

MINUTES

CENTRAL NEWFOUNDLAND SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

PUBLIC MEETING WITH MUNICIPAL REPRESENTATIVES

SUMMERFORD TOWN HALL, MARCH 15, 2004 AT 7:00 P.M.

Committee members in attendance:

Allan Scott, Chair
Larry Peddle
Maxine Gordon
Angus McLoughlin
Jeff Saunders
Claude Elliott, N.F.L.M. Central Representative
Wayne Manuel, Bae Newplan

Municipal attendee's list is attached.

Allan Scott called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance. He gave a brief outline of the agenda and how the meeting would proceed.

Mr. Scott gave an overview of the meeting with the provincial government. This meeting was arranged to inform the new government on where the Central Nfld. Waste Management Committee was with our plans to meet the Waste Management Strategy. As well we wanted to know the position of the new government with respect to the Waste Management Strategy.

Government stated that they support the strategy 100%. They have proclaimed the Services Board Act, which will allow for authorities to be set up to run the Waste Management Program in each region. They understand that all municipalities, local services districts, etc. must be part of the strategy or it will not work. They do have concerns with the time line and funding and government will be announcing an implementation plan very shortly.

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Wayne Manuel presented the Phase II report and the report for curbside collection. He explained the process for the strategy and all components and the goal to be met by the region.

The proposed site for the main facility is in the Norris Arm North area. This was identified after a lengthy process through constraint mapping based on criteria established by the provincial government.

The costs for the main facility and seven local waste management sites were prepared and the proposed tipping fee is \$34.91 per person per year.

The project for Central will be phase in as follows:

1. Environmental Assessment
2. Landfill constructed and those municipalities who truck directly to site will use facility.
3. Local waste management facility to be constructed and start using main facility.
4. Construct compost facility.
5. Construct material recovery facility.

Total capital cost is estimated at 42 million and is not included in any tipping fee. It is assumed that government (other than the municipalities) will fund the capital construction.

Mr. Manuel presented the findings on curbside collection. They looked at the status quo, all communities being responsible for their own collection and delivery to the main facility or to the local waste management facilities and the option of having the authority be responsible for all collection.

The cost associated with the authority being responsible for collection is the most economical at \$17.59 per person as compared to an average cost of \$23.20 per person for the status quo.

Total cost for solid waste management including curbside collection is estimated at \$52.50.

Close out of existing sites will be approximately 9 million and is not included in any costs. This will have to be the responsibility of government and the municipalities who presently operate these facilities.

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The meeting was then opened for questions.

Question:

What will Twillingate be able to do? Can we continue to do what we are doing now?

Answer:

You can continue to use your existing method of collection. (Authority has to decide on curbside collection) but the landfill site will have to be used by all municipalities and the proposed tipping fee is \$34.91.

Question:

Will we be compelled to go to the new system?

Answer:

We addressed this issue with the Minister of Environment and Municipal Affairs at our meeting. All agree that for the strategy to work, all communities within the region will have to participate. No one community will be able to afford to meet the new guidelines (lined landfill) alone.

Question:

This will be an astronomical cost to residents and municipalities.

Answer:

There is no question, it will cost more to meet the guidelines of the new strategy.

Question:

The new strategy calls for 50% division. What happens to the other 50%?

Answer:

It goes to the landfill.

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Question:

When the site is completed, who maintains?

Answer:

The Regional Authority will be responsible for the operation and maintenance and the associated costs will come from the tipping fees.

Question:

Is it realistic to meet the strategy by 2010?

Answer:

The time lines are tight and government has announced that 2012 - 2014 maybe more realistic. The government will be announcing an implementation plan very shortly and this will be addressed.

Question:

Will we be charged H.S.T. on the tipping fee?

Answer:

The Regional Authority is expected to be H.S.T. exempt.

Question:

The cost breakdown per person is not appropriate. It should be identified per household.

Answer:

The breakdown was done per person so each municipality can calculate the cost that they will be charged based on the population in their respective communities.

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Question:

Is this going to be compulsory or can we continue as we are?

Answer:

It will be compulsory and our methods of disposal today are not acceptable.

Question:

In your assessment, was it determined to be cheaper to have curbside collection?

Answer:

Yes. Each municipality will have to look at its present operation and associated costs to determine the savings or added costs.

Question:

Town of Twillingate has one man and one truck. Can we continue to use our truck?

Answer:

It depends on what is decided by the Regional Authority. Several municipalities felt it was more acceptable if every municipality paid the same costs for collection and disposal of the residential solid waste.

Question:

Who collects the money for the service? If there is a collection problem, how will it be resolved?

Answer:

The regional authority will send invoices to municipalities on a regular basis (monthly). The Services Board Act gives the authority the power to collect and the courts will be used if necessary.

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Question:

What happens to construction and demolition waste?

Answer:

The tipping fee of \$34.91 per person does not include construction and demolition waste. The authority will have a fee structure in place for different types of waste and it will be charged as materials are delivered to the main facility or the local waste management facility. The curbside collection is for residential waste only.

Question:

Can residents still recycle?

Answer:

Yes. The more residents recycle the better it will be for your municipality. History has shown that recycling increased with this type of waste management.

Question:

Will we be able to use the standard dark green garbage bags?

Answer:

The regional authority will decide. Normally there are two transparent bags that are used. One for wet waste and one for dry waste. There is funding allocated in our cost breakdown for education. This is critical for a smooth transition to the new method of waste management.

Question:

Is the Norris Arm site finalized?

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Answer:

It is the site that has been selected by the consultant meeting the requirements as established by the government. This site has to go through a full environmental assessment process, which will give the final approval of the site or instruction to meet certain criteria or change to another location.

Question:

We have a Committee on New World Island that sets fees. If we compost more, can we save money if we are charged by the tonne?

Answer:

Yes, your community will be charged by the tonne and the less waste you generate, the less you will be charged.

Question:

Over the next few years, will there be changes in the present way we handle waste?

Answer:

Yes. Open burning will be banned by 2008. All tee pee type incinerators will be closed by 2008.

Question:

How often do we pay? Monthly?

Answer:

This will be a decision of the Authority but monthly would seem reasonable. The Authority will have to pay expenses to operate and cash flow will be very important.

Question:

What will happen to the old site?

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Answer:

The Authority will not take responsibility for the old sites. Their cleanup will be the responsibility of the existing owners in consultation with government.

Question:

We appreciate what the Committee has done but we feel there is so much coming at us as small towns and it is difficult to find the extra revenue.

Answer:

N.L.F.M. went around the province to discuss solid waste management. The message that they received was the status quo is not satisfactory and we have to make changes. Newfoundland and Labrador are behind the other Atlantic Provinces when it comes to waste management. We are 8 to 10 years behind.

Question:

Will the Authority have to abide by the numbers in the report?

Answer:

No. This is an estimate. The Authority is a not for profit organization and the cost per tonne will be reflected based on expenses.

Mr. Scott concluded the meeting by stating that the figures have been presented that will ensure the Central Region meets the strategy. The present Committee is nearing the end of its mandate. There will be an authority set up after the Environmental Assessment is registered to continue the process. The only way to proceed is with a regional approach to waste management.

Mr. Scott thanked Summerford for hosting the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

Central Nfld. Solid Waste Management Meeting, Summerford, March 15, 2004

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| Ern Gedge | Fairbanks |
| Gordon Barnes | New World Island Waste Disposal Co., Hillgrade |
| John Sheldon | New World Island Waste Disposal Co., Virgin Arm |
| Newman Harris | Deputy Mayor, Summerford |
| Calla Guy | Mayor, Twillingate |
| Diane Anstey | Councillor, Cottlesville |
| Seymour Quinlan | Birchy Bay |
| Wayne Dove | Loon Bay |
| Edmund Decker | Loon Bay |
| David Hodder | Davidsville |
| Gordon Downer | Main Point |
| Arthur Leyte | Roger's Cove |
| Wallace Bown | Victoria Cove |
| Donald Blandford | Merritts Harbour |
| Eric Keats | Merritts Harbour |
| Ricky Anstey | Summerford |
| Ken Howell | Crow Head Council |
| Dave Warr | Purcell's Harbour L.S.D. |