

**WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES DIVISION**  
**CITIZENS LIAISON COMMITTEE (CLC)–NIAGARA ROAD 12 LANDFILL SITE**

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Notes of a meeting of the Niagara Road 12 Landfill Citizens Liaison Committee held via Zoom on March 25, 2021 commencing at 7:00 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

Committee: Ken Durham - Chair  
Peter Forsberg  
Brian Jaworsky  
Victor Dirksen  
Councillor Bob Hildebrandt, Town of Pelham  
Councillor Greg Reimer, Town of Lincoln  
Councillor William Reilly, Town of West Lincoln  
Councillor Randy Vaine for Mayor Jeff Jordan, Town of Grimsby

Regrets: Robert Lee

Staff: Andrew Winters, Program Manager, Waste Disposal Operations  
Emil Prpic, Associate Director, Waste Disposal Operations & Engineering  
Mariano Singzon, Supervisor, Waste Disposal Operations  
Sandy Sawatzky, Waste Management Clerk/Program Administrator

**1. Distributed at meeting:**

Agenda  
Minutes for December 10, 2020 meeting

**2. Approval of Agenda:**

- The agenda was accepted and the meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.
- Committee members approved

Moved by: consensus  
Seconded by: consensus

Carried.

**3. Approval of Minutes from December 10, 2020:**

Moved by: Peter Forsberg  
Seconded by: Robert Hildebrandt

Carried.

#### 4. Business Arising from previous meeting:

- Committee member identified a missed word in section 5 of the December 10, 2020 minutes regarding a comment for Draft TOR. "Incineration" should replace first "etc."

#### Change to December 10, 2020 minutes (updated):

#### 5. Draft Terms of Reference (TOC) for CLC

Minutes read:

- Comments from committee
  - last paragraph of article 1 add **incineration** before "etc.". Would like to see it in there for future reference, "etc. be added before etc.

Replace with:

- last paragraph of article 1 add **incineration** before etc. Would like to see it in there for future reference, "incineration" be added before etc.

Moved by: Peter Forsberg

Seconded by: Robert Hildebrandt

Carried.

#### 6. Draft Terms of Reference (TOC) for CLC

- A draft Terms of Reference was distributed at the December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 CLC meeting and members were asked to send any comments/proposed changes to Niagara Region staff within 2 weeks.
- At the December meeting a member requested that "incineration" be included as part of the Terms of Reference, however in the two week period after the meeting a different member disagreed and believe it is not part of the mandate of the Committee.
- At the March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021 CLC meeting, this topic was discussed again with the entire committee, and it was concluded that "incineration" was not within this Committee's mandate and would not be included in the Terms of Reference.
- Terms of Reference was updated to reflect all comments and decisions from the Committee. The updated Terms of Reference will be sent to the Committee for final review following the March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 meeting with the intent to finalize and approve at the next meeting.

**Action:** Niagara Region to send out Terms of Reference to Committee within one week following the meeting.

## 7. Impact of COVID-19 on Landfill Operation

- Staff reports:
  - Procedures that were implemented for COVID-19 have remained in place, including limiting the number of vehicles at the Residential Drop-off Depot to allow for proper social distancing. The impact of these procedures is increased wait time and line-ups, however site users have become accustomed to the process. Niagara Region has implemented a procedure specific to brush and leaf & yard waste drop-off that allows residents to bypass the scales and reduce queuing at the scalehouse.
  - Increased traffic and longer line-ups were seen at the site this past weekend, due to warmer weather and the beginning of spring cleaning. Vehicles in line before close (4 p.m.) on Saturday were allowed into the site, with all residents vacating the site by 5 p.m.
  - All staff and contractors working on site are required to do daily COVID-19 screening before they are allowed to work on site.
  - Landfill staff have noticed that residents are very understanding of the new procedures in place and for the most part are respecting rules and social distancing.
  - The daily volume of traffic throughout the pandemic has not changed, compared to average daily vehicles counts before the pandemic.
  - Niagara Region uses various media platforms, including social media and a portable road sign, to notify the public of increased wait times during the spring months.
  - Committee member asked for clarity surrounding which days experienced increased traffic and wait times:
    - Tuesdays and Saturdays are historically the busiest days (average 400-500 vehicles on Tuesday, average of 500 vehicles on Saturday). The busiest time of day is typically 10 am, - 3 p.m.
  - Niagara Region is exploring alternative technologies to inform residents of wait times, such as an app or website that displays current wait times or a livestream of lineups at the site.
  - Committee members questioned how many vehicles are allowed onsite at a time.
    - A maximum of seven (7) vehicles at a time are allowed at the Drop-Off Depot (DOD) to maintain physical distancing. The number of vehicles at the brush and L&Y

waste are also limited to ensure social distancing can be maintained.

## **8. Summary Landfill Operations**

- A comparison of 2020 to 2019 tonnages of various recycled material was distributed to the Committee. This handout can be found in Appendix "A" of the meeting note.
- Key items of note from the comparison:
  - The mattress program began mid-way through 2019, which accounts for the significant change in mattress tonnages seen between 2019 and 2020.
  - Total waste tonnages remain relatively consistent but do fluctuate slightly from year to year. A small decrease of 826 was seen between 2019 and 2020. For the past 5 years, total waste has remained fairly consistent between 16,500 to 17,500 tonnes.
  - Committee members asked for a clarification surrounding increase in tonnage for tires and whether this is related to the new regulations that allow tires with rims to be accepted? Is there any value in removing the rims and placing the rims in the scrap metal bin to potentially generate revenue?
    - The current contractor on site operating the landfill/ drop off depot is not set up to remove tires from rims. The additional cost to the contractor to remove the rims would not be offset by any potential increase in revenues. Currently, it is the responsibility of the processor of tires (the facility that the tires are hauled to) to remove the rims before processing.
  - Committee member asked if Every Other Week (EOW) collection has had an impact on Landfill
    - There is not enough data to identify the complete impact of EOW waste collection on the landfill, but there has been a decrease in waste tonnages compared to the previous year. An increase in organics numbers since EOW collection has also been seen, which was anticipated and is a reflection that more organics are being removed from the waste stream.

## **9. Update on Capital Projects for 2020**

- Pump Station Upgrades
  - Completed. A chemical building was added to minimize odors in leachate as it goes through the force main to Grimsby Waste

Water Treatment Plant. Working with Water Waste Water (WWW) to determine impact going into Grimsby.

- Drop off Improvements
  - Capstone replacement at the Residential Drop-off Depot was completed last fall with the replacement of approximately 45 cap stones on the retaining wall and 10 curbstones.
- Scale house addition
  - Completed. Work included the extension of the scalehouse to include a lunch room and additional storage space. An additional ramp was added to the project, to allow for increased staff safety when accessing the scalehouse.

## **10. Curbside Collection Contract update**

- Bi-weekly garbage collection
  - Operations by new contractors appear to be running seamlessly. Niagara Region staff are receiving few complaints from the public about the Curbside Pickup Program.
  - Niagara Region anticipates that moving to every other week waste collection will result in a reduction in waste volumes at the Niagara Road 12 site, as well as the Humberstone site.
  - New collection contractors are doing well at the site. New vehicles being used which allows for smooth delivery and tipping at the landfill. There is a significant improvement from previous contractors.
  - Committee members echo positive sentiments towards new contractors, with positive experiences with promptness and professionalism.

## **11. Other Business**

- Committee member has been approached by “Green Team”, a community organization that arranges the clean-up of litter in neighbourhoods. Is there an opportunity to partner with Niagara Region to dispose of the waste at the landfill?
  - In the past, organizations who make proper arrangements can drop off litter collected at the landfill at no charge. The organizer can contact Niagara Region in advance, with the appropriate details to make arrangements.

## **12. Next Meeting**

- Next meeting June 17, 2021.

**13. ADJOURNMENT:**

- The meeting adjourned at 8:08pm.

Moved by: Peter Forsberg  
Seconded by: Robert Hildebrandt

Carried