

J. Bauld said international waste is currently being processed at an incinerator at Charlottetown on a month-by-month approval basis after the operator of a local incinerator closed the facility when faced with the costs of the upgrades for an environmental operating permits.

J. Bauld said a private company, as the only proponent, is prepared to install a hydroclave to sterilize international waste and forward it to the Otter Lake facility for processing and disposal. The material is sterilized after it is processed by the hydroclave and thus is cleared by Canada Food Inspection Agency for disposal at Otter Lake.

J. Bauld said Halifax Regional Municipality supports this proposal as the only available one for a process in support of the economic growth in commercial and the cruise ship activity.

Clr. R. Rankin asked where the proposed project would be located.

J. Bauld said that a suitable site for this strategic facility is difficult to find, as it was not anticipated in the existing zoning bylaws. Burnside is the only area with an appropriate zone to accommodate this proposed facility.

Members expressed surprise that the Aerotech Park was not suitably zoned for this important international trade support facility.

Clr. G. Meade stated that Aerotech Park already has services and should be considered further for the hydroclave facility.

MEMBERS AGREED

M. Becigneaul asked what would be the impact on Otter Lake facility.

Mr Bauld said there would be an additional 750/950 tonnes per year between May to October of sterilized material to be disposed at Otter Lake.

Clr R. Rankin asked about the financial arrangements for the disposal of the material at Otter Lake facility and whether there will be full recovery including pro-rated cell costs etc.

J. Bauld said all material being taken to Otter Lake would be subject to the regular tipping fee of \$115 per tonne — a fee set for full recovery of all costs. Halifax Regional Municipality can apply an additional handling fee if it desires.

.2 Update on cell 1 cover

D. Mason

The Chairman said he and the Executive Director visited the Otter Lake facility and observed the progress of the cell 1 cover installation.

The Executive Director said that the work is proceeding on schedule towards the end of this month.

J. Bauld said that his understanding is that the cover installation for cell 1 is on schedule and that he would inform Community Monitoring Committee of any

change Clr. R. Rankin was on site and he found the Waste Stabilization Facility to be emitting an odour.

M. Becigneaul said he encountered an odour during the day, starting on Tuesday, after hurricane Juan, as he travelled near the Otter lake facility.

J. Bauld said there were no complaints to Halifax Regional Municipality at that time after the hurricane. He said there is no backup power at Otter Lake and there was a two-day power outage and thereby a backup at the Waste Stabilization facility.

Clr. R. Walker asked if Halifax Regional Municipality would install a "gas to energy" unit at the Otter Lake facility which could be used for on-site power and thereby avoiding power outages in the future.

J. Bauld said there is a prospect of energy from gas at Otter Lake. There is a contract to capture gas at the old Sackville landfill and generate power. The contractor, Highland Energy, is interested in doing the same at Otter Lake facility after the installation is completed at Sackville. He said he would keep Community Monitoring Committee apprised of progress in this "gas to power" prospect.

.3 HRM study steering group T. Henley See new business.

5) New business

.1 Halifax Regional Municipality Solid Waste Management Study

Where's the draft report

Chairman T. Henley apprised the members that Community Monitoring Committee has not formally responded to Halifax Regional Municipality on its solid waste management study as there was not a complete draft with Community Monitoring Committee for review. He said Community Monitoring Committee had received (only last Friday, October 24) a full draft report of the management study dated August 26, 2003. He asked J. Bauld why this draft report was withheld from Community Monitoring Committee.

The Executive Director circulated a copy of the draft report dated August 2003 — having received it only on Friday past.

The Chairman and members expressed displeasure with the delay in the receipt of the report.

J. Bauld said there had been a miscue as a result of the change of staff at the solid waste office and the draft report had not been sent to CMC. He said he would assure Community Monitoring Committee that information would be sent in a timely manner.

J. Bauld said he will not ask Solid Waste Resource Advisory Committee (October 30) for a decision on the draft report until Community Monitoring Committee's comments are received and integrated into the report.

Members general comments and response

Clr. R. Rankin said the information in the draft report point to a "slippage in diversion" and thereby the recommendation for an additional compost plant is premature and the wrong direction.

Clr. R. Rankin said the "reduction of the contamination is the key" of garbage going to Otter Lake:

To 7%, the industry norm, from the 12/13 0/0 experienced at Otter Lake now and reduce operational costs

- avoid new capital expenditures such as a compost plant (\$10 Million)
- improve an education/information program, as a better use of funds, to lead the reduction in contamination capture unused capacity (200 tonnes) of the two existing compost plants
- utilize the option of Queens County disposal facility for the 4+ peak compost days of the year and pay \$80/90 per ton — still a better use of funds rationalize the collection routes and contracts for cost efficiency

Clr. R. Rankin was critical of the comparison of the Halifax Regional Municipality system and costs to the Moncton as the two systems are very different. The draft report does not clarify if the Moncton system costs of the Moncton include full costs, as does the Halifax Regional Municipality system or the level of warrantee of MIRROR.

The Executive Director said the draft report could use local statistics for forecasting rather than national averages.

Clr. R Walker said he was uncomfortable with the previous report as distributed.

J. Bauld said it would be a good idea to maximize the capacity of the existing Halifax Regional Municipality system and set out a methodology for processing on peak collection days. He said about spring and fall compost volumes peaks that Halifax Regional Municipality currently exports material to Chester and Queens facilities and as taken place during the past two weeks.

J. Bauld said Halifax Regional Municipality has an educational strategy for solid waste, H said he will send the education strategy to Community Monitoring Committee for comment. He said the education strategy states diversion as the main component and includes a \$500,000 budget, television advertising, schools presentations and a supply of 1600 green compost carts last year.

J. Bauld said that the draft study cost comparison to Moncton was not valid and the consultant has been told to provide a different cost comparison using Halifax Regional Municipality system costs. He said there is experience in the Halifax Regional Municipality system that takes account of the differences of collection content throughout the municipality.

J. Bauld said he is now preparing a departmental budget for 04/05 and that would be an opportunity to examine future capital and operating expenses and he will ask Community Monitoring Committee for comments on the draft budget.

Review of Recommendations from DRAFT Report, August 26, 2003 section 6,4 Halifax Regional Municipality Solid Waste/Resource Management Review

- reduce mixed waste at Otter Lake

Clr. R. Rankin said it is his understanding that if it weren't for C&D reduction at Otter Lake then Halifax Regional Municipality diversion would have decreased last year.

J. Bauld said Halifax Regional Municipality has another study underway to characterize and analyse the waste coming into the Otter Lake facility by examining incoming loads - 15 loads of commercial and 15 loads of residential. He said there would be another study in November.

J. Bauld said that the analysis results are as expected by staff although the amount of C&D was below expectation the results are available for Community Monitoring Committee.

Recommendations - Page 6.9 of the draft report increase
education/ information efforts...

J. Bauld said that the Halifax Regional Municipality education strategy will come to the Community Monitoring Committee for review. He said the solid waste department undertakes telephone polls to determine client awareness of solid waste programs. Corporate Research Associates conducts these telephone polls. He said last year's poll determined that people were aware of back yard composting — using a mulch mower etc. and that 20% more people were back yard composting.

Clr. R. Walker asked how the department determined the amount of back yard composting in Halifax Regional Municipality as the same value is recorded yearly. He said that the recommendation was not useful to Halifax Regional Municipality.

J. Bauld said that the client poll asked for grass clippings information and determined that approximately 1.5 bags was collected / household or 750 tonnes per year (1.5x3700homes x 18 wks =750 tonnes).

study of participation rates for single family . . .

Members said that there is more for Halifax Regional Municipality to do on participation rates and program implementation.

Clr. R. Walker said that seniors have difficulty complying.

J. Bauld said two years ago in the fall, Halifax Regional Municipality sought to determine client participation by using a professional company to evaluate the education program via focus groups — what people see — what they do — what they will do in the future.

J. Bauld said he would keep Community Monitoring Committee informed on the progress of participation rate activities.

harmonizing the hours

Members were not clear as to the intent of harmonizing the hours for the public whether longer or shorter were intended.

J. Bauld said that time is uniform for public access to Halifax Regional Municipality solid waste facilities with the only variance is Otter Lake with longer hours (weekends) for residents to deliver materials in person.

J. Bauld said that he would examine extra time at the compost plants as Halifax Regional Municipality is starting contract negotiations with Miller and New Era and will consult with Community Monitoring Committee.

consider bag limits....

J. Bauld said Halifax Regional Municipality is tracking weekly green cart and bags collection, measuring how many people are diverting and composting and how many were not. They have done household visits to provide information to continuing violators. He said the next step for client compliance is enforcement.

consider targeting new residential — using information

J. Bauld said that Halifax Regional Municipality feels it has a good information supply to new households as it uses Welcome Wagon as its distributor — telling people what days and what on what day

T. Henley said many people are illiterate and thus their inability to read the Halifax Regional Municipality materials.

Clr. R. Rankin suggested using intermission at Council for information to the public via Eastlink television.

AGREED to recommend to Halifax Regional Municipality Council that it use intermission at Council for information to the public via Eastlink television.

Clr. G. Meade asked what is the participation rate on private roads. He said there are 200 homes on private roads in District 23.

J. Bauld said the participation rate is not known. He said collectors are required to have small trucks for private lanes.

evaluate the results of the waste characteristic study

J. Bauld said Halifax Regional Municipality will continue to monitor all facilities and maintain contact with Community Monitoring Committee.

Furthur encourage ICI diversion ...education

J. Bauld said new buildings construction permits and development agreements require "compliance source separation program". Apartment buildings are required to have separate chutes or source separation in apartments.

J. Bauld said Halifax Regional Municipality undertook, three years ago, to educate fifty large apartment rental companies on the compliance source separation program. Halifax Regional Municipality staff met and provided HRM materials and provincial bans. He said that most apartment rental companies now comply.

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D. McCaughan asked if older apartments units and condominiums have similar information.

J. Bauld said that older units have the same information. He said that the compliance rate for apartments is rising and approximately 1000 tenants tend to comply.

J. Bauld said Halifax Regional Municipality contacts condominium owners on their separation responsibilities and the condominium corporations are supplied with large bins via the building collection contractor.

Strive... coffee cups etc . . . disposable

M. Miller said that many people are confused on how to dispose of coffee cups.

T. Henley asked if coffee cups are compostable.

C. Dawson said Great Ocean (grocery) offers consumers a discount for bring their own bags to the store.

J. Bauld said coffee cups are not compostable. He said Halifax Regional Municipality is pressing the Province (via the regional chairs) to support a change in the way coffee cups are recycled. He said it is hard to change the packaging philosophy of large suppliers ie: plastic bags.

• Increase construction and debris materials diversion

J. Bauld said Halifax Regional Municipality will partner with the Construction Association and prepare information packages for contractors and television ads for the general public.

Clr. R. Walker said that tipping fees are important — if too high, dumping in the woods occurs.

C. Dawson asked if it is necessary to charge individuals tipping fees at Halifax Regional Municipality facilities.

J. Bauld said the intent is to have public response and the tipping fees for individuals are inexpensive at \$5 per 100 kilogram of material

Consider whether wood ...creates gas

T. Henley asked if matrix material used for cell cover is a new type of material.

J. Bauld said that the cover material, matrix, used by MIRROR at Otter Lake residual disposal facility (landfill) is approved by Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour and tested on a regular basis. Matrix material is not a new product and is used at Chester and West Hants landfill facilities.

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The Executive Director asked about the status of licensing of the C&D applications for processing and disposal and what impact this would have on Otter Lake facilities.

J. Bauld said there were three applications for collection licences from Halifax Regional Municipality and of these two were approved, Halifax C&D and RDM. He said these companies also applied to Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour for a licence to bury material in a lined landfill and one is approved, Halifax C&D.

J. Bauld said there could be an impact on Otter Lake facility for the disposal of C&D residuals (materials not meeting a mandated 60% recycle requirement). He said both the C&D facilities are now recycling 80% of the input materials meaning 20%, the residuals are to be buried and possibly at Otter lake facility.

COMPOSTING

Organize special compost collections

Clr. R. Rankin said he thought part of the solution for compost volumes to date was the aggressive initiative by the industry to separate leaf and yard waste away from compost plants and free up space. He asked if there is additional opportunity to partner with industry a other municipalities do.

J. Bauld said that leaf and yard waste cost is \$8/900/trucWday and is a separate collection. He said in previous years there was eight weeks of leaf and yard waste collection. He said that green cart materials of mixed kitchen waste and lead and yard waste means all the contents go to a compost plant.

- Increased capacity new plant

Members expressed surprised and concern at this recommendation

Clr. R. Rankin said there is still capacity in the existing two compost plants and thus the need for another plant is unjustified.

J. Bauld said that the compost plant limits were tested after hurricane Juan when there was much spoiled food from grocery stores and there was 950 tonnes per day for three days. The previous highest daily input for compost was 750 tonnes.

J. Bauld said that Halifax Regional Municipality should continue to use a private contactor composting of leaf and yard waste.

J. Bauld said construction of a new facility is not probable since there is future site expansion at both Burnside and Goodwood facilities.

Clr. R. Rankin said that the stakeholders forecast \$32 million per year subsidy for the implementation of the solid waste strategy while it is currently \$29 million per year.

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J. Bauld said the current net expenditure is \$19 million based on a total budget of \$40 million less annual capital debt of \$9 million and less tipping fees of \$12 million.

.2 Halifax Regional Municipality Monthly Report on Mass Balance

T. Henley said Community Monitoring Committee would like this information and in a timely manner. He asked why this particular format is used.

J. Bauld said this format has been used since 1996 for a quick reference of year to date for residential curbside pickup. The report information provides the amount of material received at Otter Lake, received at compost plants and received at the recycling plant. He said, in response to a question, that there is no double counting of material passed between plants.

J. Bauld said the format encourages comparison on a year-by-year basis. He said the drop in commercial organics of 2003 from 2002 was related to the organics from the 2002 beetle infestation.

Clr. R. Rankin said there were several initiatives from the private sector which examined alternate ways of recycling/disposal of cardboard and C&D materials.

Chairman Henley thanked J. Bauld for his participation.

6) Committee Reports

.1 Communications

Je Hayman

The Executive Director read a summary of a report from J. Hayman who was away on a family matter.

The newsletter is awaiting a position of Community Monitoring Committee on the solid waste management study.

She has established preliminary contact with Eastlink regarding public information pieces.

She thanked M. Becigneaul for the lead with Eastlink.

.2 Technical

D. McCaughan

D. McCaughan said there is no new information to bring to the meeting.

7.0 Adjourn

The Chairman called for a motion to adjourn at 9:00 pm.

MOTION to adjourn Max Miller.

NEXT MEETING: NOVEMBER 26, 2003, 7:00 pm Lakeside Board Room