

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HORTON

STUDY COMMITTEE

LIME STABILIZATION OF SEPTAGE

February 22, 2007

There was a meeting of the Study Committee for the Pilot Project on Lime Stabilization of Septage held in the Municipal Council Chambers on Thursday February 22, 2007. Present were Chair Dave Bennett, members Bruce Golden, George Thompson, David Brown, Reg Laventure and Reeve Robert A. Johnston.

1. CALL TO ORDER
Chair Bennett called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST
There was no declaration of pecuniary interest.
3. MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 8, 2007 MEETING
The Committee reviewed the February 8, meeting minutes.

Moved by Bruce Golden, seconded by David Brown

That the Committee approve the February 8, 2007 Meeting Minutes.

Carried.

4. BUSINESS ARISING
Reg Laventure asked if the Township knew who the contact from Kemptville Agricultural College was for the study that will take place at Bob Dick's farm in Admaston. Chair Bennett said that we will know who the contact will be in the future as the study progresses, but we do not know at this time.
5. HOST FARMER INTERVIEWS
Chair Bennett informed the Committee that the Township has approached Larry Reid, a farmer with a large acreage in Concession Three, to see if he would be interested in being host farmer for the treated septage. Also following the Public Meeting on Lime Stabilization held in the Community Centre last Fall, another farmer Tom Reid approached the Committee suggesting he may be interested. Larry Reid was scheduled to appear at the Committee at 4:00 p.m., however he was away at another meeting. The other gentleman was not available to come to the meeting, saying he would try to come to the next meeting when the date is set.
6. ENVIRONMENTAL APPROVALS
The CAO/Clerk noted that an organic soil conditioning C of A will be required for the host farm land, that a hauling C of A will be required for whoever hauls the mixed product from the Public Works Garage to the field, if it uses roads and the storage and mixing of the septage at the Township Public Works Garage will also require a C of A for waste disposal. The Ministry officials have drafted part of this third application. There was a question raised by Chair Bennett as to the cost of the application as he understood that would be no cost as this was a trial pilot project. The CAO/Clerk said that he did not know except that the official put in \$1,400 into the cost column in the form they drafted.

Chair Bennett discussed the need for secondary containment in the storage tank. The Committee discussed how this would work. It was decided that Chair Bennett speak to an Engineer for his input. The Committee members thought that it would be a good idea to include some containment as guarantee if there ever was a leak in the tank. It would be easier to install when the tanks are put into the ground rather than digging them up after.

7. AGREEMENT WITH HOST FARMER – LEGAL SERVICES REQUIRED

The CAO/Clerk informed the Committee that there would be legal services required to draft and review an Agreement with the successful Host Farmer when that arrangement has been completed. Councillor Bennett discussed the cost of the soil conditioning Certificate of Approval stating that this was not part of his budget as he understood that there would be no approval required for the farmer. George Thompson agreed, saying he had asked the same question and was given that answer as well. There seems to be some misunderstanding in that the Nutrient Management Act would permit what we are doing, as the Septage becomes a nutrient once it is treated with lime. However the Nutrient Management Act Regulations have not yet come in force so the Ministry of Environment approval process is still in charge.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Township's Claim for Futures Grant

The CAO/Clerk presented a copy for the Committee members of the final claim for the Grant along with the invoice for \$10,000.

David Brown's email Information Which Does Not Support Lime Stabilization

Mr. Brown presented an email from Joe Kennedy, a professional engineer, President of UCI Environmental Solution Incorporated which set out issues that were put forward by Dr Evans, a Professor at the University of Guelph. This email noted that the soil must have high acidity levels for the lime treatment to work and that there is not much soil in Ontario that is classified in this category.

Reeve Johnston suggested that there are many hundreds of thousands of acres of land which require lime in Ontario and did not support that comment.

Chair Bennett suggested that we arrange for a conference call with Dr Evans during the next Committee meeting. The Committee members agreed and suggested that possibly Dr Evans is speaking of bio-solids which is not what we are doing, bio-solids is the waste left over from the water treatment plant, septage is the waste pumped from septic tanks.

George Thompson informed the Committee that there is a new website called the Ontario Water Plan, he read some information from this site on the banning of untreated septage and the site notes that lime stabilization is a mentioned treatment option.

David Brown also suggested that he would invite Joe Kennedy, who is in Ottawa, attend the next meeting. The Committee said that they were open to this. Chair Bennett also said that he would have two reports for the next meeting, one is on septage treatment in Alberta and the other is on treatment throughout the world.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Bennett informed the Committee that the Township can start the work on Site preparation at the Public Works Garage for the storage tanks. We would not require the C of A approval until we actually install the tanks. He informed the Committee that he has volunteered the donation of his excavator, which will be operated by a Township employee and would use Township fuel. Another contractor, Hugh Stevenson, has also volunteered use of equipment to dig the holes.

Chair Bennett suggested that we should look for a building the size of a one bay garage which would be used to hold the slurry mixing tank, storage of the lime and also some metering equipment. He noted that sometimes people want a garage removed, this would work well for us.

10. NEXT MEETING

The Committee agreed to meet Thursday March 8, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. The CAO/Clerk was to invite the host farmers again for that meeting.

11. CONFIRMING RESOLUTION

Moved by David Brown, seconded by Reg Laventure

That this Committee pass this confirming resolution to validate any actions or directions given during the open portion of this Committee Meeting which are minor in nature and will not be set out in By-law or Resolution.

Carried.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Bruce Golden, seconded by George Thompson

That this meeting be adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Carried.

Chair

CAO/Clerk