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Minutes: INFRASTRUCTURE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE



MEETING DATE: Tuesday, February 14th 2012
MEETING TIME: 7:00pm
LOCATION: Town Hall, Council Chambers
PREPARED BY: Jenny-Maria Ferraro, Administrative Assistant

A. Call to Order

Present: Duncan McKinlay, John McKean, Bob Gamble, Gail Ardiel, Joe Halos, Reg Russwurm, John Caswell, Jim McCannell, Shawn Everitt, Ryan Gibbons, Aaron McMullin, Jenny Ferraro.

Regrets: Ellen Anderson, Michael Martin

Guests: None

A.1 Approval of Agenda

Staff requested that Report EPW.09.52 Provision of Engineering Support Services – Consultant Selection, Report DOR.12.16 Georgian Bay Sailing Association request for reduction or waive of mooring fees and Report DOR.12.15 Healthy Community Grant Application be added as additions to the Agenda.

Moved by: Bob Gamble Seconded by: Joe Halos

THAT the Agenda of Tuesday, February 14th 2012, Infrastructure & Recreation Committee Meeting be approved as amended, including any items added to the Agenda, **unanimously CARRIED.**

A.2 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

Councillor John McKean declared pecuniary interest to Agenda item D.6 Capital and Development Status Report. Committee concurred that in the absence of Council McKean, Councillor Halos will chair the discussion surrounding that Report.

A.3 Previous Minutes

Moved by: Gail Ardiel Seconded by: Bob Gamble

THAT the minutes of the Tuesday, January 17th 2012 Infrastructure & Recreation Committee be adopted as circulated.

B. Deputations / Presentations

None.

C. Staff Reports as circulated

C.1 DOR.12.3 Waterfront Inventory

Shawn Everitt

Shawn indicated that he worked with Staff to identify all of the waterfront access points and he is hoping to move forward with a Public Consultation piece.

Councillor Halos asked if the land at Terrasan was included in this inventory. Shawn explained that the Report identifies Plan 925 having many access points and that surveyors are working with John Metras to determine how to deal with waterfront access points. Shawn further explained that Plan 925 will be looked at but it is not included at this point.

Councillor Halos noted that it would be a good time for Staff to get a handle on it and Shawn indicated that the waterfront of Terrasan is going to be relatively easier to deal with than the existing points in Plan 925.

Councillor Gamble indicated that he recalls going through this process last year and would like to emphasize the fact that the Town needs to resolve this with the least amount of fuss possible.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay indicated that he believes the waterfront is an important amenity to the community, noting that getting feedback from the community is very important. Duncan also noted that it is important to ensure the appropriate use of the lands as it belongs to all rate payers and since the land is a public asset the public should have input.

Councillor McKean asked how Staff planned to send notification, suggesting that Staff send information in writing to all adjacent land owners.

Shawn indicated that he does have a mailing list and that he plans to have a focused Public Information Centre.

Councillor Gamble asked about the future costs noting that Beech Street is priced high. Shawn noted that that location has a significant ravine and a lot of work will be needed to make it useable. Shawn also reminded Committee that there is risk management attached to each property as it is owned by the Town.

Moved by: Duncan McKinlay Seconded by: Gail Ardiel

THAT Council receive Staff Report DOR. 12.3 entitled “Waterfront Inventory” for information purposes, and direct Staff to proceed with engaging the Public and Residents in developing an opportunities plan through a Public Consultation Process as outlined in this Report, **unanimously CARRIED**.

C.2 DOR.12.10 Restructuring of Tomahawk Seasonal Staff

Aaron McMullin

Aaron briefed Committee on his Report.

Councillor Gamble noted that he had spoken with Aaron last fall he believes that the additional Staff member is worthwhile in order to ensure that all full time Staff are able to take their vacation time, rather than taking overtime pay.

Councillor Halos noted that it is a good initiative and asked how the hiring process will work. Aaron noted that he plans to utilize the funds in the budget and the new position will be available from April 1st to November 1st.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay confirmed that the position would be posted internally before it will be posted externally. Aaron confirmed that is the process.

Councillor Gamble asked Staff what would happen if there was a cold Spring and golf course maintenance could not be completed because of the weather. Aaron confirmed that the position is strictly for golf course maintenance.

Moved by: Bob Gamble Seconded by: Duncan McKinlay

THAT Council approve Staff Report DOR.12.10 entitled “Restructuring of Tomahawk Seasonal Staff, as contained therein, **unanimously CARRIED**.

C.3 DOR.12.12 Harbour Landscape Design Long Term Plan

Ryan Gibbons

Ryan briefed Committee on his Report.

Councillor Gamble noted two concerns, the first being that he hopes there will be cost sharing among the Community partners and secondly that he hopes the first area of work would be prioritized to the areas that need the work the most.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay noted that there has been some concerns over the years from Yatch Club members about the Harbour and asked Staff if out of the many groups who will be consulted for this project, if there will be someone who will be a champion on public access and the public’s use of the Harbour.

Ryan noted that the Town views the Harbour as a high quality public realm and they have the intention to keep it that way. Committee suggested having a voice such as Mr. Bill Abbots as part of the group.

Moved by: Duncan McKinlay Seconded by: Bob Gamble,

THAT Council receive Staff Report DOR.12.12 entitled “Harbour Landscape Design Long Term Plan” and;

THAT Council direct Staff to form a working group to identify potential enhancements and revitalizations to the Thornbury Municipal Harbour to increase its role as a high quality public realm, **unanimously CARRIED.**

C.4 EPW.12.009 Historic Snowbridge Relief of Water & Wastewater Charges

John Caswell

John Caswell briefed Committee on the Report. John reminded Committee that it was the Town who contacted the property management team of Historic Snowbridge to advise them that their water bill was abnormally high.

Councillor Gamble indicated that he reviewed previous water usage Reports and he could not determine any specific days when this water usage could have occurred. Councillor Gamble indicated that he has concerns with the issue.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay asked Staff if the meter had been updated between readings. John Caswell confirmed that although the meter has been updated it was the same meter which read the water in 2011 and 2010.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay asked Staff if there are any other phenomenon's which would cause a meter to read erroneously. John Caswell indicated that there has been the occasional instance when a meter does not read accurately, and that is why the Town sent the meter for testing, to ensure its accuracy. John further explained that it is a positive displacement machine that only runs if water passes through.

John indicated that while on site, he examined the possibility of there being a leak in the pipes, noting that there was no indication of a leak.

Councillor McKean pointed out that the amount of water in question is over 225 tractor trailers filled with water, indicating that someone should have noticed.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay questioned if there was a leak and the water could have escaped into the aggregate in the building and perhaps into a footing drain. John Caswell noted that that was a possibility, noting further that it would not run into the sanitary sewer.

Reg Russwurm noted that the amount of water is around 104 cubic meters a day, indicating that a small flow running for a long time can become a large amount of water.

Councillor Halos asked Staff how many home owners are in Historic Snowbridge and John Caswell estimated there are 50 – 65 residents.

Councillor McKean reminded Committee that if that amount of water went through the meter and down into the sewer there is a lot of water going to the Wastewater Treatment plant.

Gail Ardiel asked Staff if there is a way to determine how much water went to the Wastewater treatment plant and John Caswell indicated that they do not monitor the water coming in to the sewage pumping station and that the amount of water in question is not substantial for the sewage treatment plant.

John Caswell also noted that it was highly unlikely that the water seeped into the pool because the water would have been discoloured as it came from the ground.

Councillor Halos noted that the 50 property owners would have to pay approximately \$270 a month and that it should be up to residents or property management team to investigate to find out what has happened and come back to Committee with a reason as Committee and Staff cannot determine any cause.

Moved by: Joe Halos Seconded by: None.

THAT Council deny an appeal of the water and wastewater charges for the Historic Snowbridge Homeowner's Association swimming pool and recreation facility as outlined in Report EPW.12.009 entitled Historic Snowbridge Relief of Water & Wastewater Charges.

The motion was not seconded. The motion was not carried.

Councillor McKean noted that the Report presents three options. Option 1 – Refund the total invoice of \$27,785.81 for water and wastewater charges less \$1,570.40 which is the amount typical of the billing period. Option 2 – Refund the wastewater portion charge of \$13,071.75 to reflect only the water charge. Option 3 – Do not refund any amount which reflects that the total amount of the water and wastewater charges in the amount of \$27,785.81 is a due charge.

After some calculation Deputy Mayor McKinlay suggested that the residents pay for the sewer fee of 1000 cubic meters, as an alternative to forgiving the entire bill.

Moved by: Duncan McKinlay Seconded by: Bob Gamble

THAT Council refund the waste water portion of the charge above 1000 cubic meters based on the 2007 to 2010 average of July and August and that Council confirm the billing of the water as per the meter reading, **LOST**.

As three Councillors opposed the revised motion, the motion was lost.

John Caswell noted to Committee that anything done for this situation is a one-time offer, noting further that there are numerous pools in the area and it is not uncommon for property managers to question sewer charges for pools. Councillor Halos then asked how many pools are in the area and John Caswell estimated there are 10 to 12 other pools.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay noted that although he presented the revised motion he still has a bit of doubt.

John Caswell indicated to Committee that the Town is confident that the water went through the meter.

Councillor Ardiel asked if there has ever been a problem as such with Intrawest. John noted that they have had small plumbing leaks but nothing with this monetary value.

Councillor Halos indicated that the issue could be revisited at a later date, but the onus should be on them to find the problem.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay asked Staff if there is an educational program or any special training required to read a meter which could assist the property manager's deal with leaks. John noted that specialized training is not required to read a meter.

Councillor McKean noted Deputy Mayor McKinlay's question and suggested that Staff provide communication to the property managers regarding reading water meters in pool areas.

Moved by: Joe Halos Seconded by: Duncan McKinlay

THAT Council deny an appeal of the water and wastewater charges for the Historic Snowbridge Homeowner's Association swimming pool and recreation facility as outlined in Report EPW.12.009 entitled Historic Snowbridge Relief of Water & Wastewater Charges, **CARRIED**.

C.5 DOR.12.16 Georgian Bay Sailing Association request for reduction or waive of mooring fees

Shawn Everitt

Committee discussed the first addition to the Agenda, Report DOR.12.16 Georgian Bay Sailing Association request for reduction or waive of mooring fees. Shawn Everitt briefed Committee on the Report.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay asked Staff if there will be other events similar to this in the Summer. Ryan Gibbons explained that there is the Sail for Hope which brings in a few boats and the Meaburywood Challenge which also brings in approximately five to ten boats.

Councillor Halos asked how Staff time is effected and Ryan explained that he does not anticipate bringing in extra Staff.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay suggested having a special midweek Regatta rate of \$15.00 as a marketing strategy, subject to availability.

Councillor Gamble noted that he supports the full relief from the fees.

Councillor Ardiel asked about the use of Hydro and asked Staff if there would be an additional charge for that. Ryan indicated that they have the option to use hydro and there will be an overnight fee for it.

Councillor Halos noted that the free proposed is not a lot compared to neighbouring municipalities and asked Staff if the fee could cover Hydro and Ryan noted that could be an option.

Moved by: Bob Gamble Seconded by: Joe Halos

THAT Council receive Staff Report DOR.12.16 entitled “Georgian Bay Sailing Association request for reduction or waive of mooring fees”; and,

THAT Council supports the request of the Georgian Bay Sailing Association to fully subsidize the costs of all transient mooring fees for the Georgian Bay Regatta on Wednesday August 1st 2012, **LOST**

Moved by: Duncan McKinlay Seconded by: Joe Halos

THAT Council receive Staff Report DOR.12.16 entitled “Georgian Bay Sailing Association request for reduction or waive of mooring fees ”; and,

THAT Council support a mid-week, Monday to Thursday, transient mooring fee of \$10.00 plus HST, per craft, during the boating season, subject to slip availability.

Councillor Ardiel suggested a friendly amendment to the revised recommendation increasing the fee from \$10.00 to \$15.00 Committee concurred.

THAT Council receive Staff Report DOR.12.16 entitled “Georgian Bay Sailing Association request for reduction or waive of mooring fees ”; and,

THAT Council support a mid-week, Monday to Thursday, transient mooring fee of \$15.00 plus HST, per craft, during the boating season, subject to slip availability, **CARRIED.**

C.6 DOR.12.15 Healthy Communities Grant Application

Shawn Everitt

Shawn briefed Committee on the Report.

Moved by: Bob Gamble Seconded by: Duncan McKinlay

THAT Council receive Staff Report DOR.12.15 entitled “Healthy Communities Grant Application”; and,

THAT Council support the Town’s Healthy Community Grant Application to enhance the Marketing and Change Management through Education and Marketing of the Share the Road Campaign; and,

THAT Council, should the grant application succeed, authorize the CAO and Clerk to execute an Agreement with the Healthy Communities Funds; and,

THAT Council support the Town’s 2012 Application to the Share the Road Coalition Bicycle Friendly Communities program, **unanimously CARRIED.**

C.7 EPW.09.52 Provision of Engineering Support Services – Consultant Selection

Reg Russwurm

Reg noted to Committee that the Report presented was presented and passed in 2009 when the Infrastructure and Recreation Committee endorsed the notion of Engineering Support Services. Reg provided Committee with a recommendation to extend the agreement.

Moved by: Duncan McKinlay Seconded by: Gail Ardiel

THAT Council renew the Engineering Agreements with Ainley & Associates Ltd, C.C. Tatham & Associates Ltd. and Greenland International Consulting Ltd to extend their provision of Engineering Support Services until June 1st 2013 as originally approved in Report EPW.09.052 "Provision of Engineering Support Services – Consultant Selection, and

THAT Council to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute the Engineering Agreement for these assignments, **unanimously CARRIED.**

D. Information Reports / Correspondence

D.1 Minutes of Museum Advisory Committee

Eleanor Pask

Moved by: Bob Gamble Seconded by: Gail Ardiel

THAT Council receives the Museum Advisory Committee Minutes held on November 22nd 2011 for information purposes, **unanimously CARRIED.**

D.2 EPW.12.005 2011 Water Summary Report

Meg Boyd

John briefed Committee on the highlights of the Report.

Councillor Gamble asked if the Pall Membrane was working well and if Staff are happy with it. John indicated that they are pleased with it and have not had any problems with it.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay thanked John Caswell and all of his Staff for their work and they should all be commended for bringing forward Reports like this year after year noting that their efforts need to be commended. John indicated that he would let his Staff know.

Moved by: Duncan McKinlay Seconded by: Joe Halos

THAT Council receives Report EPW.12.005 entitled "2011 Water Summary Report" for their information, **unanimously CARRIED**

D.3 EPW.12.006 Water Section Operations Update – September to December 2011

Meg Boyd

John Caswell indicated to Committee that if they wish to visit any of the Water or Wastewater facilities they are welcome to.

John briefed Committee the Report.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay noted the water services complaint tracking and asked if the low pressure complaints were related to perception or actual low pressure. John noted that there is one area on Sleepy Hollow Road from which the majority of the complaints come from. John indicated that the Hydraulic Water Model will give Staff an idea of what they have to tweak or fix.

Moved by Duncan McKinlay Seconded by: Bob Gamble

THAT Council receives Report EPW.12.006 entitled “Water Section Operations Update – September to December 2011” for their information, **unanimously CARRIED.**

D.4 EPW.12.007 2011 Annual Performance Report – Thornbury Wastewater Treatment Plant

Rob Fleming

John noted changes on page 8 and 9 of the Report.

John clarified that new connections do not always mean new houses, using Lake Drive as an example.

Moved by: Duncan McKinlay Seconded by: Joe Halos

THAT Council receives Report EPW.12.007 entitled “2011 Annual Performance Report–Thornbury Wastewater Treatment Plant” for their information, **unanimously CARRIED.**

D.5 EPW.12.008 2011 Annual Performance Report –Craigleith Wastewater Treatment Plant

Rob Fleming

Moved by: Gail Ardiel Seconded by: Duncan McKinlay

THAT Council receives Report EPW.12.008 entitled “2011 Annual Performance Report–Craigleith Wastewater Treatment Plant” for their information, **Unanimously CARRIED.**

D.6 EPW.12.011 Capital and Development Status Report

Tom Gray

As Committee Chair McKean declared pecuniary interest to this Agenda Item, Councillor Halos assumed the role of Chair for the discussion of this Report.

Moved by: Gail Ardiel Seconded by: Bob Gamble

THAT Council receive Staff Report EPW.12.011 entitled “Capital and Development Status Report” for their information, **unanimously CARRIED.**

Councillor McKean was invited back into the meeting room and he resumed the role of Chair for the duration of the meeting.

E. New and Unfinished Business

None.

F. Next Meeting Date(s)

Tuesday, March 13th 2012, Town Hall Council Chambers, 7:00pm

G. Adjournment

Moved by: Gail Ardiel

Seconded by: Bob Gamble

THAT the Infrastructure & Recreation Committee Meeting of Tuesday, February 14th 2012 is adjourned at 8:52 p.m, **unanimously CARRIED.**