

Minutes - The Blue Mountains Council Meeting



MEETING DATE: March 26, 2007 – 7:00 pm

LOCATION: The Blue Mountains Council Chamber

PREPARED BY: Stephen Keast, Clerk

A. Call to Order

- Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order with all members in attendance save Councillor McGee, absent due to vacation.
- Council then paused for a moment of Personal Prayer or Reflection.
- Approval of Agenda
Moved by: R. J. Gamble Seconded by: Cameron Kennedy
THAT the Agenda of March 26, 2007 be adopted as circulated, including any items added to the Agenda, Carried.
- No member declared a potential pecuniary interest with any matter as listed on the Agenda save Councillor McKean with regard to Consent Agenda Item G5, Finance and Administration Committee Report Recommendation A1.
- Adoption of Consent Agenda
Moved by: Michael Martin Seconded by: R. J. Gamble
THAT the Consent Agenda of March 26, 2007 be adopted as circulated, less items G3 – Recreation Committee Report of March 8, 2007, G5 – Finance and Administration Committee Report of March 20, 2007 and G7 – Police Services Board Minutes of March 7, 2007, requested for separate review and discussion, Carried.
- Previous Minutes
Moved by: Michael Martin Seconded by: John McKean
THAT the Council minutes of March 12, 2007 and Planning Council Meeting of March 19, 2007 and Special Planning Meeting of March 7, 2007, and Public Meeting minutes of March 7 and 19, 2007 be adopted as circulated, including any revisions to be made, Carried.

B. Deputations/Presentations

7:10 pm – Beaver Valley Outreach, Introduction

Next, as Marlene Yen, BVO Board Chair, Karen Stewart and Sue Bissett were in attendance, it was Council's pleasure to hear them with an update on the activities of Beaver Valley Outreach.

Karen then reviewed BVO programs and numbers served within the community, noting over 23 programs were currently offered, serving youth through seniors.

Karen noted two thirds of the Town population are touched by BVO programs.

Sue then recounted BVO activities, noting programs were broken down into 8 fields, being Emergency Services, Children's programs, Community Services, Youth Activities and Community Events, Recreational Funding, the Treasure Shop and Transportation.

Marlene then reviewed research and survey information compiled by BVO, identifying a need for additional programs for all age groups.

Marlene noted, for example, a grocery delivery program for seniors will be initiated in the near future, with affordability in all fields a growing issue.

Marlene then concluded by noting it was hoped the Town saw the BVO as an important partner in the community.

Councillor Martin then thanked BVO for their presentation, noting programs for teens and transportation are particularly important in the community.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay then noted support for BVO efforts, representing a cost effective manner in delivering a range of services to residents.

Marlene noted each new program represented additional cost and certain funding sources are now finished. Marlene then noted the transportation program is considered very important.

Duncan then questioned any Board of Education funding, Marlene noting the BVCS facility was made available for programs, the Library being a wonderful partner as well.

Nancy noted BVO had a lot to offer in partnerships and services within the community.

Councillor Gamble then questioned the supply of emergency housing and any possible Grey County funding in this field, Mayor Anderson noted there was consideration of funding forthcoming.

Councillor Martin then questioned the loss of funding sources, Marlene noting Grey County funding through the federal government for recreational programs has now ceased, although funding is in place in other areas of the County.

Marlene then noted early years funding from the Province through Grey County has also ceased, Councillor Gamble noting a follow up with Grey County Council on early years funding would be appropriate.

Mayor Anderson then thanked BVO and its volunteers for making the community a better place.

The deputation then thanked Council and retired from the meeting.

7:20 pm – Jim Manicom, CAO, Grey Sauble Conservation Authority, Authority Operations and Functions

Next as Chair Dick Hibma, Chief Administrative Officer Jim Manicom and Community Relations Coordinator Krista McKee were in attendance, it was Council's pleasure to hear them regarding GSCA operations and the proposed 2007 budget.

Krista then reviewed the jurisdiction and programs for the GSCA, noting the GSCA Source Water Protection program is funded by the Provincial government.

Krista then reviewed funding sources over time, the Provincial funding steadily reducing since 1995.

Krista then reviewed the proposed 2007 Budget total of \$2,376,057.00, the General Levy raising \$849,249 and Provincial grants representing approximately \$100,000.

Councillor Kennedy then questioned who is responsible for debris at the Beaver River dam, Jim noting it was an Ministry of Natural Resources dam.

Jim noted debris is generally removed from rivers and creeks where it will cause jamming or flooding.

Councillor McKean then questioned use of reserves in the 2007 budget, Jim noting the reserve amount stemmed from logging operations in the previous year and a similar amount of reserves was utilized in 2006.

Councillor Gamble then questioned if a detailed breakdown of the 2007 budget was available, Jim noting it should have been sent out approximately one month ago.

Bob then noted he preferred to see expenditures go to conservation programs rather than buildings or gateways.

Bob then noted The Blue Mountains contributed 25% of the annual budget and perhaps more expenditures and improvements could be considered in the Town.

Bob then questioned if any development was proposed for the Peasemash area, Jim noting the land originally had development restriction covenants on title and the former Township requested permission to construct a parking lot when the covenants expired.

Dick then noted any request for capital improvements would be considered by the GSCA.

Bob then questioned use of the Clendennan lands, Jim noting it is open to the public but adjacent private properties are not part of any trail area.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay then noted the Town had recently obtained a trail easement along the north side of the Beaver River for possible inclusion in the Clendennan trail network.

Councillor McKean then questioned a recent proposal for a micro generating station at Clendennan, Dick noting the GSCA has had negotiations recently with investigation ongoing as to practicality of the use.

Mayor Anderson then questioned general maintenance at Clendennan, Jim noting refuse cans are placed in the spring.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay then questioned the groundwater monitoring program, Krista noting two wells are monitored in The Blue Mountains.

Jim noted flood monitoring equipment is operated at Slabtown and Mill Creek.

Councillor Martin then referred to the revenue changes over time, noting the GSCA operations generate almost as much revenue as is collected by General Levy.

The deputation then thanked Council and retired from the meeting.

C. Correspondence as previously circulated

Regarding Item 2. Collingwood General and Marine Hospital fundraising dinner, Council then dealt with the following Resolution:

Moved by: D. R. McKinlay Seconded by: John McKean

THAT Collingwood General and Marine Hospital Board representative Councillor McGee and spouse are hereby authorized attend the annual fundraising dinner with costs to be paid in the usual manner, Carried.

Regarding Item 1, Georgian View Estates Ratepayers noting concern with tree-cutting in restricted areas, Director of Building & By-law / CBO David Finbow noted he had attended the site and trees were removed on Lots 9 and 12 and correspondence had been forwarded to the lot owners and the developer that tree removal restrictions were in place.

David further noted he and Manager of Development Planning Rob Armstrong would meet and formulate an enforcement plan.

David noted none of the cutting occurred on public land, only on private land, although cutting restrictions were in place through subdivision agreement covenants.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay noted such restrictions would be more easily enforced if the land in question was in public ownership.

Councillor McKean then questioned if a tree inventory by lot would assist in such matters, David noting it would be a good procedure for the future, photographs now essentially the only option.

Duncan then noted in the future such an inventory could be a development requirement.

Councillor Martin then suggested a more sophisticated Tree By-law may be appropriate together with an inventory and tree marking, all in terms of considering a sustainable community.

Regarding Item 9, Cancer Society Relay for Life, Mayor Anderson noted Bonnie Hammond is looking for volunteer assistance for the Relay for Life event.

Regarding Items 5 and 6, FCM and AMO response to Federal Budget infrastructure funding, Councillor Martin noted both groups agree there is not enough infrastructure funding available and as a result, Michael believes efforts should be undertaken to separate rural infrastructure needs from large urban areas to avoid being short changed, the Mayor to address a letter to MP Helena Guergis noting such concern.

Regarding Item 7, AMO Alert regarding the HealthForce Ontario Recruitment Centre, Councillor Martin noted the correspondence should be forwarded to local physician recruitment committees in Simcoe and Grey Counties as we have residents in both local hospital catchment areas and the two Committees should work together.

Moved by: Cameron Kennedy Seconded by: Michael Martin

THAT this Council does hereby receive the Correspondence of March 26, 2007 and further does hereby support and adopt the Staff Recommendations made with regard to the Correspondence items including any additional direction give to Staff and Committees through discussion, Carried.

D. Motions and Staff Reports

1. 2007 Summer Council Schedule, A.07.15

In speaking to the Motion, Councillor Gamble noted perhaps in the future Council could consider separate breaks in July and August.

Council then dealt with the following Resolution:

Moved by: D. R. McKinlay Seconded by: John McKean

THAT Council receive Staff Report A.07.15, "2007 Summer Council Schedule" and authorize the following 2007 summer Council schedule:

1. Council meetings will not be scheduled the weeks of July 30, August 6, August 13 and August 20. August 27 would be scheduled as a Council meeting and Wednesday, September 5 as a Planning Council meeting. The normal meeting rotation would then be in place.
2. Standing Committee meetings will not be scheduled the weeks of July 30 and August 6. Committees would meet the weeks of August 13 or 20 (depending) for Reports to be completed by August 23 for the August 28 Council meeting.
3. For the August 27 Council meeting only, Council authorizes an exemption from the Procedural By-law for preparation of Council Agenda packages on Thursday, August 23, not later than 3:00 pm.

In speaking to the Motion, Councillor Martin noted Council might consider striking a Hearing Committee that could conduct public meetings and hearings that might be required during such breaks.

Council then voted on the Resolution, Carried.

2. Revisions to Procedural By-law, A.07.16

Councillor Martin then noted support for the revised By-law proposal following revisions to the Municipal Act, 2001 and a Parliamentary Procedure workshop.

Council then dealt with the following Resolutions:

Moved by: Michael Martin Seconded by: R. J. Gamble

THAT Council receive Staff Report A.07.16, "Revisions to Procedural By-law" and authorize Staff to finalize a revised By-law for enactment, Carried.

3. Equipment Needs – Kubota ZD26P-60 Zero Turn Mower, DOR.07.18

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

THAT Council receive report DOR.07.18, "Equipment Needs – Kubota ZD326P – 60 Zero Turn Mower", and authorize the purchase of a new Kubota ZD326P-60 zero turn mower from Earth Power Tractors and Equipment, Meaford at a cost of \$13,300 plus GST & PST, based on the approved 2007 budget, Carried.

4. Equipment Needs – Bush Hog Rotary Mower, DOR.07.19

Moved by: D. R. McKinlay Seconded by: John McKean

THAT Council receive report DOR.07.19, "Equipment Needs – Bush Hog Rotary Mower", and authorize the purchase of a new Bush Hog Rotary Mower from Earth Power Tractor and Equipment, Meaford at a cost of \$1,325.00 plus GST & PST, based on the approved 2007 budget.

In speaking to the Motion, Councillor Gamble noted a larger unit was preferred to cut the Georgian Trail, however the existing tractor is not large enough.

Councillor Martin then questioned if the Recommendation required the attention of Council, Acting Director of Finance Rob Cummings clarifying the purchase of capital items complying with purchasing guidelines would not have to be before Council if contained in the approved in the 2007 Capital budget.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay noted it was important that Council support Staff purchasing practices within the approved purchasing guidelines.

Town CAO Paul Graham noted Council could be made aware of purchases made over time in compliance with the guidelines, Councillor Kennedy noting such information flows through the Accounts.

Council then voted on the Resolution, Carried.

E. New and Unfinished Business

1. Grey County Council Update

Mayor Anderson noted that County Council is still proceeding with the 2007 County Budget, then recounting a meeting with the County Warden at Queen's Park to discuss funding assistance for subsidized housing maintenance and other issues of interest.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay then noted COMRIF grant funding had been approved for the Grier Creek Townline bridge and efforts are being made to address concerns of residents with the design of a new bridge.

Ellen then reported on a meeting of regional representatives with Minister of Transportation Donna Cansfield to discuss transportation issues, Town CAO

Paul Graham noting the Minister proposed to set up a governance committee to oversee progress on the issues with Provincial Staff committed to the matter.

2. Notice of Motion - none

F. By-laws

None

G. Consent Agenda

Accounts

1. Accounts
2. Invoices separated for pecuniary interest (None)

Reports List

3. Recreation Committee, March 8, 2007

Regarding the Recreation Committee Report of March 8, 2007, Councillor Gamble reviewed the Report, clarifying the dog park trial operation for 2007 and 2008, with permitted times revised from the Staff Reports.

Council then dealt with the following Resolution:

Moved by: D. R. McKinlay Seconded by: Michael Martin

THAT the Recreation Committee Report of March 8, 2007 be adopted as circulated, Carried.

4. Engineering and Public Works Committee, March 13, 2007
5. Finance and Administration Committee, March 20, 2007

Regarding the Finance and Administration Committee Report of March 20, 2007, Councillor McKean declared a pecuniary interest with regard to Recommendation A.1 and did not take part in related discussion or voting.

Regarding Recommendation No 7, Deputy Mayor McKinlay requested to meet with Hemson Consulting and Acting Director of Finance Rob Cummings to review Development Charges issues at the County level.

Councillor Gamble noted the Public should be made aware of the relocation of Council Meetings for the remainder of 2007.

Council then dealt with the following Resolution:

Moved by: D. R. McKinlay Seconded by: Michael Martin

THAT the Finance and Administration Committee Report of March 20, 2007 be adopted as circulated, Carried.

Minutes List

6. Grey Sauble Conservation Authority, February 14, 2007
7. Police Services Board, March 7, 2007

Regarding the Police Services Board minutes of March 7, 2007, Councillor Martin noted the contract with Grey County should result in Provincial Offences fines being forwarded to the Town without consideration of options, Mayor Anderson reporting a meeting has been scheduled with POA representatives to review the matter.

Council then dealt with the following Resolution:

Moved by: Cameron Kennedy Seconded by: R. J. Gamble

THAT the Police Services Board minutes of March 7, 2007 be received as circulated, Carried.

H. Next Meeting Date(s)

Council April 11 (Wednesday), 23, May 14, 28, June 11, 25, 2007
Planning Council April 2, 16, May 7, 23 (Wednesday), June 4, 18 2007

Engineering and Public Works Committee April 10, 2007
Finance and Administration Committee April 17, 2007
Recreation Committee April 26, 2007

I. Closed Session

Moved by: Cameron Kennedy Seconded by: Michael Martin

THAT with regard to subsection 239(2) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, this Council do now move into closed session in order to address matters pertaining to a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board;

AND to adopt closed session minutes of January 8 (6:15 pm and 9:17 pm), January 15 (6:31 pm and 9:16 pm), January 19, January 29, February 5 and March 19, 2007 addressing matters pertaining to personal matters about an identifiable individual, including Town or local board employees, litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals affecting the municipality or local board and proposed or pending acquisitions or disposition of land by the municipality or local board.

Carried.

Council moved into closed session at 9:34 pm
Council rose from closed to public session at 10:05 pm

J. Confirmation By-law and Adjournment

Moved by: D. R. McKinlay Seconded by: John McKean

THAT By-law No 2007-22, being a By-law to confirm proceedings of the Council of The Corporation of the Town of The Blue Mountains on March 26, 2007, be hereby enacted as passed this twenty sixth day of March, 2007, Carried.

Moved by: Cameron Kennedy Seconded by: R. J. Gamble

THAT this Council does now adjourn at 10:06 p.m. to meet again April 11, 2007, at 7:00 pm or at the call of the Chair, Carried.

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Ellen Anderson, Mayor

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Stephen Keast, Clerk