



GREEN ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP AGENDA

Friday, December 8, 2023 – 2:00 p.m.
Municipal Office – Council Chambers – 217 Harper Road

Chair, Councillor Greg Hallam

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. AMENDMENTS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND/OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- i) **Minutes – September 22nd, 2023 – *attached, page 4.***

Suggested Recommendation:

“THAT, the minutes of the Green Energy and Climate Change Working Group Meeting held on September 22nd, 2023 be approved as circulated.”

- 5. DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

None.

- 6. BUSINESS**

- i) **Climate Action Plan Update**

- Discussion of Council reception of Climate Action Plan Update Report recommendations <https://events.tayvalleytwp.ca/meetings/Detail/2023-10-10-1800-Committee-of-the-Whole-Meeting/0e9d9444-8ae4-40f6-9213-b093014b06fe> - Planner
- Discussion of Council reception of Total Cost of Ownership Report - Planner <https://events.tayvalleytwp.ca/meetings/Detail/2023-10-10-1800-Committee-of-the-Whole-Meeting/0e9d9444-8ae4-40f6-9213-b093014b06fe>

- Discussion of Council Reception of Climate Lens and Climate Lens Tool Report – Planner <https://events.tayvalleytwp.ca/meetings/Detail/2023-10-10-1800-Committee-of-the-Whole-Meeting/0e9d9444-8ae4-40f6-9213-b093014b06fe>
- Composting Options – Public Works Managers Report – *attached page 8.*
- Compost Education Outreach Suggestions – G. Rossignol
- Discussion of Draft Budget to Capital and Operating Budgets <https://events.tayvalleytwp.ca/meetings/Detail/2023-11-28-1800-Public-Meeting-Budget> – All
- Update on Climate Emergency Declaration – Planner

ii) **Communications**

- Lanark County Climate Change Committee Update – Planner
- Climate Network Lanark (CNL) Climate Concierge Update – Planner
- Enbridge Request for Support for Gas Pipeline Expansion – Planner – *attached page 12*
- Tay Valley and Climate Network Response to Enbridge Request – Planner – *attached page 14*
- International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) and Partners for Climate Protection Presentation on Enterprise Evolution, The Flourishing Enterprise Institute, REFOCUS, and the Multi-capital Scorecard – Planner [ICLEI PCP Webinar - Nov 2 Distributed.pdf \(dropbox.com\)](#)

7. NEW/OTHER BUSINESS

None.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE AND PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

Next Meeting: Friday, February 9th, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

9. DEFERRED ITEMS

**The following items will be discussed at the next and/or future meeting:*

- *None at this time*

10. ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES

GREEN ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP MINUTES

Friday, September 22, 2023

2:00 p.m.

Tay Valley Municipal Office – 217 Harper Road, Perth, Ontario
Council Chambers

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present: Chair, Councillor, Greg Hallam
Councillor, Angela Pierman
Bob Argue
Jennifer Dickson
Douglas Barr
Gilbert Rossignol
Peter Nelson

Members Absent: David Poch

Staff Present: Noelle Reeve, Planner
Allison Playfair, Building & Planning Administrative
Assistant/Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:01 p.m.
A quorum was present.

2. AMENDMENTS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- i) Addition under Communications – News Article from the Peterborough Examiner.

The Agenda was approved as amended.

3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND/OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

None at this time.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

i) **Minutes – August 11th, 2023.**

The minutes of the Green Energy and Climate Change Working Group Meeting held on August 11th, 2023, were approved as circulated.

5. DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

None.

6. BUSINESS

i) **Climate Action Plan Update.**

Discussion of Asset Management Plan

The Planner explained the 10-year Capital Plan had just been adopted by Council and it identifies when assets will be replaced and, therefore, the opportunities for replacement of fossil fuel uses. The discussion that followed mostly focused on vehicle replacement and moving forwards with purchases of electric vehicles. Also, discussed were opportunities for building replacement and renovations using more energy efficient choices as per the recommendations of the Climate Action Plan.

The Planner commented that the road resurfacing that was completed on some Township roads this year was determined by research by the Public Works Department to reduce Green House Gases because less gravel maintenance is required on the roads.

P. Nelson expressed concern that the new Council members were not familiar with the commitments in the Climate Action Plan adopted by the previous Council. He was concerned that Councillor opinions were accepted as fact without the responsibility of every Councillor to have evidence on the item that is being discussed.

Preliminary Discussion on Life Cycle Assessment/ Total Cost of Ownership

The Planner noted this November will be the first full year of the new Council. She commented that three reports will be brought to the Committee of the Whole in October: an update on the implementation of the Climate Action Plan and direction GHG emissions are headed; a report on Total Cost of Ownership; and a report on using a Climate Lens.

The Planner has asked for feedback from the Working Group on the Life Cycle Assessment/Total Cost of Ownership handout to include in her report to Council.

B. Argue expressed that a Climate Lens is not the same as the mini tool calculator. You need to use a Climate Lens to bring a climate perspective to discussions of any topic. The Climate Lens Calculator Tool will assist you with specific calculations of GHG emissions for various activities or products. The Working Group was given a quick example of how the Climate Lens Tool is used and it was suggested that Council receive a quick reminder how it works for the new members.

It was mentioned that the Procurement Policy should be updated to allow for the Life Cycle Cost/Total Cost of Operation of the product or project rather than the lowest bid. The initial purchase cost potentially could be higher up front, but the Life Cycle Cost could be less for the length of time the asset would be in use.

B. Argue suggested the savings over the lifetime of the asset could be placed in a reserve to compensate for the initial higher purchase price.

Website Content/Did You Know? Series

The Planner reminded the Working Group about submitting any content for the Did You Know? series for the website.

ii) **Communications**

Lanark County Climate Change Committee Update.

The Planner provided the Working Group with an update on the Lanark County Climate Change meeting. The County will be completing a joint application with lower tier municipalities to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) for the Home Retro Fit Program. The Chief Administrator Officer of Lanark County, has been working with their consultant, Dave Greenwald, on the application to provide the municipalities with the funding to help residents complete Home Retro Fits to their homes.

Tay Valley Township Council will still need to pass a Local Improvement Charge by-law for the program. The County is working towards submitting the application in November 2023. The Planner will need to discuss with the Township's Treasurer about the percentage of funding the municipality would need to contribute.

Street Lights that are Solar

Councillor Greg Hallam informed the Working Group that he did provide the Public Works Manager the information on Solar Powered Street lights. The

lights can be expensive, and the information is available for future purchases by the Township. It was recommended to add the information to the website for individual residents to potentially purchase for their own properties.

News Article from the Peterborough Examiner

Working Group member P. Nelson provided a brief article on the possibility of a Battery Energy Storage System to be developed in Peterborough, Ontario. P. Nelson views this type of battery storage as an important step in local resiliency to climate change disruptions of the electrical grid- *attached, page 6.*

7. NEW AND OTHER BUSINESS

None.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE AND PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

Next Meeting: October 20, 2023

9. DEFERRED ITEMS

**The following items will be discussed at the next and/or future meeting:*

- *None*

10. ADJOURNMENT

The Working Group adjourned at 3:29 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

November 7, 2023

Report #PW-2023-23
Sean Ervin, Public Works Manager

COMPOSTING OPTIONS

STAFF RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended:

“THAT, a public awareness brochure regarding the use of backyard composters be developed;

THAT, composting be promoted in the summer of 2024 by having a table at each of the three waste sites;

THAT, as part of the promotion, residents be given a kitchen composting pail when they purchase a backyard composter at a discounted rate;

AND THAT, the program be funded by using Lanark County’s Electric Vehicle/Organic Waste Fund.”

BACKGROUND

A report was brought forward at the May 2023 meeting providing Council with background information regarding the Waste Management Master Plan that was completed in 2022 and further discussion to begin implementing some of the recommendations. The report included information regarding composting and recommendations to undertake a public awareness campaign regarding the use of backyard composters. The decision was deferred as Council members brought forward different ideas to promote the backyard composting program.

The purpose of this report is to provide further information and possible opportunities for the composting in Tay Valley Township as there is room for improvement and to take advantage of the County grant before year-end. The recently completed waste audit noted that an average of 1.37 kg/household/week contains compostable materials that could be diverted from the landfill, which equates to 36% of the kg/household/week.

The Township began promoting and selling backyard composters in 2017 after a recommendation from the Waste Management Working Group. The composters are sold at cost a discounted rate of \$50 each. In comparison, retailers are selling composters for

anywhere between \$80 to \$115. The response from the residents has been good and the Township has sold approximately 20 composters this year alone, without any significant effort to promote them.

DISCUSSION

The Township could improve the backyard composting program by developing a backyard composting brochure. The brochure would provide education and awareness of the importance of removing organic materials from the household waste, as well as proper composting practices. Staff would seek the assistance of the Green Energy and Climate Change Working Group to provide input in the development of the brochures. The brochures would be made available at the Municipal Office and on the website and would include information explaining how composting works, how to properly compost and how to use the composted materials. To further promote the program, Council may wish to consider setting up a table for a day or two at each of the waste sites during the summer of 2024 to promote backyard programming. Backyard composters could also be sold during these events.

To further promote backyard composting, the Township could purchase the small kitchen composting bins and distribute them to residents who purchase a composter for free. To further clarify, residents who purchase a backyard composter from the Township, will receive a complimentary kitchen composting container for free. In addition, the large composters that the Township sells could be sold at a reduced price, such as 50% off, to further promote the program.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Township is eligible for funds from Lanark County for up to \$10,000 to support the purchase of electric vehicles, electric charging stations and/or organic waste initiatives. The fund is available until the end of 2023 and since the Township is not purchasing an electric vehicle, staff recommend these funds be used to promote backyard composting as outlined in this report.

Staff have requested a quote from the same supplier that is used to purchase composters (Orbis), for the small "Kitchen Collector" and are still awaiting the quote. It is assumed they will be around \$10.00 each. Another option would be to purchase the Lee Valley Kitchen Compost Pails for \$28.50 each for a 7-litre or \$25.50 each for the 4-litre. The bins from Lee Valley come with an activated charcoal filter to absorb odours and are made in Canada with easy-to-wash polyethylene.

The Township has approximately 80 composters in stock and would not likely have to make an additional order through this initiative, however, an order for additional composters could be made, if required.

The brochures would be designed by a graphic designer and the estimated costs to design and print the brochures would be \$ 6,200.00.

Below is a breakdown of the estimated cost:

Item	Estimated Cost
Kitchen Collector Giveaway 75-Lee Valley Pails @ 25.50 each	\$ 1,912.50
Selling Composters at a Discounted Rate (75 @ 50% off)	\$1,875.00
Brochure (Design and Printing) (Estimated)	\$ 6,200.00
Estimated Total Cost	\$ 9,987.50

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Option #1 – (Recommended) – Utilize the Lanark County Electric Vehicle/Organic Waste Fund to develop a backyard composting brochure and to give away a kitchen composter pail with the purchase of a backyard composter at a discounted rate.

Option #2 – Do nothing and not utilize the Lanark County Electric Vehicle/Organic Waste Fund.

CLIMATE CONSIDERATIONS

The Waste Management Master Plan analyzed the Greenhouse gas emissions related to the Township’s Waste Management operations and the related data can be found in section 3.2.3 of the plan.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINK

Infrastructure: Our roads, bridges, trails, buildings, landfills and communications systems are efficient and well-maintained

CONCLUSIONS

The Lanark County Electric Vehicle/Organic Waste Fund is available until the end of 2023 and since the Township is not purchasing an electric vehicle this year, staff are recommending that the fund be used to promote the backyard composting program.

New composting programs, such as a centralized location system, may be reviewed in the future once other waste management projects are completed or underway (Blue Box Transition and Layout improvements to the Glen Tay Waste Site).

ATTACHMENTS

None.

Prepared and Submitted By:

Approved for Submission By:

**Sean Ervin,
Public Works Manager**

**Amanda Mabo,
Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk**

November 10, 2023

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

Re: Consultation on the future of natural gas expansion and home heating affordability

Earlier this year, the Ministry of Energy launched its [consultation on the future of natural gas expansion and home heating affordability](#). The Ministry is specifically seeking input from stakeholders on the future of the program, which will be used to inform next steps to address home heating costs in rural and northern Ontario and Indigenous communities.

I encourage you to have your voices heard by contributing your feedback. Your municipal perspective, interests and priorities could help shape the future of the program. Responses are due by December 15, 2023, and you can learn more about the consultation process on the Ministry's [website](#).

Phase 1 and 2 of Ontario's Natural Gas Expansion Program were oversubscribed with more than 200 projects submitted for funding, indicating the overwhelming demand from municipalities and businesses for access to more cost-effective heating options. The natural gas expansion program can help businesses achieve annual cost savings of up to 30% each year on space and water heating, with homeowners realizing even greater savings. This affordability is vital for Ontario residents and businesses now more than ever.

Enbridge Gas will be contributing to this consultation and leveraging our experience planning and executing the projects that were selected in Phase 1 and Phase 2 of this program.

We continue to advocate for a modernized leave-to-construct application threshold and process for smaller pipeline projects to bring reliable affordable energy options to communities, homes, and businesses in a more cost-effective and timely manner – and to promote economic development and job creation across the province. I invite you to reach out to your local MPP, the Ministry of Energy and the Ontario Energy Board and add your support to this discussion. Attached to this correspondence is a draft resolution for your consideration.

While our work to expand access to natural gas continues so does our commitment to bringing alternative [energy solutions and fuels](#), such as renewable natural gas, hydrogen blending and energy conservation programs, as pathways to lower-cost, clean and reliable energy options for Ontarians. Enbridge Gas has been meeting Ontario's energy needs for more than 175 years; our customers rely on us to deliver clean, reliable, and cost-effective natural gas, and we are proud to deliver on this commitment.

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or your municipal advisor, if you have any questions or would like to discuss these topics further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JB Trahan', written in a cursive style.

Jean-Benoit Trahan
Director, Operations, Eastern Region



1565 Lanark Concession 12C
Almonte, Ontario, K0A 1A0

Dear Mayor/Reeve and Members of Council;
2023

Nov. 26,

Action 1 - The Ministry of Energy is specifically seeking input from rural municipalities on its [consultation on the future of natural gas expansion and home heating affordability](#). The Ministry is asking for comment from stakeholders on the future of the program, which will be used to inform next steps to address home heating costs in rural and northern Ontario and Indigenous communities.

CNL encourages you to **give voice to your constituents in this important consultation**, especially in the context of having recently passed the County's Climate Action Plan and the crisis of availability of affordable housing in the County and Smiths Falls. Your municipal perspective, interests and priorities could help shape the future of the program. Responses are due by December 15, 2023. You can learn more about the consultation process on the Ministry's [website](#) and from a document reflecting CNL's [outlook](#) on this.

Action 2 - Enbridge Gas has shared key messages with the County and with its Municipalities regarding out-of-date aspects of the Ontario Energy Board's Leave to Construct (LTC) process, entitled "reducing red tape for more cost-effective, timely energy connections in Ontario". Enbridge is asking for a Resolution of support.

CNL has composed the attached alternative Resolution which asks the Ontario Energy Board to determine, in gas expansion leave-to-construct applications, which option would result in the lowest energy bills - directing the subsidy to the lower, be it gas line expansion or to heat pump subsidies for homeowners. **Please give this alternate Resolution your consideration.**

CNL is working hard to lower both energy costs and emissions of homes in the County and Smiths Falls through our Climate Concierge program. We are bringing reliable affordable energy options to our communities, homes, and businesses in a cost-effective and timely manner – and promoting economic development and job creation locally – while addressing the climate crisis.

Thank you for acting on your commitment to protecting the citizens of Lanark County and Smiths Falls from a worsening climate crisis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Hortop", written in a cursive style.

Scott Hortop
Chair,
Board of Directors