



TOWN OF WINTERTON NEWSLETTER

September 2012

The New Waste Management System

Waste management services have stabilized now for the next few years. In this column I wish to give you a very brief overview of the transition from our old system to the new system.

History

Serious changes to the waste management system have been occurring for the past 6-7 years and have been discussed for even longer. These changes began before I was elected to council with a discontinuation of incinerators and a plan to close all small regional dumps. Mayor Jim Harnum was opposed from the beginning to changes that would see an increase in costs to the tax payers of Winterton; I strongly agreed with his opinion and efforts and he asked me to start attending waste management meetings with him. Very briefly our efforts included:

- simple opposition to any changes to our waste system, we wished to have the dump remain open in Winterton for town residents
- trying to work with the towns from Hearts Content to Hants Harbour on sharing the dump and its expenses
- the town examined many different options for waste removal including buying a larger truck to bring our own waste to Robin Hood Bay, sharing a truck with the neighboring towns, etc. None of these options was acceptable because of high costs or unknown associated risks.
- the surrounding towns soon decided to join the group forming out of Old Perlican (Trinity North Waste Management Committee - TNWMC) which was backed by Eastern Waste Management and seeking to collect waste and transport it to the Robin Hood Bay waste management site in St. John's. This left Winterton as the only town outside of this group in the area from Hearts Content to Kingston except for one local service district on the north shore.
- soon the town was approached by government officials and the chair of the TNWMC to join the TNWMC. The government intended to close the Winterton dumpsite.
- the town continued to use its dumpsite until it received a Municipal Order to close the site or face fines. The town joined the TNWMC and closed its dumpsite.
- we have worked with the TNWMC to provide an efficient and effective waste collection service. I have served since Winterton joined as a director on the committee.
- just recently the TNWMC has agreed to disband as a corporation and have Eastern Waste Management (EWM) own and administer its contracts. This makes sense as EWM has the knowledge, resources and time to effectively hold the contractors accountable as per the contracts and deal with issues that arise.

Financial Impact

The financial cost to Winterton residents was certainly much less when the incinerator was running in our own dumpsite. Costs increased significantly when the incinerator was dismantled and we had to pay a contractor to cover the garbage every month. Costs have increased slightly again as we have moved to having our waste hauled to Robin Hood Bay by compactor truck. Current costs are roughly \$180 per household per year in Winterton. This is approximately \$40 more than the cost per household when we were burying our own garbage at our own site. The town charges an additional \$40 per year for waste removal instead of the whole \$180 because this was the additional amount incurred when we moved to the compactor contract with TNWMC. In future the council could level the whole \$180 waste fee per household but other taxes would be reduced to compensate. For the near future the cost per household is not expected to rise. There are 3 years left in a 5 year collection contract which is \$115 of the total \$180, the remaining \$65 of the \$180 is the fee for tipping in Robin Hood Bay. The tipping fee appears stable but could rise in the coming years.

The overall cost of waste removal is only going to reduce if we all make an effort to reduce our household garbage. For instance we pay \$65/ton for regular garbage but we only pay \$20/ton for recyclable material in blue bags (a price which is under review and may be reduced further). If we all started recycling more the overall fee would reduce significantly.

Future

Hopefully with increased participation in recycling, more backyard composting and overall waste reduction we will see our fees reduce for waste removal. We have regionalized our waste management service and we are cooperating with approximately 2500 households in the larger area to achieve cost efficiencies. The old dumpsite is scheduled to be covered and properly restored by the provincial government, a 2nd tender call was recently made and I understand that the work should begin soon.

We are open to making changes to the service to better accommodate residents and we would love to hear your suggestions. For actual service delivery questions or complaints please contact EWM 579-7960, for suggestions on longer term changes to the system (composting initiatives, delivery timing, and bulk collection frequency) please reach me at the town hall 583-2010.

Mark Sheppard, Mayor

Town of Winterton:

The Town of Winterton is launching a website and is asking anyone with pictures, historic information or a suggestion of a famous person from Winterton to please email it to the Town. The Town is asking that all dog owners keep their dogs from roaming. The Town has had a lot of success with the metal disposal bin and asks that if you have metal, please contact the Town for collection, only metal items will be accepted.

Winterton Ambulance Service:

If you happen to dial the emergency number 583-2777 by mistake please say that you have reached a wrong number instead of just hanging up. The Ambulance Service will be hosting an open house on October 9th from 2:00 to 4:00. Ambulance members will be giving a demonstration of the equipment as well as checking blood pressure, blood sugar etc... We are asking residents to please ensure that your civic address is located on your home. Keep checking the Ambulance Facebook site for upcoming events.

Winterton Fire Department:

On October 9th, the Fire Department will be hosting an open house from 2:00 to 4:00 please drop by and get a tour. The annual Santa Clause parade will be taking place December 8th with lots of notice we are hoping for a big turn out so start your floats early! As the cold weather comes please ensure that chimneys are clean, batteries are changed in smoke detectors and heaters are free of debris. We would like to thank everyone for their continued support. Keep checking the Fire Department Facebook site for upcoming events.

Outside Pond Park:

The Park has had its most successful season to date with just shy of 2200 bookings!! Seeing approximately 8000 visitors at the RV Park!! Outside Pond Park would like to publicly thank Gerald Piercey, Todd Hiscock, Paul & Nicholas George and Raymond Branton who volunteered their time to set off such a wonderful display of fireworks Labour Day weekend. The event was a huge success thanks to the dedication of many volunteers.

Winterton Heritage:

The Wooden Boat Museum of NL saw over 2000 visitors come through the doors from June 18th to September 10th. A total of six students were employed during the season, along with the Museum Manager and Curator. Our Family Fun Day was held on August 12th, the theme was old fashion fun and the children had a wonderful time with old fashion games, face painting and of course some snacks! We had approximately 100 people show up, many of these people were residents of Winterton. This season our student interpreters engaged tourists in a number of daily talks, storytelling sessions and walking tours. It was well received by visitors to our Museum. Lastly during the season the Museum undertook a project which has seen the digitization of the collection of documents from SUF No. 2. This has been an amazing project for the Museum and Town. In the near future the documents will be available online through MUN's digital archive imitative.

Winterton Recreation Commission:

During Winterton Weekend, July 28th & 29th the Winterton Recreation profited \$942.44. As of August 2012 we currently have a new President (Kim Reid), Vice President (Brenda French), Secretary (Lisa Branton), and two members at large Cindy Branton and Hilda Green. On September 14th the Recreation will be hosting the Children's Softball Banquet starting at 6:00 pm. On September 15th there will be a dance for the Adult Softball Banquet; Happy hour will be from 11:00 pm to 12:00 am with Molson products 2 for \$5.00. Again this year; darts will be starting on September 26th at 8:00 pm. The Recreation will be having Zumba classes for all ages on September 27th, October 4th and 11th at 7:00 pm at the Recreation Center. We will also be having our annual flea market in November dates will be announced at a later time. Keep checking the Winterton Recreation Facebook site for upcoming events. Thank you for your continued support.

Other News Around Town:

Anyone wishing to lay a wreath at the Remembrance Day ceremony November 11th, please contact Ed Hiscock at 583-0034. The UCW will be hosting an afternoon tea 3:00 October 6 at the SUF Lodge. The Sugar Loaf 50 plus club meets Tuesdays 8:00 p.m. at the Winterton Recreation Center new members welcome! The ACW will be hosting their fall sale November 7 and a pork and cabbage supper, (sit in at 5:30).



THE TOWN OF WINTERTON
OFFICE HOURS
MONDAY – OFFICE CLOSED
TUESDAY - THURSDAY:
8:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.
FRIDAY 8:30 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.
CLOSED FOR LUNCH 12:00 – 1:00

