

Report to Council

Report Title: Clean Farms Partnership Agreement and Tipping Fees Update

Prepared By: Nicholas Schnurr, Director of Operations

Department: Operations - Materials Management

Date: April 9, 2024

Report Number: PW2024-06 **File Number:** C11PW, E07

Attachments: Cleanfarms 2024 Partnership Agreement

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number PW2024-06 - Clean Farms Partnership Agreement and Tipping Fees Update, prepared by Nicholas Schnurr, Director of Operations and in doing so approves a By-law coming forward to authorize the agreement with Cleanfarms and further approves a By-law coming forward to amend the 2024 fees and charges to accommodate the updated tipping fees at the Brant Landfill and Greenock Transfer Station.

Report:

Background:

Clean Farms

Clean Farms is a non-profit environmental stewardship organization that operates permanent collections programs for a variety of agricultural plastics across Canada. They work collaboratively to ensure that Canadian farmers can actively contribute to a healthy environment and a sustainable future. They seek to achieve the goal of zero plastic waste in Canadian agriculture.

On March 5, 2024, Brockton Council received a staff report as an update to the Clean Farms Pilot Project and the program end date of March 31, 2024. Clean Farms reached out to Bruce County and the Municipal Innovation Council in hopes of securing additional funding to continue the program. Since then, no further funding sources have been secured. Clean Farms has submitted a partnership agreement for consideration that would effectively see the program continue, funded by Brockton, which would then be passed on to the farmer in the form of tipping fees for the agricultural waste.

The program, if continued would ONLY accept white bale wrap moving forward. This is due to a fire at the recycling facility that used to accept the twine and bunker cover (black and white plastic). Staff are hopeful that once rebuilt, the recycler would start to take the other materials again.

Tipping Fees and Charges Update

Historically, Brockton has maintained the same tipping fees for the Brant and Greenock Landfills as the Hanover/Walkerton Landfill administers.

Below are the current and proposed rates for the Landfills

Type of Waste	Hanover/Walkerton	Brant/Greenock Current	Brant/Greenock Proposed
Sorted Waste	\$140/tonne (min \$10 charge)	\$130/tonne (min \$10 charge)	\$140.00/tonne (min \$10 charge*)
Non-Sorted Waste	\$280/tonne	\$260/tonne	\$280/tonne
Agricultural Plastic Waste	Not Accepted	-	\$750/tonne
Contaminated Soil	\$280/tonne	\$260/tonne	\$280/tonne
Mattress or Box Spring	\$21 ea	\$20 ea	\$21 ea
Appliances (freon removed)	\$12 ea	\$10 ea	\$12 ea
Propane Tanks	Not Accepted	\$5 ea	\$10 ea

*\$10 minimum charge will apply to sorted waste up to 70kg

Analysis:

Clean Farms

The cost to recycle the bale wrap is \$750/tonne if collected and shipped in bags, the way it is currently handled. The cost to recycle it in compressed bales is Approximately \$250/tonne but would require additional staff time, training and operational costs, effectively costing a similar amount as it would if shipped in bags. Staff are recommending an update to the fees and charges by-law to include the acceptance of bale wrap at a rate of \$750/tonne.

Tipping Fees and Charges Update

Staff are recommending the increase of tipping fees to align with the Hanover/Walkerton Landfill tipping fees. Not increasing fees would result in less people using the Hanover/Walkerton landfill and more people dropping off waste at the Brant location, effectively shortening the lifespan of the Brant location.

Strategic Action Plan Checklist:

What aspect of the Brockton Strategic Action Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?

- | | |
|---|-----|
| • Recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision | Yes |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Heritage, Culture, and Community | N/A |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Quality of Life | Yes |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Land Use Planning and the Natural Environment | N/A |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Development | N/A |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Municipal Governance | Yes |

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective? Yes

The costs associated with this report reflect a user pay system, resulting in zero net costs to the municipality.

Reviewed By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Trish Serratore', with a stylized, cursive script.

Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Schnurr', with a stylized, cursive script.

Nicholas Schnurr, Director of Operations