

To view related Council minutes, click on the link below.  
<http://www.regional.niagara.on.ca/government/council/minutes/2004/cl/cl05-2004.pdf>

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA  
JOINT MEETING OF  
CORPORATE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE  
AND  
PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE  
REPORT CFS 6/PW 7-2004**

Minutes of a Joint meeting of the Corporate and Financial Services Committee and Public Works and Utilities Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Wednesday, February 25, 2004, commencing at 9:15 a.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

Committee: Councillors Martin, Co-Chair; Rigby, Co-Chair; Partington, Regional Chair; Burroughs; Goulbourne; Harry; Heit; Hodgson; Leavens; Saracino.

Staff: Mr. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Mr. Bacchus, Commissioner of Corporate Services; Mr. Neville, Commissioner of Public Works; Mr. Payne, Director, Waste Management Division; Mr. Ralph, Manager, Waste Policy and Planning; Mr. Roach, Manager, Financial Services P.W.; Mr. J. Murphy, Manager, Policy & Development; Ms. Williams, Senior Financial Analyst; Ms. Reilly, Legislative Assistant.

**PRESENTATION**

4. Waste Management Division 2004 Operating and Capital Budget

Mr. Payne, Director, Waste Management Division, and Ms. Ralph, Director, Policy & Development, provided an overview of the Waste Management Division 2004 Operating and Capital Budget. Mr. Payne apprised Committee of the Division's Mission Statement, Major Goals and Objectives and Organizational Structure. The Director highlighted its programs and initiatives as follows:

- Niagara-Hamilton Waste Plan for long-term Disposal Capacity
- New Organic Collection Program
- Optimize the use of existing waste disposal facilities
- Improve customer awareness and develop cost effective communication activities
- Facilitate initiatives such as the FCM technology exchange, implementation of Mercury Reduction and Sustainable Planning
- Review and optimize MRF operations
- Continue closure works associated with closed waste disposal facilities

- Reduce amount of waste land filled through implementation of new diversion initiatives
- Minimize environmental impacts from waste disposal facilities operations

Ms. Ralph presented the 2004 proposed budget with total expenditures of \$37,161,531, which represents an increase of \$5,124,775 or 16.00% over the 2003 budget. Ms. Ralph summarized the major factors contributing to the increase in the areas of Administration & Planning; Diversion; Waste Collection and Waste Disposal. Also provided for Committee's information were details regarding the costs and benefits of the Organic Program for a total of approximately \$2 million.

Ms. Ralph outlined revenue sources, noting one-time-only costs associated with the new Organics Collection program funded from the Solid Waste Reserve Fund and Waste management requisition to the area municipalities which has increased by \$2.2 million (8.89%) compared to the 16% increase in expenditures. Also noted, are Landfill Site Tipping Fees that include an increase in fees of \$560,000 based on an increase in tipping fees for residential self-hauled materials from \$50 to \$60 per tonne and increase in fees for management of clean and contaminated soils from commercial haulers.

Ms. Ralph highlighted the Municipal Requisition which is a means of recovering net waste management costs (after other revenue sources) from the taxbase. The method of apportioning costs to the Area Municipalities and the methods of recovering costs from taxpayers is being reviewed via the Regional Niagara Financing Options Study. The study is recommending a 5 year transition plan to reach a point where all properties in the Region would be charged the same for waste management services. Year 1 (2004) recommendations are reflected in the budget.

Ms. Ralph highlighted the recommended apportionments for Waste Disposal; Waste Collection; Diversion Program and Administration and Planning costs. The recommended Uniform Disposal Rate is \$75.77 based on previous rate projections and reserve fund requirements. A chart was presented indicating the 2004 requisition per property for each municipality. (Refer to Chart on page 14 and Appendix IV of Report PWA 39-2004/CSD 35-2004 attached.)

Mr. Payne outlined the projections for future years as:

- Implementation of new Organic Program in 2004 and new Recycling Facility which represents last major changes to waste management system for some time
- From 2005 until new Disposal Capacity is implemented (potentially 2013), the budget should remain relatively stable.

- Changes will be based on contractual cost on increases and small program changes

Mr. Payne apprised Committee of the Core Services Review, stating that the proposed Budget does not reflect the outcome of the Core Services Review as potential implications of these initiatives would be difficult to address in 2004. Some or all of the initiatives could be included in the 2005 Budget. A table detailing the Reserve Fund Impacts indicated a projected year-end balance of \$6,155,000.

(Refer to staff direction on page CFS&PWC 12.)

Conflict of Interest

Councillor Heit declared an indirect pecuniary interest with respect to Waste Collection as the company that collects waste is a client and he therefore took no part in the discussion of, or voting, on this matter.

5. Report PWA 39-2004/CSD 35-2004  
2004 Waste Management Division  
Operating and Capital Budgets

Moved by Councillor Burroughs  
Seconded by Councillor Heit

That Report PWA 39-2004/CSD 35-2004, February 25, 2004, respecting 2004 Waste Management Division Operating and Capital Budgets, be received.

That the Waste Management Division Operating expenditures totaling \$37,161,431 be approved for 2004.

That financing be confirmed for the 2004 Waste Management Capital Program for \$ 8,059,547 gross and \$ 7,334,547 net amounts.

That apportionment of Waste Management Operating Costs to the Area Municipalities for 2004 for a portion of the operating costs be undertaken in a similar fashion as recommended and approved for the past three year's budgets as follows:

- a) Apportionment of Waste Disposal Costs based on the past twelve months of actual tonnages (September 2002 to August 2003) and the recommended UDR of \$75.77 for 2004.
- b) Apportionment of Waste Collection costs based on the sum of base level waste collection expenses (allocated based on proportion of properties served) and actual contract costs for additional services.
- c) Apportionment of Recycling Collection, Waste Reduction and HHW costs based on 2002 area municipal share of taxable assessment.

That apportionment of Waste Management Operating Costs to the Area Municipalities for 2004 for the remainder of the operating costs be undertaken as follows:

- a) Apportionment of Administration and Planning costs based on the proportion of properties served.
- b) Apportionment of Recycling Processing costs based on 2002 proportion of materials collected and recycled.
- c) Apportionment of Organic Collection and Processing costs based on the proportion of properties served.

That for the purpose of charging the user for 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 Waste Management rate for each property class that can be applied by the Area Municipalities. The Waste Management rate calculation per property class would be undertaken simultaneously with the calculation of the General Regional Levy.

Carried.

### **STAFF DIRECTION**

That staff be directed to:

- (a) Prepare a scenario using reserve funds to reduce municipal requisitions and its related impact.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Committee adjourned at 10:10 a.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair.

Doug Martin  
Co-Chair

Gail Reilly  
Legislative Assistant

Tim Rigby  
Co-Chair

Pam Gilroy  
Acting Regional Clerk