

## RM of Edenwold

## Meeting Minutes Public Hearing Meeting August 22, 2023 - 6:30 PM

Minutes of the Public Hearing Meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Edenwold No. 158 held on Tuesday, August 22, 2023, in the Emerald Park Fire Hall, located at 102 Hutchence Road, Emerald Park, Saskatchewan, to receive verbal and written submissions in regard to:

**6:30 p.m.** Discretionary Use Application: Proposed Commercial Compost Facility at Blk/Par D, Plan 102294604, Ext 0 and Blk/Par E, Plan 102294604, Ext 0

The following members of Council and staff were present:

Deputy Reeve: Stan Capnerhurst Councillors: Division #1 Lisa Peters

> Division #3 Alan Trainor Division #4 Karen Kotylak Division #5 Dwayne Radmacher

Division #6 Tim Brodt
Division #7 Rod Tuchscherer
Chief Administrative Officer: Karen Zaharia

Manager of Planning and Development: Paige Boha Manager of Engineering and Public Works: Clark Gates

Financial Officer: Sara Gartshore Communications Officer: Lee Chambers

IT Specialist: Krunal Patel

Administrative Assistants: Jessica Schoenroth, Jennifer Schultze, Angela Robertson and Parker

McCormick

Community Safety Officer Supervisor: Rod Ash

Community Safety Officers: Cole Shaw and Ankit Rampal

## Call to Order

Deputy Reeve Capnerhurst noted the time being 6:30 p.m. and called the Public Hearing to order.

It is noted that there were one hundred and ninety-six (196) members of the general public in attendance as shown on the Public Hearing sign-in sheet, attached to and forming part of these minutes; as well as news media reporters.

6:30 p.m. Discretionary Use Application: Proposed Commercial Compost Facility at Blk/Par D, Plan 102294604, Ext 0 and Blk/Par E, Plan 102294604, Ext 0

Manager of Planning & Development Paige Boha gave an overview of the discretionary use application for a commercial compost facility at Blk/Par D, Plan 102294604, Ext 0 and Blk/Par E, Plan 102294604, Ext 0.

Administration presented thirty-six (36) written submissions which included one (1) petition with five hundred and nineteen (519) signatures received prior to the public hearing to Council for their review and consideration.

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**Res. No:** 2023-08-01

Discretionary Use Application: Proposed Commercial Compost Facility at Blk/Par D, Plan 102294604, Ext 0 and Blk/Par E, Plan 102294604, Ext 0 – Written Submissions Received Prior to Public Hearing

Moved By: Councillor Peters

THAT we acknowledge there were thirty-six (36) written submissions which included one (1) petition with five hundred and nineteen (519) signatures received in regard to the discretionary use application prior to the public hearing.

CARRIED

Deputy Reeve Capnerhurst asked for any verbal submissions.

The applicant, Mischa Zajtmann, President of EverGen Infrastructure Corp., spoke about their company, their track record of operational excellence, adhering to operational and environmental requirements, giving back to communities, highlights and benefits of this project for Regina, RM of Edenwold and surrounding communities, advised of full support from Ministry of Environment, explained the technology of the gore covers to reduce odour, EverGen Infrastructure Corp. is standing by the project and hopes to be back to speak of the benefits.

Verbal submissions were presented by Peggy Chorney, Zac Forster, Jean Lowenberger, Greg Mallett, Shayne Klatt, Darla Parent, David Sefton, Joel Forsythe, Don Turner, Brian Fergusson, Glenn Larson, Fred Salerno and Cindy Zelmer.

Twelve of the verbal submissions were opposed to the discretionary use application citing the following concerns: location of the facility in proximity to the Town of Pilot Butte, public health and safety, environmental impacts to the Condie and Zehner aquifers, odour from the facility, increased air pollution and dust, increased traffic on Highway 46, increase of pests and rodents, decrease in property values, lack of engagement through the process and that EverGen Infrastructure Corp's facility in Abbotsford, BC had violated provincial regulations and permits. One verbal submission encouraged the RM of Edenwold and EverGen Infrastructure Corp. to make all information available to the public to combat misinformation.

The applicant, Mischa Zajtmann, responded to the concerns from the verbal submissions. He explained the compliance issue in Abbotsford was related to an unusual catastrophic flood and discharge was related to the facility being flooded, clarified the surfacing on site to be asphalt with structures having precast concrete walls, EverGen Infrastructure Corp. will inject capital required to combat odour and environmental impact, committed to operational and environmental excellence, benefits for surrounding communities, an Aquifer Protection Plan has been commissioned, committed to monitoring and upgrades for any and all environmental concerns, believes the Ministry of Environment is in full support of the project and has not seen devaluation to properties that are 500 metres or more from their facilities.

In total, thirty-eight (38) written submissions which included one (1) petition with five hundred and nineteen (519) signatures were received at the public hearing. Of those written submissions, thirty-five (35) written submissions, which included one (1) petition with five hundred and nineteen (519) signatures, were opposed to the discretionary use application or expressing concerns and/or asking questions. One (1) written submission was in favour of the discretionary use application and two (2) written submissions were from provincial ministries providing comments on the discretionary use application.

The written submissions received cited the following concerns: environmental impacts on the Condie and Zehner aquifers and water usage of the facility, proposed site/location of the facility and the proximity to the Town of Pilot Butte, increased traffic on Highway 46, traffic studies and safety considerations, odour from the facility, increase in rodents and pests, waste/garbage around the property, financial concerns, process of the discretionary use application and operations of the compost facility.

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**Res. No:** 2023-08-02

Discretionary Use Application: Proposed Commercial Compost Facility at Blk/Par D, Plan 102294604, Ext 0 and Blk/Par E, Plan 102294604, Ext 0 – Verbal Submissions

Moved By: Councillor Brodt

THAT we acknowledge there were thirteen (13) verbal submissions in regard to the discretionary use application.

CARRIED

**Res. No:** 2023-08-03

Discretionary Use Application: Proposed Commercial Compost Facility at Blk/Par D, Plan 102294604, Ext 0 and Blk/Par E, Plan 102294604, Ext 0 – Total Written

Submissions Received
Moved By: Councillor Trainor

THAT we acknowledge there were a total of thirty-eight (38) written submissions which included one (1) petition with five hundred and nineteen (519) signatures received in regard to the discretionary use application.

CARRIED

Res. No:

Adjournment

2023-08-05

Moved By: Councillor Kotylak

THAT we hereby adjourn the Public Hearing with the time being noted as 7:46 p.m.

**CARRIED** 

Deputy Reeve

Administrator