

STAFF REPORT

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBOURG



Report to:	Mayor and Council Members	Priority:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Submitted by:	Bill Peeples, Manager Environmental Services bpeeples@cobourg.ca	Meeting Type:	Open Session <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed Session <input type="checkbox"/>
Meeting Date:	March 7, 2022		
Report No.:	Public Works-098-22		

Subject/Title: Biosolids Haulage Contract

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council award the Biosolids Haulage Contract to GFL at a cost of \$12.75/m³ in 2022 and \$13.10/m³ in 2023 to be funded by the Environmental Services operating budget.

Assuming 15,000 m³ of biosolids are removed, the total contract cost for both Plants be \$191,250 in 2022 and \$196,500 in 2023.

The total Environmental Services Operating Budget for biosolids removal in 2022 is \$226,500 (Plant #1: \$82,500, Plant #2: \$90,000, Centrifuge: \$54,000).

N/A

3. PURPOSE

To ensure the proper and complete disposal of all biosolids generated by the Town's two Wastewater Treatment facilities.

4. ORIGIN AND LEGISLATION

Biosolids Disposal is part of the Environmental Services Operating Budget (Account No. 4010750, 4010752, 4020750)

Proper disposal of biosolids requires specially trained and licensed companies to ensure compliance with the following legislation:

- Nutrient Management Act 2002 (O. Reg 267/03, 230/07)
- Clean Water Act 2004
- Environmental Protection Act (i.e. Reporting of Spills)
- Ontario Highway Safety Act
- Ontario Health and Safety Act
- O. Reg 347 Waste Management (if disposed of in landfill)

5. BACKGROUND

Wastewater Treatment Plants treat municipal sewage through a series of biological and chemical processes. The liquid phase of the sewage is treated to reduce pollutants and pathogens to limits specified by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) and discharged to local waterways (i.e. Cobourg Creek and Lake Ontario).

The solid phase of the sewage is anaerobically digested to breakdown complex organic material into basic agricultural nutrients that can be recycled onto local farmland as fertilizer (i.e. soil enhancement).

6. ANALYSIS

The disposal of the biosolids is a critical part of the overall sewage treatment process and it can only be land applied at very specific times during the year. For example, biosolids cannot be applied to frozen soil or to farmland containing active crops. This limits land application to very brief periods in the Spring (i.e. after frost is out of soil and before crops have been planted), Summer (i.e. after hay is cut) and in the Fall (i.e. once crops are removed, but before soil freezes).

Given the brief application window, a low cost per cubic meter is only one aspect of the overall bid rating. It is also important that the contractor have the staff, equipment and related experience to effectively administer the Town's biosolids disposal program. The scoring criteria is listed below with the percent weighting of each component shown in brackets. A perfect score is 100%.

- 1. Viable, All-Season Contingency Plan (15%)** – The Wastewater Treatment Plants have limited storage capacity. It is essential that the volume of biosolids be managed to ensure the Plant Holding Tanks do not exceed their capacity prior to the next land application interval. This is particularly important at the end of the spreading season (i.e. November 30th) since the next land application interval is 5-6 months away. Dewatering equipment can be used successfully during warm weather, but is not a reliable option in December when temperatures are cold. A viable contingency must therefore be available year-round.

2. **Relevant Contract Experience (20%)** – Refers to the contractors experience with similar requirements to those being provided to the Town of Cobourg Water Pollution Control Plants. References may be contacted to confirm relevance.

3. **Contract Team Experience & Qualifications (10%)** - This measures the ability of the contractor’s staff to administer peripheral services such soliciting new farm land, calculating/monitoring field spread rates, soliciting new farm land for spreading and preparing a nutrient management plan.

4. **Adequate Equipment (5%)** – The contractor must demonstrate that they possess sufficient staff and equipment to remove and properly dispose of all biosolids within the timeframes available.

5. **Price (50%)** – The cost of disposal per cubic meter (\$/m³) of biosolids removed from Town facilities is scored based on its relative distance from the lowest bid received. For example, the low bid will receive a full score of 50%. Another contractor whose bid price per m³ is 10% higher than the lowest bid will receive a score of 45% (i.e. $50 \times (100\% - 10\%) = \underline{45}$).

The results of the evaluations were as follows:

Bidder	Score
WESSUC	91
Enviroland	83
GFL	96

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/BUDGET IMPACTS

The annual price for two years from each of the bidders was as follows:

Bid Summary	GFL
2022 Price / m ³	\$12.75
Est 2022 Annual Cost (Assumes 15,000 m ³ /year)	\$191,250
2023 Price / m ³	\$13.10
Est 2023 Annual Cost (Assumes 15,000 m ³ /year)	\$196,500

GFL’s price was not the lowest bid however based on the results of the evaluation process, GFL ranked higher in total value.

The 2022 Operating Budget is:

- Plant #1 Haulage (Acct No 4010750): \$82,500
- Plant #1 Centrifuge (Acct No 4010752): \$54,000
- Plant #2 Haulage (Acct No 4020750): \$90,000
- Total 2022 Operating Budget Amount: **\$226,500**

In a typical year, the two Plants generate between 12,000-15,000 m3 of biosolids. Assuming the high end of this range, GFL removing 15,000 m3 of biosolids would cost **\$191,250** in 2022 and \$196,500 in 2023.

8. CONCLUSION

The bid provided by GFL was evaluated to be the best value for the Town.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Biosolids Disposal Contract - Public Works-098-22.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Feb 24, 2022

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Tracey Vaughan, Chief Administrative Officer - Feb 24, 2022 - 7:42 PM