



GREEN ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP MINUTES

Friday, August 11, 2023

2:00 p.m.

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

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present:

Councillor, Greg Hallam
Councillor, Angela Pierman (left at 3:05 p.m.)
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

The agenda was approved as printed.

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

None at this time.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

i) Minutes – June 9th, 2023.

The minutes of the Green Energy and Climate Change Working Group Meeting held on June 9th, 2023, were approved as amended.

5. DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

None.

6. BUSINESS

i) Climate Action Plan Update.

- Draft Report Card Update

The Planner presented a draft Climate Change Report Card (see page 6) summarizing that between 2018 and 2023 GHG have increased for waste and the Township fleet. The GHG emissions for buildings appear to have declined considerably but the Working Group wanted more detailed information to determine how accurate this conclusion is.

The Working Group noted that the Glen Tay Waste Site Annual Report for 2022 indicates that waste is expected to increase by 20% between 2022 and 2041 (see Table page 7). This is the wrong direction for reducing GHGs.

The Working Group identified that increasing composting is needed to reverse this trend. A focused waste audit on organics would need to be undertaken (to supplement the free waste audit undertaken by the Province that did not include organics) to get an understanding of the impact of GHG reduction from introducing a program to promote composting.

The Planner will talk with the Public Works Manager about writing a joint report to present to Council in September describing options for instituting composting in Tay Valley Township.

The Public Works Manager has talked to Perth about the possibility of sending Tay Valley's compost to their composting facility after collecting it at our waste site(s). The Public Works Manager has also thought about the Township maintaining its own composting facility. These are options to be fleshed out in the report.

For residents who want to compost at home, the Public Works Manager has attended a workshop on dominant fungal composting as well as traditional composting and his department currently offers composting bins at cost to residents.

The Working Group emphasized that there will need to be training in composting for Waste Site Attendants to educate residents and possibly a concierge service to help people start up, like Lanark County used to provide. This may have implications for the budget which is why a report needs to go to Council in September e.g., if free composter distribution at the landfills was an initiative.

The Planner noted that the Real Deal Store in Smiths Falls is hosting a workshop on composting and possibly the Township could host a similar workshop.

B. Argue pointed out that the new producer responsibility recycling program that potentially will begin in two (2) years will also affect how waste is managed and will affect the Township's Green House Gas calculation.

Township wide garbage collection (as is done in Drummond North Elmsley and Rideau Lakes) could lower greenhouse gas emissions (and provide a service to help residents age in place). This should be revisited when the producer responsibility changes come into effect.

The Planner explained the Township fleet Green House Gases did decrease in 2021 however they increased in 2022 due to the Township providing its own roadside mowing instead of contracting it out. It was also noted that the mileage for staff and Council was included in 2022 for the first time so has also contributed to the increase of GHG emissions.

With regard to the Township fleet emissions, the Working Group discussed the feasibility of getting an electric vehicle in the near future to replace the repaired Chief Building Official, rather than waiting the five (5) or more years to replace it, in order to reduce fleet emissions and achieve the best return on investment when considering Total Operating Costs.

The Planner noted that the asset management plan (to be discussed by Council in September) will identify when assets would need to be replaced.

The continued expansion of what is considered to be Township GHG emissions, (i.e., including the emissions of suppliers to the Township) is a policy discussion that Council should have.

- Website Content

G. Rossignol suggested adding some pictures to the Climate Change page of the Tay River flood of Christie Lake Road to show the local impact of climate change.

He has also asked permission from various farmers about using pictures of their farms to be included in updating content on the Tay Valley website. Content will be submitted with the pictures to the Planner to be approved by the Chief Administrative Officer for uploading to the website.

- Did you Know Series?

B. Argue submitted content for the “Did You know?” series (see page 8) that will be passed on to the Chief Administrator Office to review and be included in the news feeds. Other Members will also submit other Did You Know pieces to the Planner.

ii) **Communications**

- Lanark County Climate Change Committee Update.

The Planner provided the Working Group an update on the Lanark County Climate Change Committee meeting that was held on Thursday, August 10. She noted that the County has hired Dave Roewade on contract to work on implementation targets for the Climate Action Plan.

Mr. Roewade has suggested to submit a county-wide Federation of Canadian Municipalities BetterHomes grant application to the Community Efficiency Financing Program because the smaller municipalities would not receive funding on their own, given the limited funds left in the program. The application is due in December 2023 and if successful the program would begin in the Fall of 2024.

B. Argue referred to a CBC story that describes a Community Efficiency Financing program in the Atlantic Provinces for heat pumps
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/science/pace-home-energy-loans-1.6928216>

Councillor Angela Pierman left at 3:05 p.m.

- Shoreline Clean Up

G. Rossignol suggested an initiative to mitigate climate change through nature based asset management, where the Working Group and Friends of the Tay could partner to do a shoreline clean up of garbage along the Tay River to allow subsequent revegetation of the shoreline through the Rideau Valley Conservation shoreline program. The shoreline plantings would absorb carbon. Our Trees may also be interested in tree planting.

G. Rossignol would also like to have a discussion with the Public Works department about not cutting the grass in the ditches on Ernest Way and possibly plant butterfly and other pollinator plants instead.

- Street Lights that are Solar Powered

Councillor Hallam deferred the topic of street lights that are solar powered until the next meeting when he has more details.

7. NEW AND OTHER BUSINESS

None.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE AND PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

Next Meeting: September 15, 2023

- Discussion of Asset Management Plan
- Clarification of Township Building GHGs
- Website Content
- Did you Know? Series Write Ups
- Streetlights that are solar powered

9. DEFERRED ITEMS

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

- None

10. ADJOURNMENT

The Working Group adjourned at 3:16 p.m.


Chair


Secretary

Year	Equivalent Service Population	Incoming Waste (Bag Counts)				Total Waste Including Cover Material (m ³)	Available Volume (m ³)	Remaining Volume
	Township Total	Glen Tay	Maberly	Stanleyville	Total			(m ³)
2005	7394	59406	18557		77963	1432	162699	161267
2006	7589	57547	18960		76507	3332	161267	157935
2007	7572	57766	18390	5967	82123	4650	157935	153285
2008	7555	52924	17875	25518	96317	4360	153285	153500
2009	7538	44932	17782	23352	86066	3840	153500	150619
2010	7521	46644	19493	23737	89874	6270	150619	144080
2011	7504	53220	20013	25962	99195	4300	144080	139780
2012	7559	67907	19592	23666	111165	4876	139780	199493
2013	7614	72671	21100	25314	119085	5422	199493	194071
2014	7669	64263	19130	25277	108670	5874	188637	182763
2015	7724	61768	17225	25173	104166	3460	182763	179302
2016	7623	42605	16472	22607	81684	4649	179302	132690
2017	7648	35215	16935	22239	74389	1012	132690	131678
2018	7674	61260	16518	24926	102704	3746	131678	127932
2019	7701	68810	13613	23935	106358	3730	127932	173643
2020	7727	81925	16043	26605	93109	1171	173643	172472
2021	7981	85025	16898	31155	133078	2947	172472	169525
2022	8053	90470	15352	24654	130476	4389	169525	165136
2023	8126	92083	15556	25201	132840	3987	165136	161150
2024	8199	92913	15697	25428	134038	4023	161150	157127
2025	8273	93750	15838	25657	135245	4059	157127	153068
2026	8347	94596	15981	25889	136466	4096	153068	148972
2027	8423	95448	16125	26122	137695	4132	148972	144840
2028	8498	96309	16270	26358	138937	4170	144840	140670
2029	8575	97177	16417	26595	140189	4207	140670	136463
2030	8652	98053	16565	26835	141453	4245	136463	132218
2031	8730	98937	16714	27077	142728	4284	132218	127934
2032	8809	99829	16865	27321	144015	4322	127934	123612
2033	8888	100729	17017	27567	145313	4361	123612	119251
2034	8969	101637	17171	27816	146624	4400	119251	114850
2035	9049	102553	17325	28067	147945	4440	114850	110410
2036	9131	103478	17482	28320	149280	4480	110410	105930
2037	9213	104411	17639	28575	150625	4521	105930	101410
2038	9296	105352	17798	28833	151983	4561	101410	96848
2039	9380	106302	17959	29093	153354	4602	96848	92246
2040	9465	107260	18120	29355	154735	4644	92246	87602
2041	9550	108227	18284	29619	156130	4686	87602	82916

Greenhouse Gas Emissions (tCO₂e)

	2018	2021	2030
Waste	4,483	5,809	731
Fleet	197	172	108
Buildings	98	36	54
Residential	5,914		2,661
Transportation	36,725		16,523
Ag, Forest, Land use	1,937		872
Industrial	2		0.9
Commercial and Institutional	1,010		455

- Waste GHG emissions were revised for 2018 and 2021, based on McIntosh Perry Annual Waste Site Report for 2022. Waste totals are expected to increase with population growth.
- Fleet GHG went down in 2021 but have increased from 172 to 189 tonnes in 2022 due to roadside mowing now being done in-house. There was also a significant amount of fuel used by staff and Council which can now be captured through mileage claims.
- Improvements have been found in Building energy use.

2021 GHG Emissions - Property

Property Name	Natural Gas (GJ)	Natural Gas (m ³)	kg CO ₂	Propane (litres)	kg CO ₂	Electricity kWh	kg CO ₂	Total kg CO ₂	Total GHG (Metric Tons CO ₂ e)
South Sherbrooke Fire Station			-	9,851	15,269	27,991	476	15,745	16
Burgess Township Garage			-	6,474	10,035	22,417	381	10,416	10
Maberly Township Hall			-	1,472	2,282	4,456	76	2,357	2
Tayvalley Township Office	102	2,663	6,338		-	60,575	1,030	7,368	7
Totals	102	2,663	6,338	17,797	27,585	115,439	1,962	35,886	36

Data calculations and updated report card comments can be found at:

"H:\Data\D - Development & Planning\D00 - Development & Planning - General\D00-CC - Climate Change\D00-CC-CAP - Climate Change - Climate Action Plan\23-07-04 - TVT Climate Change Plan Report Card DRAFT.xlsx"

Did You Know?

Heat Pumps

Did you know that dozens of Tay Valley homes have recently converted to heating their homes with air-source Heat Pumps? That's because the technology has matured and can now provide reliable heat even on cold winter nights when it is -25° or -30° C. And because they use electricity so efficiently (providing three units of heat for each unit of electricity), heat pumps will be cheaper to own and operate than propane, fuel oil, electric furnaces, and even natural gas. And as a bonus, heat pumps provide dehumidification and air conditioning during our increasing hot spells of summer. If you are in the market for a new heating system, or are just tired of paying high fuel costs, contact some of our local heating service companies to let you know what the options are. For a Primer on heat pumps in Ontario, go to:

<https://www.cleanairalliance.org/heat-pump-primer/>

Electric Vehicles

Did you know that the lifetime cost of owning an electric car is generally cheaper than owning a gas or diesel vehicle? Although the purchase price is higher (partially offset with federal grants), the lower operating and maintenance costs will save you money in the long run. With a Level 2 charger installed at home, imagine heading out every day with a full "tank" at a fraction of the cost of filling up at a gas station. A good site to compare the cost of ownership of different models of electric vehicles with models of gas vehicles, check out

<https://ev.plugndrive.ca/compare-vehicles/>

Composting

Did you know that Tay Valley residents are keeping a majority of their kitchen organics out of landfill? A recent study of the garbage going to our landfill sites contained few organics than other comparable municipalities studied. Organics buried in landfills generate methane, which is a powerful greenhouse gas. Backyard composters are an effective way to reduce your carbon footprint by 300 kg CO₂ or more each year. Composters are available at cost from the Municipal Building on Harper Road.

Telework or Carpooling

Did you know that many Tay Valley residents are continuing to work from home even as COVID restrictions have eased? This saves on commuting time, expenses such as clothes, lunches, and gas. Working from home half the time rather than commuting to Ottawa also can also save 7,500 kg CO₂ a year in Greenhouse gases. If you must go into the office, carpooling will still save on gas and carbon emissions. To sign up for carpooling (looking for or offering a ride), go to

<https://www.communitycarpool.ca/>