant Director, Water & Wastewater Division, Public Works; Lockyer, Assistant Director, Financial Management & Planning/Treasurer, Corporate Services; Murphy, Manager, Policy & Development, Corporate Services; Neville, Director of Public Works; Payne, Assistant Director, Solid Waste Management Division, Public Works; Ms. Ralph, Manager of Policy and Planning, Solid Waste Management Division, Public Works; Ms. Williams, Economic & Financial Analyst, Corporate Services; Ms. Parkinson, Acting Committee Secretary.

**PRESENTATIONS**

1. 2001 Water and Wastewater Uniform Wholesale Rates

Mr. Bacchus, Director of Corporate Services, provided an overview of the Water and Wastewater Uniform Wholesale Rates for 2001. He outlined the strategies considered in calculating uniform rates, emphasizing the need for the system to remain self-financed and to avoid and/or eliminate debt.

Mr. Brcic, Assistant Director, Water & Wastewater Division, reviewed the process developed to predict the water flows for the current and following years. The actual water usage has dropped in 2000, with a continued decline projected for 2001. Mr. Bacchus stated that the expected decrease in water flows will result in lower revenue, and since these revenues are required to maintain our system in a self financing state, it will require an increase in the rate.

Mr. Brcic noted that wastewater flows are projected to increase over the next 3 years .

Mr. Bacchus reviewed the capital programs for wastewater and water as well as the financing strategies and calculated rates. Mr. Brcic reviewed the program priorities used to assign key program allocations for 2001.

In response to a query from Regional Chair Zimmerman, Ian Neville, Director of Public Works, noted that Niagara Region is well positioned to deal with any impact that Phase II of the Walkerton Inquiry may have on drinking water regulations. Regional Chair Zimmerman has requested that a report be brought to Council regarding our benchmarking efforts to date.

Moved by Councillor Hildreth  
Seconded by Councillor Adams

That Report CSD 07-2001/PWA 23-2001, January 24, 2001 respecting 2001 Water and Wastewater Uniform Wholesale Rates be received.

A) Wastewater System

1. The Wastewater Works expenditure totaling \$48,448,000 be approved for 2001.
2. The uniform rate charged to area municipalities for wastewater treatment for 2001 be established at \$0.489 per cubic meter, representing a 0% change, for the period January 1, 2001 to December 31, 2001.
3. Regional Development Charges and debt financing as appropriate be used towards financing growth-related capital costs as identified for the wastewater system.
4. Substitution of unfounded debt with contributions from reserve fund as recommended be approved as part of the Financial Plan for the Wastewater Capital Program.

B) Water System

5. Waterworks expenditures totaling \$22,689,000 be approved for 2001.

6. The uniform rate charged to the area municipalities for the production of water be established at \$0.318 per cubic meter, representing an increase of 6%, for the period January 1, 2001 to December 31, 2001.
  7. Regional Development Charges and debt financing as appropriate be used towards financing growth-related capital costs as identified for the waterworks system.
  8. Substitution of unfounded debt with contributions from reserve fund as recommended be approved as part of the Financial Plan for the Water Capital Program.
  9. In accordance with the financing strategies adopted by Council for the wastewater and water systems, a loan from the wastewater reserve be approved as part of the Financial Plan recommended for the water system for 2001. That such loan be repaid with interest at a rate equivalent to the Region's average transactional rate as determined by the Regional Treasurer.
- C) The Regional Clerk be directed to ensure that the appropriate by-laws be prepared for presentation to Regional Council.
- D) This report be circulated to the Area Municipal Treasurers and Clerks for information.

Carried.

#### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Councillor Badawey declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to the matter of Report CSD 08-2001/PWA24-2001, 2001 Solid Waste Division Budget, as he owns a business involved in waste disposal, and therefore took no part in the discussion of or voting on these matters.

2. **2001 Solid Waste Division Budget**

Mr. David Payne, Assistant Director, and Ms. Janine Ralph, Manager of Policy and Planning, Solid Waste Management Division, presented an overview of the 2001 Solid Waste Division Operating Budget. Recommendations from the Solid Waste Management Finance Study and the

Uniform Disposal Rate Review used in the budgeting process for 2000 were also applied to the 2001 budget. Ms. Ralph noted projected increases in expenditures in the areas of administration and planning, diversion, waste collection (new curbside collection services for Fort Erie, Port Colborne, Niagara Falls and Grimsby) and waste disposal. An overview of the 2001 Solid Waste Capital Program and the 2001 UDR Calculation was provided. Ms. Ralph noted that two options will be provided to the area municipalities for the purpose of charging the user for solid waste management services: Option 1: the municipalities may determine their own charge approach based on the Solid Waste Requisitions, and Option 2: based on the requisitions, the Region will calculate a Solid Waste Management Rate per property class simultaneously with the calculation of the General Regional Levy.

Moved by Councillor Davidson  
Seconded by Councillor Burroughs

That Report CSD 08-2001/PWA 24-2001, January 24, 2001 respecting 2001 Solid Waste Division Budget, be received.

- A) The Solid Waste Division Operating expenditure totaling \$24,927,535 be approved for 2001.
- B) That apportionment of Solid Waste Operating Costs to the Area Municipalities for 2001 be undertaken in the same fashion as recommended by the Regional Niagara Solid Waste Management Financing Study that was approved as part of the year 2000 budget setting exercise, as follows:
  - a) Apportionment of Waste Disposal Costs based on 1999 actual tonnages and the recommended UDR of \$71.40 for 2001.
  - b) Apportionment of Waste Collection costs based on actual contractual costs and proportionate share of waste collection expenses.
  - c) Apportionment of Recycling Collection, Processing, Waste Reduction and HHW costs based on 1999 area municipal share of assessment (including PII).
  - d) Apportionment of Administration and Planning costs based on 1999 area municipal share of assessment (including PII).

- C) That for the purpose of charging the user for solid waste management services that the Region continue to provide two (2) Options to the Area Municipalities. Municipalities may determine their own charge approach, either a uniform charge or a separate waste management rate, as follows:
- a) Option 1 – Requisitions to the Area Municipalities, whereby the total cost of services delivered by the Region is calculated and charged or requisitioned from each municipality.
  - b) Option 2 – Based on the Requisitions to the Area Municipalities, the Region will calculate a Solid Waste Management rate for each property class that can be applied by the Area Municipalities. The Solid Waste Management rate calculation per property class would be undertaken simultaneously with the calculation of the General Regional Levy.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Committee adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Doug Martin  
Co-Chair

Vance Badawey  
Co-Chair

Cheryl Parkinson  
Acting Committee Secretary

Pamela Gilroy  
Acting Regional Clerk