

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

PWC 7-2023

Tuesday, July 11, 2023

**Council Chamber - In Person and Electronic Meeting
Niagara Region Headquarters, Campbell West
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON**

Committee: Bradley (Regional Chair) (via Video Conference), Chiocchio (via Video Conference), Easton, Foster, Gale, Huson, Insinna (Committee Vice-Chair), Junkin, Rigby, Seaborn, Siscoe (via Video Conference), Sorrento (via Video Conference), Steele, Ugulini, Vilella (via Video Conference), Witteveen (Committee Chair), Zalepa

Other Councillors: Craitor (via Video Conference), Ganann (via Video Conference)

Absent/Regrets: Diodati, Grant, Heit, Morocco

Staff: D. Barnhart, Chief of Staff, Governance (via Video Conference), D. Carnegie, Acting Commissioner, Public Works, R. Daw, Associate Director, Wastewater Operations, Maintenance & Laboratory Services, S. Fraser, Associate Director, Transportation Planning , H. Furtado, Director, Financial Management & Planning/Deputy Treasurer, C. Habermebl, Director, Waste Management Services, B. Menage, Director, Procurement & Strategic Acquisitions (via Video Conference), R. Muzzell, Manager, Program Financial Support (via Video Conference), A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, J. Oatley, Manager, Wastewater Quality & Compliance, J. Spratt, Legislative Coordinator, J. Tonellato, Director, Water & Wastewater Services, R. Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer, A. Wheaton, Program Financial Specialist, B. Wilson, Legal Counsel, J. Wilson, Supervisor, Waste Management (via Video Conference)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Witteveen called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

3. PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Biosolids Management Master Plan Update

Jim Harnum, President, Municipal VU Consulting, provided information respecting the Biosolids Management Master Plan Update. Topics of the presentation included:

- Biosolids Definition
- Project Approach
- Existing Beneficial Uses Program
- Alternative Evaluation Approach
 - Step 1 – Develop Long List of Biosolids End Use Markets
 - Step 2 – Screen Long List of Biosolids End Use Markets
 - Step 3 – Develop Alternative Biosolids Management Strategies
 - Step 4 – Detailed Evaluation Criteria
 - Step 5 – Preliminary Recommendations and Implementation
- Project Schedule

4. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

5. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

5.1 PW 3-2023 Revised

Updates to the Hauled Sewage Program Policy

This report was removed from the agenda and will be brought to a future Public Works Committee meeting.

5.2 PW 27-2023

Transfer of Road Jurisdiction - Regional Road 20 (Highway 20) and South Grimsby Road 10, Township of West Lincoln

Moved by Councillor Insinna
Seconded by Councillor Steele

That Report PW 27-2023, dated July 11, 2023, respecting Transfer of Road Jurisdiction-Regional Road 20 (Highway 20) and South Grimsby Road 10, Township of West Lincoln, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That pursuant to its authority under subsection 52(4) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, Regional Council **APPROVE** removing a portion of South Grimsby Road 10, more particularly described and designated as being Parts 10-14 on Reference Plan 30R-15936 (the "Download Lands") and having an area of approximately 3,791 square metres more or less and shown on Appendix 1 attached hereto, to be transferred to the Township of West Lincoln ("Township");
2. That pursuant to its authority under subsection 52(1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, Regional Council **APPROVE** adding the parcels of lower-tier portions of South Grimsby Road 10, more particularly described and designated as being Parts 1, 2 and 6 on Reference Plan 30R-15936 (the "Upload Lands") and having an area of approximately 794 square metres more or less and shown on Appendix 1 attached hereto, to be transferred to Niagara Region;
3. That a copy of this report and a copy of Regional Council's decision **BE CIRCULATED** to the Township, as the Upload Lands will now be under the jurisdiction of Niagara Region;
4. That the necessary by-laws **BE PREPARED** and **PRESENTED** to Regional Council to add the Upload Lands to the Regional Road system and remove the Download Lands from the Regional Road system; and
5. Upon passage, a copy of the by-laws **BE CIRCULATED** to the Township, as the Upload Lands will be removed from the jurisdiction of the Township.

Carried

5.3 PW 29-2023

Gross Budget Increase for DeCew Water Treatment Plant Lower Reservoir Berm Repair

Moved by Councillor Zalepa
Seconded by Councillor Foster

That Report PW 29-2023, dated July 11, 2023, respecting Gross Budget Increase for DeCew Water Treatment Plant Lower Reservoir Berm Repair, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendation **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the capital budget adjustment in the amount of \$2,500,000 gross **BE APPROVED** for the Decew Water Treatment Plant Lower Reservoir Berm Repair and **BE FUNDED** through the Capital Variance – Water Project.

Carried

5.4 PW 32-2023

Recycling Collection from Non-Eligible Sources and Undesignated Material

Moved by Councillor Junkin
Seconded by Councillor Gale

That Report PW 32-2023, dated July 11, 2023, respecting Recycling Collection from Non-Eligible Sources and Undesignated Material, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That Council **APPROVE** the continuation of the provision of recycling collection at special events until December 31, 2025, subject to finding a processor for the blue box material; and
2. That Council **APPROVE** the discontinuation of the collection of non-designated materials under Blue Box Regulation (O. Reg 391/21) effective January 1, 2024.

Carried

Councillor Information Requests(s):

Ensure communication regarding provincial changes to landfill sites, collected materials, timelines and the potential impacts are provided to Committee. Councillor Zalepa.

5.5 PW 33-2023

Provision of Curbside Collection on behalf of Producers for Residential Blue Box Program

Moved by Councillor Easton
Seconded by Councillor Ugolini

That Report PW 33-2023, dated July 11, 2023, Provision of Curbside Collection on behalf of Producers for Residential Blue Box Program, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That Niagara Region **ELECT NOT** to 'opt in' to the continued provision of curbside collection of Blue Box materials (as defined by O. Reg 391/21), from residences, facilities, and public spaces on behalf of producers after Niagara Region's transition date of January 1, 2024;
2. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to notify Circular Materials Ontario and advise Local Area Municipalities of Niagara Region's decision respecting the provision of curbside collection of Blue Box materials; and
3. That, as a service to residents and in the interest of waste diversion, staff **BE DIRECTED** to develop and implement a communication strategy leading up the transition date (January 1, 2024) to advise residents of the changes to the residential Blue Box program.

Carried

Councillor Information Request(s):

Provide information on Circular Materials Ontario and their Board of Directors. Councillor Zalepa

5.6 PW 35-2023

Public Member Appointments to Waste Management Planning Steering Committee

Moved by Councillor Steele
Seconded by Councillor Ugolini

That Report PW 35-2023, dated July 11, 2023, Public Member Appointments to Waste Management Planning Steering Committee, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendation **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the recommendation contained in Confidential Appendix I to Report PW 35-2023, **BE APPROVED**, confirming the public member appointments for the remainder of this term of Council to the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee.

Carried

6. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Huson

That the following items **BE RECEIVED** for information:

PW 26-2023

Comprehensive report on the recovery of the Crystal Beach Wastewater Treatment Plant after Winter Storm Elliott

PWC-C 3-2023

Councillor Information Requests – Garner Road Biosolids Facility

WMPSC 3-2023

Waste Management Planning Steering Committee Minutes June 26, 2023

Carried

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Grass Clippings

Councillor Huson requested an explanation as to why grass clippings were no longer collected in the organics bin and what options residents had for disposal. Catherine Habermehl, Director, Waste Management Services, explained, due to odor issues impacting surrounding neighbours of the processing facilities, grass clippings are no longer collected and noted that residents have the option to recycle the clippings back onto the lawn or dropping them off at one of the waste depots without cost.

7.2 Mewburn Road and Concession 6 Road, Niagara-on-the-Lake - Construction Update

Councillor Gale requested information on the construction plans for Mewburn Road and Concession 6 Road including, who is responsible, projected timelines and the long-term plan for this area.

7.3 Hauler Station Update

Councillor Villella requested an update on the temperature concern in the hauler stations. Joe Tonellato, Director, Water & Wastewater Services, advised that they are currently working to address the temperature issue in the hauler stations.

7.4 Biodegradable Organics Bags

Councillor Insinna requested clarification on the type of biodegradable bags that can be used in the organics bin. Catherine Habermebl, Director, Waste Management Services, advised that the Niagara Region website provides information on the proper types of disposal bags.

7.5 Ontario Street and Main Street in the City of St. Catharines

Councillor Rigby requested information on the construction timelines for the Ontario Street extension from the QEW to Lakeport Road as well as Main Street between Martindale Road and Seventh Street Louth.

8. **CLOSED SESSION**

Committee did not resolve into closed session.

9. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

9.1 Confidential PWC-C 5-2023

A matter of solicitor-client privilege under Section 239 (2) (f) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Provision of Curbside Blue Box Collection on behalf of Producers for Residential Blue Box Program

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Seaborn

That Confidential Memorandum PWC-C 5-2023, dated July 11, 2023, respecting A matter of solicitor-client privilege under s. 239 (2) (f) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Provision of Curbside Blue Box Collection on behalf of Producers for Residential Blue Box Program, **BE RECEIVED.**

Carried

10. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. in the Council Chamber, Regional Headquarters.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:59 a.m.

Councillor Witteveen
Committee Chair

Jenna Spratt
Legislative Coordinator

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk