

## Minutes - The Blue Mountains Council Meeting



**MEETING DATE:** April 11, 2007 – 7:00 pm

**LOCATION:** The Blue Mountains Council Chamber

**PREPARED BY:** Serena Wilgress, Deputy Clerk

### A. Call to Order

- Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order with all members in attendance.
- Council then paused for a Moment of Personal Prayer or Reflection.
- Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Michael Martin      Seconded by: Cameron Kennedy

THAT the Agenda of April 11, 2007 be adopted as circulated, including any items added to the Agenda, Carried.

- No member declared a pecuniary interest with any matter as listed on the Agenda save Councillor McKean with regard to Consent Agenda Item G2, Miller Waste and Sadler's Haulage accounts, and his employment.

- Adoption of Consent Agenda

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

THAT the Consent Agenda of April 11, 2007 be adopted as circulated, less any items requested for separate review and discussion, Carried.

- Previous Minutes

Moved by: R. J. Gamble      Seconded by: John McKean

THAT the Minutes of March 26, 2007 and Planning Council Minutes of April 2, 2007 be adopted as circulated including any revisions to be made, Carried.

### B. Deputations/Presentations

7:10 pm – Craig Binning, Hemson Consulting – Proposed 2007 Water Supply and Wastewater Treatment Fees

Next as Craig Binning of Hemson Consulting was in attendance it was Council's pleasure to hear him regarding 2007 Water Supply and Wastewater Treatment Fees.

Craig noted the objectives of the study included quantifying the full cost of providing water and sewer services in The Blue Mountains and calculating water and sewer rates.

Craig noted two alternative rate structures and three expenditure options were examined.

The first alternative was a uniform consumption rate based on usage, the second alternative was to consider a tiered rate.

Craig then reviewed expenditure options for water system costs.

Craig then reviewed a comparison of rates based on a single dwelling unit consuming 178 cubic metres of water annually.

Craig noted an increase of 8 – 10% per annum for the next ten years is typical in comparison municipalities.

Craig then reviewed wastewater system costs, noting calculations are based on a household's water usage.

Mayor Anderson then questioned rewarding residents for water conservation, Craig noting Alternative 2 – tiered rates – would be the preferred alternative in his view, adding that most municipalities are moving in that direction.

Mayor Anderson then questioned average demand of 178 m<sup>3</sup>, Craig noting the number was likely equivalent to three persons in a household.

Councillor Gamble then questioned fixed replacement charge and consumption rates, noting concern that some users do not use their residences on a regular basis, Craig noting the process offered fixing a rate based on consumption and using a tiered system.

Bob noted fixed income residents may be penalized for this approach, Craig noting demand is based on a utility rate model.

Councillor McGee questioned difference in rates for the alternatives, Craig noting the proposal was based on residential consumption and not commercial.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay questioned if budget changes would be required once rates were set, Acting Director of Finance Rob Cummings noting yes if option 2 or 3 is adopted.

Duncan then questioned netting down of water loss, Rob noting future rates would be based on more accurate meter readings.

Duncan then questioned if the rates proposed for the tiered alternative were typical, Craig noting more municipalities were moving that way.

Duncan then questioned meter sizes, Craig noting a number of different sizes existed, Manager of Revenue Teresa Oakley noting all residential units were using 5/8" meters.

Duncan then questioned average monthly consumption, Teresa noting past usage was difficult to determine at this time.

Teresa then noted residential and commercial units would be evaluated the same.

Councillor Gamble questioned how commercial units such as Maple Villa and IROC would be evaluated, Teresa noting there would be no distinction between commercial and residential.

Councillor Martin questioned using different rates for different classes of properties, Teresa noting that was not permitted under the Municipal Act.

Michael then questioned the infrastructure recovery percentages, Craig noting the numbers were based on Staff recommendations, Rob noting Asset Recovery was introduced in the 2006 Budget.

Councillor McGee then questioned seasonal municipality comparison, Craig noting he did not look outside Ontario, John then noting there were alternative utility models to consider.

Duncan then questioned peak demand usage charges would be for capital or operating, Director of Engineering and Public Works Reg Russwurm noting Development Charges pay for initial cost of service, asset recovery to be covered by usage fees.

Mayor Anderson then questioned next steps, Rob noting more information is provided in the Staff Report.

Rob then reviewed Staff Report FS.07.15, Water and Wastewater Rates, noting staff needed to proceed with a recommended rate, being Option 3, Alternative 2.

Council then dealt with the following Resolution:

Moved by: Michael Martin      Seconded by: John McKean

THAT Council receive Staff Report FS.07.15, Water and Wastewater Rates; and

THAT Council authorize proceeding to an Open House on Tuesday April 17, 2007 for the purpose of presenting proposed water and wastewater rates information to the public; and,

THAT the Open House information be based on Option #3, 25% Asset Replacement, and Alternative #2, tiered rates, as presented today by Craig Binning, Hemson Consulting Ltd.; and,

THAT subsequent to the Open House for property owners, Council will receive a report from staff containing feedback from the public information session and Council will proceed to pass by-laws authorizing the imposition of water and sewer charges.

In speaking to the Motion, Deputy Mayor McKinlay questioned if the matter should be discussed at Engineering and Public Works Committee, Teresa noting the by-law was proposed to be passed April 23.

Mayor Anderson suggested that a meeting be set up for discussion prior to April 23.

Councillor McGee suggested an interim by-law for billing purposes until a final option is selected.

Councillor Gamble questioned if an analysis could be completed based on 30% of system users not using water for six months of the year.

Rob noted the matter could be further discussed at the Finance and Administration Committee meeting on April 17.

Councillor Kennedy then noted metering usage over the next year will dictate the analysis.

Craig then noted Option 2, tiered rates do feature a fixed base component of the rate, funding 30% of budgetary needs.

Council then voted on the Resolution, Carried.

### **C. Correspondence as previously circulated**

Regarding Item C.2, Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative correspondence, CAO Paul Graham noted the resolution represented a soft commitment to move toward water conservation, adding that the Town intended to do so anyway.

Paul then noted that the wording could be changed to “per user unit” to reflect growth and committing to conservation.

Council then dealt with the following Resolution:

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

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes, including Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie and Ontario, the St. Lawrence River, and the connecting channels form the largest surface fresh water system on earth;

WHEREAS, the waters of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River basin are a shared public treasure;

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence basin includes significant portions of eight states, including Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin and two Canadian provinces, Ontario and Quebec;

WHEREAS, over 40 million people inhabit the Basin, representing one-tenth of the US population and one-quarter of the Canadian population;

WHEREAS only one percent of the water in the Great Lakes is renewed each year;

WHEREAS the health and well being of the region, its people, and future generations depend heavily on the integrity of the resource;

WHEREAS it is understood that sustaining accessible and adequate water supplies are essential to the people and economics of the cities within the Basin;

WHEREAS cities must act to ensure the protection and conservation of the waters and water dependent natural resources of the Basin for future generations;

WHEREAS, effective water conservation and water stewardship involve a municipal commitment to best management practices and effective public outreach tools;

WHEREAS a conservation strategy outlining what constitutes responsible water planning, use and management would reinforce the municipal commitment to conservation;

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative has developed a Water Conservation Framework for municipal water conservation and stewardship that embodies this strategy, will help the dissemination of best management practices and tools allows signers the flexibility necessary to meet commitments in a way that reflects their community needs and circumstances and addresses differences in water sources, quality, quantity and usage;

WHEREAS, by voluntarily signing on to the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative Water Conservation Framework, municipalities indicate their intent to enhance the stewardship of the water resource within their jurisdiction;

WHEREAS the Town of The Blue Mountains has committed to participating in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative Water Conservation Framework;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town of The Blue Mountains will work towards achieving a 15 percent reduction in total water usage per user unit below year 2000 water consumption levels by the year 2015;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of The Blue Mountains will pass by-laws and resolutions, if necessary, to help implement the Town's plan to achieve the target reduction.

Carried.

Regarding Item C.16, Councillor Kennedy thanked Mayor Anderson for writing the letter to the Department of Fisheries & Oceans, Mayor Anderson noting the letter was written with the understanding that permits had been issued.

Council then dealt with the following Resolution:

Moved by: John McGee                      Seconded by: John McKean

THAT this Council does hereby receive the Correspondence of April 11, 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**

Council then dealt with the following Resolution:

1. Addendum to the OSTAR Funding Agreement

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

THAT Council receive Staff Report FS.07.12, Addendum to the OSTAR Funding Agreement;

AND THAT the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute the Addendum to the Ontario Small Town and Rural Development (OSTAR) Infrastructure Initiative Funding Agreement for Infrastructure Projects (Round 1);

AND THAT By-law No. 2007-28, being a By-law to authorize the execution of an addendum to a funding agreement, be hereby enacted this eleventh day of April, 2007, Carried.

## 2. Clean Water Act and Role of Conservation Authorities

Director of Planning Peter Tollefsen then reviewed Staff Report PL.07.47, "Clean Water Act and Role of Conservation Authorities".

Council then dealt with the following Resolution:

Moved by: John McKean                      Seconded by: Michael Martin

THAT Council does receive Planning Staff Report PL.07.47, "Clean Water Act and Role of Conservation Authorities"; and

THAT Council indicate to the Minister of the Environment, Laurel Broten, that the Town of The Blue Mountains support the concerns expressed in the January 31, 2007 letter from the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority; and

THAT the Minister is requested to outline the source of funding for municipalities to implement and enforce the activities of Source Water Protection, Carried.

## 3. Bank Night, Canadian Cancer Society Relay for Life

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

THAT Council does hereby authorize a donation in the amount of \$90.00 to the Canadian Cancer Society Relay for Life event, representing rental cost of the BVCC small hall for the evenings of July 3 and 17, 2007, during which the participating teams are registered and pledged funds are collected and reconciled, Carried.

## 4. Release of Non Maintenance Agreement

As an addition to the Agenda, Council then dealt with the following Resolution:

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

THAT Council does hereby authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute documentation consenting to the release of a non-maintenance agreement registered on title of part Lot 36, Concession 12, Township of Clearview, the agreement originally between the former Townships of Collingwood and Nottawasaga and the landowner and registered on title as Instrument No. RO748798 on October 14, 1981, it being noted the Roads and Drainage Superintendent has confirmed the road section is fully maintained and has been for some time, subject to confirmation by the CAO, Carried.

## **E. New and Unfinished Business**

1. Grey County Council Update

Deputy Mayor McKinlay noted the Road Rationalization Study was moving forward.

Mayor Anderson noted the County Budget was passed.

2. Process for Chief Administrative Officer Evaluation

Deputy Mayor McKinlay distributed an email indicating that former CAO David Creech would be willing to facilitate the CAO Evaluation and report back to Council.

Mayor Anderson noted the process would be a part of the annual review of the CAO.

Ellen noted that she would confirm with Mr. Creech the process and cost.

Council then dealt with the following Resolution:

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

WHEREAS Council has anticipated an interim Evaluation Process for the CAO as part of the probationary period; and,

WHEREAS Council recognizes the value of a feedback process utilizing outside resources;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT David Creech be engaged to carry out the process on behalf of Council.

In speaking to the Motion, Councillor McGee questioned if the review was for the probationary period only, Mayor Anderson noting it was proposed to bring forward a policy to have an annual review.

Council then voted on the Resolution, Carried.

**F. By-laws**

1. Procedural By-law

Moved by: Michael Martin      Seconded by: Cameron Kennedy

THAT By-law No. 2007 - 29, being a By-law for governing the calling, place and proceedings of meetings of the Municipal Council for the Town of The Blue Mountains, be hereby enacted this eleventh day of April, 2007, Carried.

2. Temporary Closing of a Highway

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

THAT By-law No. 2007 - 30, being a By-law to temporarily close a portion of Huron Street during the spring launching of boats in Thornbury Harbour on May 13, 2007 between the hours of 6:00 am and 4:00 pm, be hereby enacted this eleventh day of April, 2007, Carried.

**G. Consent Agenda**

## Accounts

1. Accounts
2. Invoices separated for pecuniary interest (Miller Waste, Sadler's)

## Reports List

3. Engineering and Public Works Committee, March 27, 2007

## Minutes List

None

## H. Notice of Meeting Date(s)

Council April 23, May 14, 28, June 11, 25, July 9, 23, 2007  
Planning Council April 16, May 7, 23 (Wednesday), June 4, 18, July 4 (Wed),  
16, 2007

Engineering and Public Works Committee April 24, 2007  
Finance and Administration Committee April 17, 2007  
Recreation Committee April 26, 2007

## I. Closed Session

Mayor Anderson briefly retired from the meeting; Deputy Mayor McKinlay assumed the Chair and Council dealt with the following Resolution:

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

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 March 26, April 2 (6:30 pm, 10:15 pm).

Closed session – 9:30 pm  
Public session – 9:49 pm

Mayor Anderson attended the meeting while in closed session.

Council then dealt with the following Resolutions:

Moved by: John McGee                      Seconded by: Michael Martin

THAT Council does hereby approve the purchase from Reliance Distribution Services Inc. of the property situated in the Town of The Blue Mountains being part Lot 106, Plan 1023, being Part 2, 16R-8916, for the purchase price of \$425,000.00 and in accordance with all of the terms of the Agreement of Purchase and Sale for the property accepted on April 10, 2007;

AND THAT The Mayor and Clerk are authorized to execute all documents, in a form satisfactory to the Town Solicitor and Director of Special Projects, necessary to complete the purchase of the property.

In speaking to the Motion, Councillor Kennedy requested a recorded vote:

Councillor McGee – yea  
Councillor Martin – yea  
Deputy Mayor McKinlay – yea  
Councillor McKean – yea  
Councillor Gamble – yea  
Councillor Kennedy – nay  
Mayor Anderson – yea

The Acting Clerk then noted the Motion is Carried.

Moved by: John McKean                      Seconded by: R. J. Gamble

THAT Council does hereby approve the payment of \$25,000.00 to Reliance Distribution Services Inc. relating to termination of the Motor Fuel Supply Agreement between Reliance and Cango Inc, Carried.

**I. Confirmation By-law and Adjournment**

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

THAT By-law No. 2007 – 31, being a By-law to confirm proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Town of The Blue Mountains on April 11, 2007, be hereby enacted as passed this eleventh day of April, 2007, Carried.

Moved by: Cameron Kennedy                      Seconded by: John McGee

THAT this Council does now adjourn at 10:01 p.m. to meet again April 23, 2007, 7:00 pm or at the call of the Chair, Carried.

.....  
Ellen Anderson, Mayor

.....  
Serena Wilgress, Deputy Clerk