



HDC NEWS



A Load of Rubbish

Three important matters surfaced at the last Work Committee in relation to rubbish.

Compaction

The Waihi Refuse Transfer Station uses super bins for collection and transporting refuse and green waste to the Tirohia Land Fill. The Paeroa RTS is also using these bins at present while its refuse transportation trailer is being repaired. In Paeroa, the refuse is compacted with a subsequent cost saving in transportation. With the distance of Waihi from the land fill being greater, it is clear that compaction of the rubbish in Waihi would lead to a considerable saving in costs. It is therefore proposed that a small excavator be bought for the Waihi RTS to compact the rubbish in the bins.

A trial machine will be operational at the Waihi station for one week to determine if suitable compaction can be obtained under the conditions. If Council decides to go ahead with the purchase of the excavator it would be used for other things as well, as it would only be used in the station for approximately one hour a day. The cost of an appropriate second hand machine would be \$35,000 and a new one \$61,000.

Abandoned Vehicles

At the present time, Council accepts car bodies at its refuse transfer stations in Paeroa and Waihi at a cost to the person dumping them of \$25 stripped or \$50 unstripped. "Stripping" means in clean condition, all oil and cooling fluids drained, all tyres removed, and no additional refuse contained within. Council accepts in the vicinity of 300 vehicles per annum. Abandoned vehicles within the Hauraki District cost around \$10,000 per annum - 58 vehicles collected and disposed of at a cost of \$168 per vehicle.

In the interests of tidiness, disposal of car hulks needs to be encouraged and it is proposed that the present system be abandoned and that Council accepts stripped car bodies free of charge at the Waihi and Paeroa refuse transfer stations. This in turn should reduce the number of abandoned vehicles and would also reduce administration costs.

The Works Committee has recommended to Council that the current charge for stripped car body disposal be reduced to zero, while the unstripped disposal be priced at \$25 each from July 1st. Commercial quantities may only be accepted by prior arrangement with the District Engineer. Council will make a final decision on this matter at its meeting at the end of this month.

Used Tyres

The problem of the disposal of used tyres has been around for some time and is a universal one. Recycling of the tyres, in one way or other, has been trialled in some countries but most systems depend on far larger quantities than can be assured anywhere in New Zealand.

The Tirohia landfill does not accept used tyres. Recently, however, an alternative method of disposal has been trialled with good results. When the tyres are cut into quarters they are acceptable to the landfill as they do not "float" in the same way whole tyres do. An industrial guillotine is used to cut up the tyres.

With Council now having a route for the disposal of tyres, it is proposed to accept clean tyres (off rims) at a charge that covers the cost of cutting and disposal. The proposed charges are \$3 for car tyres, \$4 for 4WD tyres \$8 for truck tyres and \$21 for tractor tyres. Again, commercial quantities would only be accepted by prior arrangement with the District Engineer and this recommendation from the Works Committee still needs to be accepted by the full Council at the end of the month.

Please Help Our Meter Readers

Most of our customers are very considerate when it comes to keeping the water meter and box visible and accessible at all times. When problems do occur it is usually because people are not aware of what is required under the Council's bylaw. These bylaws form part of the agreement between us, Hauraki District Council as the supplier of water, and you the consumer. It is each property owners' responsibility to keep the meter clear. NB: It's almost time to read the Paeroa/Waihi water meters.

Disposing of the Backwash

As the raw water from the Waihou River is not particularly clean, there is a need for frequent backwashing of the filters in the Kerepehi Water Treatment Plant and a need to dispose of this backwash. Council has been looking at the Wharepoa Drain as a disposal option for the backwash but the high aluminium content in the backwash has been identified as a possible reason to exclude this option. Low levels of aluminium are set by Environment Waikato for receiving waters.

There is a high level of aluminium in the waters of the Waihou. Aluminium is present in clay which is characteristically washed down the Waihou and salt water intrusion from high tides also increases its level. Consumers will be pleased to know that this aluminium is filtered out at the treatment plant but the problem now arises as how to get rid of the residue from the filtering process. The current consent for the proposed back-wash ponds has a limit set by Environment Waikato that is lower than the average level in the Waihou at the Pekapeka intake.

Council is now reviewing the supporting documentation for the resource consent and the water quality data to gain a better understanding of the levels of aluminium in the various stages of the treatment process.

Waihi Water Options

While Waihi residents may be satisfied with their current water supply, there is a problem in continuing to get resource consents from Environment Waikato for the use of water from the Walmsley Stream. The problem relates to taking too much water from the stream at times of low flow. To solve this problem Waihi has, for some time, been looking at other options for its water supply. After abandoning the ground water option as impractical Council is left with three viable options:

1. Piping water from the Waitekauri River.
2. Piping water from the Waitawheta River.
3. Constructing an off stream storage facility for the Walmsley.

Costings have been prepared but cost is not the only factor to be taken into consideration. Risk assessment has to be done for each of the options as risks are associated with them all.

The need to add Waikino to the supply has been precipitated by the Bill that is currently going through parliament insisting on all water supplies complying with Ministry of Health water quality guidelines. If this Bill is passed, the Waikino supply would have to have a major treatment plant upgrade. It appears it would be far cheaper to add the Waikino supply to the Waihi one and to upgrade only the one treatment plant.

Drainage Issues

Council is proposing to remove the Turua wharf floodgate and install a culvert under Bagnall Square. Consultants have prepared a report and estimate which is being evaluated by Council staff. If acceptable, the floodgate will be sealed off and abandoned.

The contractor has started work on the Hot Springs to District Boundary Stopbank, which has been in the planning stages for several years. The project was held up in the resource consent process because of objections. With these matters now settled, fences have been removed, and the toe drain excavated to form the landward bund. A start has also been made on the excavation of the borrow pit and stop bank formation.

Elected Members' Diary

For the week of the 21st to the 27th June 2004:
Thursday 24th June - Full Council Meeting



SITUATIONS VACANT

GENERAL QUARRY WORKER Tetley's Quarry

Applications are invited for the position of General Quarry Worker, a hands-on position within the Tetley's Quarry Business Unit, which is situated on Steen Road, Waitakaruru. Duties include operating the Quarry's crusher and bin, driving articulated dump trucks and general duties which contribute to quarry operation.

The ideal candidate needs to have a current driver's licence and a heavy traffic licence, be a team player and have practical ability. An understanding of quarry products and general quarry procedures would be an advantage.

Prospective applicants should first obtain the job description and application form from the Council's offices in Paeroa, Ngatea or Waihi, or phone Sue Greenville on (07) 862 8609, e-mail jobs@hauraki-dc.govt.nz or visit our website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz to acquire your copy.

Applications close at 4pm on Wednesday 30 June 2004.

A wage rate will be negotiated with the successful applicant.

Hauraki District Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer

PUBLIC NOTICE



Pursuant to Section 46 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, public notice is hereby given that the following meetings will be held during the month of July 2004.

All meetings are to be held in the Council Chambers, Williams Street, Paeroa.

MONDAY 5 JULY 2004 WARD COMMITTEES
PLAINS 9.00 AM
PAEROA 1.00 PM
WAIHI 3.30 PM

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE WATER AND WASTES
TUESDAY 06 JULY 2004 10.00 AM

HEARINGS COMMITTEE
THURSDAY 08 JULY 2004 (if required) 9.00 AM

THURSDAY 15 JULY 2004
10.00 AM WORKS COMMITTEE
1.00 PM PLANNING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

HAURAKI COROMANDEL DEVELOPMENT GROUP
TUESDAY 20 JULY 2004 10.00AM

HEARINGS COMMITTEE
THURSDAY 22 JULY 2004 (if required) 9.00 AM

WESTERN PLAINS DRAINAGE COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 28 JULY 2004, 10.30 AM -
NGATEA OFFICE

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
THURSDAY 29 JULY 2004, 10.00 AM

**LD CAVERS
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**