

In March of 2020, in response to the Covid 19 Pandemic, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing declared that Municipal Councils will not meet in person but will instead hold virtual meetings. Under this order Council of the Municipality of the County of Cumberland held the June 25, 2020 Special Council video meeting via Zoom.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Special Council session of the Municipality of the County of Cumberland was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

Roll Call

Municipal Clerk, Brenda Moore, called the roll with the following Councillors present: Councillor Paul Porter; Councillor Marlon Chase; Councillor Joe Van Vulpen, Warden Al Gillis; Councillor Welton, Councillor Barb Palmer, Deputy Warden Ernie Gilbert, Councillor Mike McLellan, Councillor Don Fletcher, Councillor Doug Williams, Councillor Maryanne Jackson; and Councillor Norman Rafuse.

Councillors Absent: Councillor Dan Rector

Staff present Rennie Bugley, Chief Administrative Officer; Steve Ferguson, Director of Community Development; Shelley Hoeg, Communications and Executive Assistant to the CAO; and Brenda Moore who recorded the meeting.

Staff and Council from the Town of Amherst as well as staff and Council the Town of Oxford were also in attendance.

2. MAJOR ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES

2.1 Solid Waste Management Issue

Warden Gillis introduced the topic by reading the following synopsis:

The Town of Amherst, the Town of Oxford and the Municipality of the County of Cumberland are taking steps to ensure that the region's solid waste disposal system continues to deliver good service at favourable cost.

The three municipalities will this month issue a Request for Proposals to companies that may be interested in buying the waste disposal system that serves the region.

It is proposed that the administration of the RFP will be guided by the following guiding principles:

1. With high fixed costs, the solid waste business is essentially a volume business and, given demographic trends in Cumberland County, per unit costs for waste disposal are likely to rise. The three municipal Councils are collectively of the opinion that being good stewards requires them to explore solutions that will allow the citizens and businesses of the region access to per unit costs that reflect the advantages of higher volumes.
2. All efforts should be made to ensure continuity of existing facility expertise and knowledge through retention of existing staff
3. A favourable long-term royalty and tipping-fee arrangement for the three (3) municipalities that provides long-term disposal for the municipalities over the life of the facility
4. Development of a communication plan to keep citizens informed about the sale and the continuation of waste management programs and services
5. Optimizing proceeds of sale based on an asset valuation and a business valuation approach to the divestiture of the facility;
6. The interest of the three municipalities to divest themselves of any environmental liabilities regarding past, present and future operations and solid waste facilities located at Little Forks
7. Ensure the facility maintains the necessary environmental approvals and meets all applicable environmental laws and regulations
8. The Committee makes all decisions by consensus, with the understanding that any final agreement must be approved by all three (3) municipal councils

IT WAS MOVED by Councillor Paul Porter seconded by Councillor Norm Rafuse

That Council approves the issuance of a Request for Proposals (RFP), jointly with the Councils of the Town of Amherst and the Town of Oxford, for the (i) divestiture of Cumberland Central Landfill assets and (ii) a long-term waste/resource benefits agreement for future operation of the facility; and

That the current Steering Committee consisting of the Warden of the Municipality of the County of Cumberland, the Mayors of Oxford and Amherst, the Chief Administrative Officers of all three municipalities and the General Manager of the Cumberland Central Landfill be tasked with administering the RFP process together with the Lead Negotiator and making a recommendation back to the Councils, and;

That Council approves the Guiding Principles attached to this resolution, jointly with the Councils of the Town of Amherst and the Town of Oxford and;

That any sale or long-term agreement waste/resource benefits agreement resulting from this RFP requires the prior approval of ALL of the Councils.

That the (i) selection of a preferred proponent and (ii) any sale or long-term agreement waste/resource benefits agreement resulting from this RFP requires the prior approval of ALL of the Councils.

**No Objections
MOTION CARRIED**

Due to technical difficulties Councillor Gilbert and Councillor Welton were unable to join the meeting in time to cast their votes.

8. ADJOURNMENT

8.1 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Warden Allison Gillis

Municipal Clerk Brenda Moore

These minutes approved as amended by motion of the July 8, 2020 Council meeting:

iii) Approval of the Minutes of the June 25, 2020 Special Council Meeting

IT WAS MOVED BY Councillor van Vulpen seconded by Councillor Fletcher to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2020 Special Council meeting with the addition of a note that Deputy Warden Gilbert and Councillor Welton were not able to join the meeting in time to vote.

**No Objections
MOTION CARRIED**