

**Minutes - The Blue Mountains Special Meeting of Council**



**MEETING DATE:** January 26, 2011  
**LOCATION:** L.E. Shore Memorial Library  
**PREPARED BY:** Corrina Giles, Town Clerk

**A. Call to Order**

- Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order with all members in attendance save Councillor Martin absent due to a previous commitment
- Also in attendance was Acting Chief Administrative Officer and Director of Engineering & Public Works Reg Russwurm, Director of Finance Rob Cummings, Director of Recreation Shawn Everitt, Manager of Human Resources Tracey McKenna, Fire Chief Ron Doherty, Manager of Solid Waste & Environmental Initiatives Jeff Fletcher.

- Approval of Agenda:

Moved by: Joe Halos                      Seconded by: John McKean

THAT the Agenda of January 26, 2011 be adopted as circulated, including any revisions to be made, being the Elephant Thoughts letter of support, Carried.

- No member declared a pecuniary interest with any matter as listed on the Agenda
- Addition to Agenda – Elephant Thoughts

Communications and Economic Development Coordinator Lisa Kidd spoke reviewing the request of Elephant Thoughts regarding their application to the Evergreen Grants to enhance the existing community garden to create local food supplies.

Moved by: D.R. McKinlay                      Seconded by: R.J. Gamble

THAT The Blue Mountains will provide Elephant Thoughts with a letter of support of their application to Evergreen Green Grants for a community garden, Carried.

- Committee Appointment – The Blue Mountains Official Plan Review Proposal Award Committee and Official Plan Review Steering Committee

Moved by: John McKean                      Seconded by: Gail Ardiel

THAT Robert B. Waind be appointed as a member of the public to sit on The Blue Mountains Official Plan Evaluation Committee (previously referenced as The Blue Mountains Official Plan Review Proposal Award Committee).

In speaking to the Motion, Deputy Mayor McKinlay spoke noting the purpose of the Committee is to review proposals and to make recommendations to Council, and further noted Council is responsible for making the final decision as to which proposal to accept.

Council then voted on the Motion, Carried.

Moved by: D.R. McKinlay

Seconded by: R.J. Gamble

THAT Robert B. Waind and John Corrigan be appointed as two members of the public to sit on The Blue Mountains Official Plan Review Steering Committee.

In speaking to the Motion, Deputy Mayor McKinlay spoke noting the Steering Committee will work on behalf of Council on the Official Plan Review and will report to Council.

Council then voted on the Motion, Carried.

## **B. 2011 Budget Deputations/Presentations**

Mayor Anderson welcomed Council and Staff, then turned the meeting over to Director of Financial and Information Services, Rob Cummings.

Director of Financial and Information Services Rob Cummings noted the updates provided to Council this evening have no impact on the 2% budget increase.

### 1. Roads Reserves

Acting CAO and Director of Engineering and Public Works Reg Russwurm reviewed the roads and drainage year end reserves as envisioned from 2005 to 2015 noting a reduction in the bridge reserve in 2011 due to the Slabtown bridge construction.

Councillor McKean questioned how much is being put into bridge and culvert reserves, Reg replying reserves can be used interchangeably and noted roads reserves can be used for other purposes such as bridge and culvert purposes.

Councillor Halos spoke questioning if the money noted as being in reserves is actually in the bank, Rob replying, not necessarily, further noting the reserves could be tied in to other investments.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay questioned if there is an advantage of not keeping a separate bridge and culvert reserve, Reg replying that reducing the number of reserves and creating a larger road reserve, further confirming the cost of bridge and culvert work could be drawn from the roads reserves. Reg then noted that a culvert and bridge reserve could be continued if that is Council's wish.

Duncan then questioned if the roads reserve is based on a formula, Rob replying that four years ago a specific tax amount was determined for contributions to the roads reserve, though this equation has not continued.

Reg then reviewed the roads and drainage division in the capital budget distribution from 2005 to 2013.

Duncan questioned if a small portion of the equipment needs for the roads will be covered by development charges, Reg replying that the equipment reserve is being built up over time and is associated with equipment replacement based on normal operating life of equipment.

John then referenced the 2005 to 2007 reserves and the money spent at that time and noted the funds in the reserve fund is not sufficient at this time and questioned if money was overspent in those years or if the Town is underspending now. John then noted he is concerned that roads and bridges infrastructure may be falling behind. Reg spoke noting we will have the Tangible Capital Assets completed later this year and believes the Town may not have done enough from 2005 to 2007 for roads and that the Town may be falling behind and noted other Municipalities are in the same situation.



