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THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

REPORT 4-2003

Minutes of a meeting of the Public Works and Utilities Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Tuesday, February 25, 2003 commencing at 1:35 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Councillors Redekop, Vice Chair; Regional Chair Zimmerman; Davidson, Eke, Rigby, Trombetta.

Staff: Messrs. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Neville, Commissioner of Public Works; Cousins, Director, Transportation Services Division; Brcic, Director, Water & Wastewater Services Division; Sidawi, Director, Operational Support Services; Berketo, Program Manager; Ms. Barrow, Process Engineer, Operations; Ms. Habermebl, Manager of Collection and Diversion Operations; Ms. Pilon, Legislative Assistant.

There being a lack of ordinary quorum at the meeting, the Committee chair determined that the ordinary quorum for the meeting be reduced to five members, pursuant to Part II, Section 11.7 of the Procedural By-law 7174-93.

CLOSED SESSION

78. Moved by Councillor Davidson
Seconded by Councillor Trombetta

That this Committee do now meet in Closed Session for the purpose of receiving information of a confidential nature relating to a personnel matter.

Carried.

79. Moved by Regional Chair Zimmerman
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That this Committee do now rise without report.

Carried.

PRESENTATIONS

80. Award of Tender 2002-T-46
(Collection Areas #1, 2 and 3)
Collection and Haulage of Solid Waste,
Recyclables, Organic Waste and White Goods

Mr. Payne, Director, Waste Management Services, provided the Committee with a brief overview of the Report PWA 34-2003, February 25, 2003, respecting the Award of Tender 2002-T-46 (Collection Areas #1, 2 and 3), Collection and Haulage of Solid Waste, Recyclables, Organic Waste and White Goods.

Mr. Payne advised the Committee that the existing collection contracts for Area #1 (Grimsby, Lincoln, Pelham, Wainfleet and West Lincoln) expire on August 31, 2003 and the collection contract for Areas #2 and 3 (Fort Erie, Niagara Falls, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Port Colborne, St. Catharines, Thorold and Welland) expire on March 31, 2004.

The Tender for the new collection services (weekly waste collection, organic collection, recycling collection - alternating between container and paper products; the scheduled brush collection; the on-call basic bulk and white goods collection and the once-per-year collection of Christmas trees) will increase the amount of waste being diverted from the Region's landfill sites and help the Region to achieve a waste diversion goal of 60% by the year 2005, was issued as a single document, separated into the three areas.

The total annual cost for the Region's new Collection Service Contracts would be \$12,608,260 based on year one costs of the new collection contracts, a \$632,564 increase over the current annual costs, but represents a much higher level of service with weekly organics/recyclables co-collection for most municipalities and puts the Region well on the way to achieving its overall 65% diversion goal.

Mr. Payne noted that the total cost is approximately \$3 million less than the estimated annual collection cost in the Organics Diversion Strategy report (including the estimated costs for bulky/white goods collection), reducing the projected annual diversion costs from approximately \$120/tonne, as estimated in the Organic Strategy, to \$80/tonne.

Mr. Payne advised the Committee as per Council's request for staff to examine a Uniform Collection Rate approach to allocate collection costs in the Region as part of 2004 Budget Development, based on the new contract costs for a full year of the new collection services, the Uniform Collection Rate per Household would be \$73.31.

(Refer to Staff Directions)

81. Moved by Councillor Davidson
Seconded by Regional Chair Zimmerman

That Report PWA 35-2003, February 25, 2003 respecting Alternative Biosolids Management, be lifted from PWA Summary February 25, 2003 and dealt with separately at this time.

Carried.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Councillor Rigby declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to PWA 35-2003, February 25, 2003, respecting the Alternative Biosolids Management, as he is a Director of St. Catharines Hydro and therefore took no part in the discussion of or voting on these matters.

82. Alternative Biosolids Management
PWA 35-2003

Ms. Barrow, Process Engineer, Operations, provided the Committee with a brief overview of Report 35-2003, February 25, 2003, Alternative Biosolids Management.

Ms. Barrow advised the Committee that a Niagara Biosolids Master Plan was undertaken to assess the Region's current practice of storing and land applying the liquid biosolids and provide a strategic framework for the future that would address regulatory changes, public perception and best management practices.

The Biosolids Master Plan reviewed a number of alternatives assessing each of the methods based on technical and economical feasibility. Five Alternatives (Dewatered Biosolids, Alkaline Stabilization, Heat Dried Biosolids, Composted Biosolids and Incineration) were identified as possible options for further consideration.

The Biosolids Master Plan identified that 25% of the biosolids generated be diverted to an alternative process, to allow for implementation of diversification that could be re-assessed, as future needs change.

The Region received eleven Expressions of Interest (EOI), seven of the submissions were determined as satisfying the basic requirements and were notified that they successfully met the requirements.

CH2M Hill Canada was retained to assist the Region's evaluation team with the preparation of the Request for Proposals (RFP), outlining the quantity and the quality of the biosolids, preparation of the evaluation criteria, review of submissions and recommendation of preferred alternative.

Of the seven proponents who were short-listed only five responded to the RFP, with three of the five proposals meeting the minimum eligibility criteria. The three proposals were assessed on qualifications, technical, ease of implementation, contingency plans, environmental, utilization/disposal plans and cost, resulting in two of the firms American Water Services and IMS/N-Viro Systems Canada Inc. proceeding to the next phase of evaluations.

Ms. Barrow provided the Committee with the highlights of the two proposals:

IMS/N-Viro Systems Canada Inc.

IMS/N-Viro Systems Canada Inc. would be responsible for hauling the dewatered material from the Region's facility to their processing site located at Walker Bros. Quarries property in Thorold, where an existing structure would be renovated to accommodate the installation of the process equipment.

IMS/N-Viro Systems Canada Inc. process involves adding alkaline admixture and heat to the dewatered biosolids to reduce or eliminate pathogens and increase the solids content to approximately 65%, with the final product being sold to the agricultural community as an Aglime substitute and soil conditioner.

American Water Services

American Water Services has entered into a lease agreement with the former Hamilton Bioconversion plant located in Hamilton, where the existing equipment would be utilized to further process the dewatered biosolids.

American Water Services' process exposes the dewatered biosolids to a high volume of air stream at temperatures of 120° to 140° C for forty-five minutes with the final product achieving a total solids concentration of greater than 90%. The dried biosolids material is then cooled and sent through the pellet mill where pellets are extruded. The pellets are intended to be marketed as a superior quality bulk-blending ingredient to both agricultural and specialty fertilizer markets.

In conclusion, the IMS/N-Viro Systems Canada Inc. proposal offered the Region the following advantages over the American Water Systems' proposal:

- ✓ A longer-term proven experience in the marketing and sale of the product produced.
- ✓ A reliable contingency option to land application of biosolids products if the market demand for land application of biosolids is insufficient in the future. Dewatered and Alkaline biosolids could be stored or disposed at the Walker Industries landfill site if required.
- ✓ A lower risk to cost escalation from increases in utility costs, such as natural gas.

- ✓ No reliance on the Garner Road biosolids storage facility as a back-up contingency option.
- ✓ A solution that would be implemented in Niagara Region.

The \$2.5 million of SuperBuild funding that the Ontario Government has approved for the "Alternative Biosolids Management Project" will be directed toward the project, particularly the Region's dewatering components and will not jeopardize the SuperBuild funding.

Moved by Councillor Davidson
Seconded by Regional Chair Zimmerman

That Report PWA 35-2003, February 25, 2003, respecting the Alternative Biosolids Management, be received.

That staff be authorized to proceed with negotiations with Integrated Municipal Services (IMS)/N-Viro Systems Canada to develop and finalize a contract for long term management services for 25% or more of annual biosolids produced by Niagara Region.

That in the event staff cannot reach desirable contract terms with IMS/N-Viro Systems Canada, the Region enter into negotiations with American Water Services (AWS) Canada, for similar management service of 25% or more of Niagara Region's annual biosolids production.

That staff report further on final contract conditions and for formal approval of the proposed contract agreement. (Water & Wastewater Services)

Carried.

ADMINISTRATION

For Committee Consideration

The Committee considered the following staff recommendations contained in the PWA Summary, February 25, 2003:

83. Proposed Property Disposal
Former Highland Standpipe Site
Town of Pelham

PWA 31-2003

That Report PWA 31-2003, February 25, 2003, respecting the Proposed Property Disposal, Former Highland Standpipe Site in the Town of Pelham, be received.

That a vacant parcel of land, site of the former Highland Standpipe, designated as Parts 1 and 3 on Plan 59R-10072 in the Town of Pelham, be declared surplus to Regional requirements.

That a lease, dated March 13, 1998, in favour of George and Barbara Rooke over Part 1 on Plan 59R-10072 for their enjoyment and use as lawn and garden be terminated pursuant to the terms and conditions of the lease.

That staff be authorized to proceed with the disposal of the lands by public tender in accordance with Regional policy. (Operational Support Services)

84. Parking Meter Rates on Regional Highways
within the City of Welland

PWA 32-2003

That Report PWA 32-2003, February 25, 2003, respecting the Parking Meter Rates on Regional Highways within the City of Welland, be received.

That the parking meter rates on Regional highways in Schedule G of Regional By-law 89-2000 within the City of Welland be amended to reflect the changes as approved by the City of Welland Council; and

That the Regional Clerk be requested to ensure that the necessary by-law amendment is presented to Council on March 6, 2003. (Transportation)

85. Reduced Load Restrictions on Regional Highways

PWA 33-2003

That Report PWA 33-2003, February 25, 2003, respecting the Reduced Load Restrictions on Regional Highways, be received.

That Schedule "Y" and "Z" of By-law 89-2000, regulating the maximum vehicle weight to five tonnes per axle, be amended by adding or deleting the highways listed in this report; and

That the Regional Clerk be requested to ensure the necessary by-law amendment is presented to Council on March 6, 2003. (Transportation)

86. Award of Tender 2002-T-46
(Collection Areas #1, 2 and 3)
Collection and Haulage of Solid Waste,
Recyclables, Organic Waste and White Goods

PWA 34-2003

That Report PWA 34-2003, February 25, 2003, respecting the Award of Tender 2202-T-46 (Collection Areas #1, 2 and 3), Collection and Haulage of Solid Waste, Recyclables, Organic Waste and White Goods, be received.

That Tender Number 2002-T-46 for Collection Area #1, covering the collection and haulage of solid waste, recyclables, organic waste and white goods (Component I – Base Level of Collection Services and Component II – Enhanced Level of Services), for the period commencing September 1, 2003 and expiring on March 31, 2009, be awarded to Canadian Waste Services Incorporated, St. Catharines, Ontario, at a total estimated cost, including G.S.T., of \$13,341,855.50.

That Tender Number 2002-T-46 for Collection Areas #2 & 3, covering the collection and haulage of solid waste, recyclables, organic waste and white goods (Component I – Base Level of Collection Services and Component II – Enhanced Level of Services), for the period commencing April 1, 2004 and expiring on March 31, 2009, be awarded to Modern Landfill Incorporated, Niagara Falls, Ontario, at a total estimated cost, including G.S.T., of \$51,093,378.35.

That the contract prices be adjusted annually based on the Consumer's Price Index (CPI) for Ontario, and for any increase in the number of household units being serviced.

That Component III - Provisional Items be dealt with as follows:

That the direct haul of solid waste to American Ref-Fuel, at an annual cost of \$2,080,000, plus G.S.T., for the municipalities of Niagara-on-the-Lake, St. Catharines, Fort Erie and Niagara Falls, not be awarded as part of this Tender.

That other provisional services be awarded as part of this Tender, at the direction of the appropriate Area Municipal Council, and be the subject of a separate PWP Report to Regional Council

That a copy of this Report be forwarded to the twelve (12) Area Municipal Councils for their information.

That the Director of Legal Services prepare the necessary by-laws.

That the Regional Chair and Clerk be authorized to execute the agreements and the contract documents with Modern Landfill Incorporated and Canadian Waste Services Incorporated. (Waste Management Services)

87. The Niagara Water Quality Protection Strategy – Update
PWA 36-2003

That Report PWA 36-2003, February 25, 2003, respecting the Niagara Water Quality Protection Strategy – Update, be received.

That this report be received for information and that the logo and slogan for the Niagara Water Quality Protection Strategy be endorsed. (Water & Wastewater Services)

88. Moved by Councillor Eke
Seconded by Councillor Davidson

That the PWA Summary, dated February 11, 2003, and the foregoing recommendations of Reports PWA 31-2003 to PWA 34-2003 inclusive and PWA 36-2003, be received and accepted.

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

89. Communications listed in Report PWC Summary, dated February 25, 2003, were received and dealt with as follows:

PWC 10-2003 – (February 14, 2003) – **Ron Davidson**, Associate Director, Transportation Operations, to each Area Municipal Engineer, on the depletion of sodium chloride (road salt) at the dock and requesting that the amount of stock that will be drawn from the Region's supply be limited as much as possible. Attached is a letter from the salt supplier informing of the stock depletion at Thorold.

-- Received.

PWC 11-2003 - (February 19, 2003) – **Darrell Smith**, Manager of Engineering Services, City of Niagara Falls, to John Rizzo, Project Manager, being a resolution passed by City Council authorizing a Public Meeting to present Option 6 on the Main Street Closure Environmental Assessment. A copy of the February 10th letter from the Ministry of the Environment is also attached.

-- Received.

90. Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That the PWC Summary, be received and dealt with as directed by this Committee and as noted in these minutes.

Carried.

PROGRESS REPORTS

91. Summary of Quotations, Tenders, Authorizations

Moved by Regional Chair Zimmerman
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report PWP 16-2003, February 25, 2003, respecting the Summary of Quotations, Tenders, Authorizations, be received and accepted.

Carried.

92. Public Works Staff Comments on
Development and Related Proposals

Moved by Regional Chair Zimmerman
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report PWP 17-2003, February 25, 2003, respecting the Public Works Staff
Comments on Development and Related Proposals, be received for information.

Carried.

93. Construction Progress Report
Water & Wastewater Services Division Projects

Moved by Regional Chair Zimmerman
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report PWP 19-2003, February 25, 2003, respecting the Construction
Progress Report, Water & Wastewater Services Division Projects, be received for
information.

Carried.

94. Construction Progress Report
Transportation Services

Moved by Regional Chair Zimmerman
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report PWP 20-2003, February 25, 2003, respecting the Construction
Progress Report, Transportation Services, be received for information.

Carried.

95. Consolidated Equipment Reserve Fund – 0945 Fleet

Moved by Regional Chair Zimmerman
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report PWP 21-2003, February 25, 2003, respecting the Consolidated
Equipment Reserve Fund – 0945 Fleet, be received for information.

Carried.

MINUTES

96. Minutes of the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee Meeting of Tuesday, February 11, 2003

Moved by Regional Chair Zimmerman
Seconded by Councillor Davidson

That the minutes of the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee meeting held on Tuesday, February 11, 2003, be received and the recommendations contained therein approved.

Carried.

ACCOUNTS

97. Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Trombetta

That the accounts list for the period ending January 31, 2003, in the amount of \$5,661,340,36, be approved for payment.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

98. Ontario Street Reconstruction Project
Town of Lincoln

Mr. Neville, Commissioner, Public Works Department, advised the Committee that staff has begun the process of reviewing current projects and the sale of surplus property to attain the funds required to move the Ontario Street project forward. A report with the findings will be brought forward to the Public Works and Utilities Committee in April 2003.

99. Reconstruction of Glenridge Avenue
Next Phase – Railway to Westchester Avenue
City of St. Catharines

Councillor Rigby advised the Committee of a concern that has been raised regarding the timing of the construction of the next phase of the reconstruction of Glenridge Avenue (Railway to Westchester Avenue) during the beginning of the 2003/2004 school year.

Mr. Cousins, Director, Transportation Services advised the Committee that the Public Works Department will be tendering the contract in March 2003 and award the contract in April 2003. The construction can then begin in May and be completed prior to the beginning of the school year.

100. Recent Collision at the Intersection of
Allanbrook Road and Barron Road
City of Niagara Falls

Mr. Cousins advised the Committee that there have been three fatalities at the intersection, one in 1996, one in 1998 and one in 2003 and that there were twelve recorded collisions at this intersection in 1998.

The intersection was studied and there were short and long-term recommendations made at the time, all but one of the short-term recommendations have been implemented. The challenge at this intersection is the restricted site distance. The long-term recommendation would entail the reconstruction of the intersection to raise the intersection by two to three meters near the railway crossing.

Mr. Cousins advised the Committee that following the completion of the Niagara Regional Police Services, Traffic Units' investigation, staff will be preparing a full report on this intersection for the Public Works and Utilities Committee.

STAFF DIRECTIONS

Staff was requested to:

- provide all Councillors with copies of the Uniform Collection Rates by municipality at the March 6, 2003 Regional Council meeting. (Refers to Minute Item # 80) **WASTE MANAGEMENT**

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 3:03 p.m., to meet again in Committee Room 4 on March 11, 2003 at 1:30 p.m.

Wayne Redekop
Vice Chair

Janet Pilon
Legislative Assistant

Thomas R. Hollick
Regional Clerk