

TOWN OF LUMSDEN
MINUTES OF THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON MAY 6, 2014

The Wastewater Treatment Committee convened their meeting in the Council Chambers in the Town of Lumsden, on Tuesday, May 6, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. with Chairperson Rhonda Phillips presiding.

Present:	Chairperson:	Rhonda Phillips
	Mayor:	Bryan Matheson
	Committee Members:	Wes Holobetz, Trevor Grohs, Doug Mader, Tom Harrison
	Utilities Foreman:	Dave Cherney
	Project Coordinator:	Ron Hilton
	CAO:	Darcie Cooper
	Assistant Administrator:	Krystal Strong
	Financial Officer:	Sheena Carrick

The Committee met to discuss the Preliminary Design Report provided by Stantec Consulting Ltd. and funding options for the Town of Lumsden's Wastewater Treatment Facility.

Chairperson Rhonda Phillips called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Preliminary Design Report - Stantec Consulting Ltd.:

Project Coordinator, Ron Hilton reviewed the executive summary of Stantec Consulting Ltd.'s Preliminary Design Report for the Sequential Batch Reactor (SBR) Wastewater Treatment Facility. Construction costs are estimated at \$14,963,000.00 with the addition of contingencies and engineering costs the project estimate is \$19,650,000.00 (based on 2014 dollars, not including taxes) and the estimated operating cost of the plant \$347,200 (based on 2014 dollars).

The committee will forward the following questions and comments to Stantec Consulting Ltd. for clarification:

1. Why does sludge handling cost 6.8 million dollars?
2. Can sludge handling be done in one train as opposed to 2 trains, in order to save on capital costs?
3. The voltage supply to lift stations will need to be changed to 460 volts, the new generator is 460 volts cannot support 600 volts. Has series vs parallel wiring been explored?
4. Why does the tertiary bypass not go through the UV filter? Is this setup for high water flow events only?
5. Can solar panels be installed and connected to SaskPower's grid to run heat pumps that would heat the building with electricity and not natural gas? Will this result in a cost savings? Should we meet with SaskPower to see if they are willing to partner with us on a project like this?
6. Is a portable generator included in the capital cost estimate?
7. The committee would like to explore the option of pumping sewage to a lagoon that could be located a few miles south or north of Town. If we were able to secure the purchase of a quarter section, construct two cells plus one extra holding cell; is this option a significant cost savings in comparison to building a mechanical plant?
8. Can the existing lagoons remain operational and the liquid effluent be treated by adding a treatment facility that would meet the discharge criteria, if we find out that funding is not available or determine that this facility is too costly for our community?

Operating and Maintenance Costs:

The committee discussed the operating and maintenance costs outlined in the Preliminary Design Report. The committee feels the cost estimates for salaries is likely too low given the qualifications required for a Treatment Plant Operator.

Sewage Rate Options:

The committee discussed infrastructure charges to be added to quarterly utility bills and the introduction of consumption based charges for sewage disposal. The consumption model was suggested by the Sask Municipal Board for sewage rate consideration. Another option is charging dollar-for-dollar, i.e. sewage rates would match charges for water rates.



Ron Hilton and Sheena Carrick will work together and prepare a proposal for a financial plan for funding the wastewater treatment facility.

Funding Options:

If the committee decides to continue with an SBR plant, a scope change and amendment to the standard agreement needs to be submitted to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

To date, the committee is not aware of any new funding opportunities for infrastructure at this time.

Trevor and Ron suggested looking at alternative options for effluent disposal; including the use of wood lots and other innovative, environmentally conscious initiatives.

Some members of the committee expressed concerns with the high capital, operating and maintenance costs associated with the proposed mechanical treatment plant. They feel that those costs are too much for the community, with our small population, to afford.

The committee needs to consider an alternative if no funding is available for the project, including determining what the Water Security Agency will accept for a solution to the sewage disposal issue.

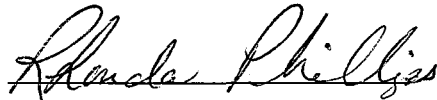
Public Meeting:

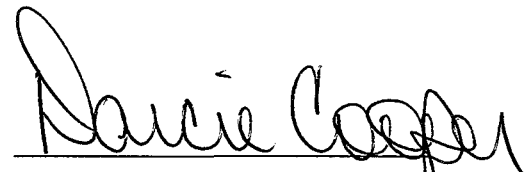
The committee will aim to host a public meeting mid-June to inform the residents of the Town of the status of the project, options available and funding required.

Adjournment:

Harrison/Grohs: "That the meeting be adjourned at 8:52 p.m."

CARRIED


Chairperson


Chief Administrative Officer