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Minutes: Infrastructure and Recreation Committee Meeting



MEETING DATE: Tuesday, July 9th 2013
MEETING TIME: 3:00 pm
LOCATION: Town Hall, Council Chambers
PREPARED BY: Jenny-Maria Ferraro, Engineering and Public Works Administrative Assistant

A. Call to Order

Present:

Councillor Bob Gamble,
Deputy Mayor Duncan McKinlay,
Councillor Joe Halos,
Councillor Michael Martin,
Director of Engineering and Public Works Reg Russwurm,
Manager of Water and Wastewater John Caswell,
Manager of Roads and Drainage Jim McCannell,
Director of Recreation Shawn Everitt,
Roads Foreman, Brian Kane
Engineering Design Technologist Mike Humphries,
Chief Administrative Officer Troy Speck,
Engineering and Public Works Administrative Assistant Jenny–Maria Ferraro.

A.1 Approval of Agenda

Committee Chair Councillor Gamble called the meeting to order at 3:08pm with all members of Committee present. Deputy Mayor McKinlay requested that Grey Condo 1 (East Peaks) Entrance be added to the Agenda as Item E.2.

Moved by: Michael Martin Seconded by: Duncan McKinlay

THAT the Agenda of the Tuesday, July 9th 2013, Infrastructure & Recreation Committee Meeting be approved as circulated, including any items added to the Agenda, **CARRIED.**

A.2 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

No member of Committee declared a pecuniary interest at this time.

A.3 Previous Minutes

Moved by: Joe Halos

Seconded by: Michael Martin

THAT the minutes of the Tuesday, June 11th 2013, Infrastructure & Recreation Committee be adopted as circulated, **CARRIED**.

B. Deputations / Presentations

B.1 Jackie Couch – Historic Snowbridge Residents’ Association Re: Proposed Snowbridge Way Entrance Realignment - Two Year Proposal

Committee Chair Councillor Bob Gamble welcomed Ms. Couch to address Committee. Ms. Couch introduced herself explaining that she was present at the meeting representing the residents of Historic Snowbridge who are contesting changes proposed by the Town to the entrance way to the Historic Snowbridge subdivision.

Ms. Couch indicated that she has spoke with both the Manager of Roads and Drainage, Jim McCannell and the Roads Foreman, Brian Kane. Ms Couch thanked them both for their time.

Ms. Couch explained to Committee that she believes the plow driver is part of the problem as he exits and enters the subdivision around the islands at the entrance hitting the curbs. Ms. Couch indicated that she is in favour of Stage One recommendation as printed in Staff Report EPW.13.063, but that she is against the proposed work presented in Stage Two.

Ms. Couch reminded Committee that the islands were designed with Snow Removal in mind, questioning why it is a concern now. Ms. Couch also questioned why the plow driver enters the subdivision with the arm of the plow out. Ms. Couch also described the speed in which the plow driver drives at the entrance and within the subdivision as being very fast. Ms. Couch noted that Jim McCannell, Manager of Roads and Drainage, has indicated that it is now a Town Staff member operating the plow, as opposed to a previously contracted company.

Ms. Couch noted that she is proud of her subdivision and that the residents do not want to see it changed.

Councillor Halos asked Ms. Couch to clarify that she is not opposed to Stage One of the recommendation in Staff Report EPW.13.063. Ms. Couch confirmed that she has no objection to the work proposed in Stage One, but has major concern with Stage Two.

Councillor Halos then asked Ms. Couch who she is representing. Ms. Couch explained that she is representing all of the residents in Historic Snowbridge. Councillor Halos noted correspondence from a resident of Historic Snowbridge who did agree with the Staff recommendation. Ms. Couch indicated that she will not get approval from 100% of the residents in Historic Snowbridge, but that she is an executive with the association and she is moving forward with the majority opinion.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay suggested that Committee deal with Agenda Item C.2, Staff Report EPW.13.063 at this time. Committee concurred and move forward with Agenda Item C.2.

Roads Foreman, Brian Kane addressed Committee noting that one of the issues surrounding the Historic Snowbridge entrance is getting the plow truck off Grey Road 19 and into Historic Snowbridge. Brian explained that the first island and the last island are the priority causes of the concern, noting attachment 3B in the Report.

Brian used the photo to show exactly where the plow physically touches the curb and the grass. Brian explained that he himself questions how the street lights are still standing, since the snow load pushed up against them on such a narrow road.

Council Halos questioned the orange markers which are depicted in attachment 3B, asking Brian if the wing of the plow is out. Brian confirmed that the markers are indicating the plow with the wing out.

Bill Vomvolakis, a resident of Historic Snowbridge addressed Committee regarding Attachments # 4 a, b and c in Staff Report EPW.13.063.

Mr. Vomvolakis indicated that he does not agree that the first and last islands are the issue, but that the type of curb on the island is incorrect. Mr. Vomvolakis examined attachment 3B, noting the curb on the left is the type of curb that the wheels hit and the mountable curb depicted on the right side of the photo is the type of curb that the island should have as well.

Mr. Vomvolakis noted to Committee that he has lived in Historic Snowbridge for many years and he has seen tractor trailers come in and out of the subdivision with no problem and therefore questions why the plow constantly has issues with the curbs.

Mr. Vomvolakis indicated that even though the area is clearly marked for the snow plow driver to avoid the islands, he feels that speed is a factor. Mr. Vomvolakis noted that the plow driver drives so fast that the snow that comes off the side projects into his driveway more than it should. Mr. Vomvolakis feels that before the Town spends money on this project, the Town should ensure that the driver slows down, like other trucks and vehicles do when driving in the subdivision.

Mr. Vomvolakis indicated that he does not want changes to the islands as the entrance to the subdivision is a big part of the beauty of it.

Mr. Vomvolakis suggested to Committee that the Town change the curbs of the island to mountable curbs.

Don Allen, resident of Historic Snowbridge then addressed Committee noting that the diagrams presented in Staff Report EPW.13.063 depict the plow with both blades down are both false and erroneous because the plow truck never drives in the area with both blades down.

Committee Chair Councillor Gamble thanked the public for the deputation and opened the floor to members of Committee. Deputy Mayor McKinlay asked the residents how many winter storms occur each winter and if any of the proponents have ever driven as snow plow before, noting that to be fair to all comments made, that patience is needed in order to let Staff explain their rationale and reasoning behind the operation of a snowplow, whether it be the speed of the machine or the operations involved.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay then asked Brian Kane why the plow drivers do not drive with the wing up at all times. Brian explained that the driver will have the wing up if they are travelling home or to get sand from the works yard. Brian indicated that every single road in the Town is plowed with the wing down in order to ensure that the snow is off the boulevard or off the road far enough so that there is room to move snow again if there is a future snow storm. Deputy Mayor McKinlay asked Brian if that is why the diagram in the Report depicts the wings of the plow down. Brian said yes.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay made note of Mr. Vomvolakis observation in that delivery trucks and transport trucks come in and out of the subdivision with ease and only the plow truck has problems with the islands. Deputy Mayor McKinlay indicated that there is a substantial difference in the body of a tractor trailer truck and a plow truck, noting that a transport tractor has significantly smaller turning radius.

Brian Kane referred to Attachment 4a of the Report which depicts the turning radius of the plow truck with the wing down entering Historic Snowbridge from Grey Road 19, noting that the driver has to stop and back up a few times off Grey Road 19, before it can turn into the subdivision.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay asked Brian about the speed required for a plow to move snow. Brian explained that the plow driver operates at 30 to 40 km/h in the subdivision, noting further that speed is required in order to ensure that the snow can leave the wing of the plow and move the snow as far away from the road leaving room on the side to put more snow if another snow event occurs.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay asked Staff to confirm that the speed concerns regarding the snow plow have been addressed. Brian explained that the plow driver in Historic Snowbridge is a Town employee, but in years past it was a driver from a contracted company. Brian further noted that he has not received one complaint this past winter about the speed of the plow.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay indicated that the Town does not have special plow used only for subdivisions.

Don Allen asked Committee if Staff have considered shaving down the curb in order to make the island less angulated, which will then increase the road area by pulling back the curbs. Deputy Mayor McKinlay noted that a certain standard of the road has to be preserved by the traveling public.

Noting that it is an operational problem as well as a resident concern, Councillor Martin asked Brian if moving forward with Stage Two as presented in the Report would help the situation. Brian confirmed that it would, along with Stage One.

Councillor Martin asked the delegation if they would be okay with moving forward with Stage One as presented in the Report. Ms. Couch noted to Committee that she is okay with moving forward with Stage One at this but would like to review the situation at a later date holding off on Stage Two.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay asked Staff when they expected Stage One and Stage Two would be completed. Director of Engineering and Public Works Reg Russwurm indicated that if Council felt the entire work was needed then he intended to have it done at one time, explaining further that if Committee wishes to have it done in two stages then it can be done that way also.

Moved by: Duncan McKinlay

Seconded by: Michael Martin

THAT Council receive Staff Report EPW.13.063, "Historic Snowbridge Entrance Works";

AND THAT Council direct Staff to remove the first 5.0 meters (15 feet) of the first island at Grey Road 19 and remove the final island at the intersection with the internal portion of Snowbridge Way as described as Stage One in Report EPW.13.063;

AND THAT Staff review the matter in 2014 and present the matter to Council if necessary, **CARRIED**

Councillor Halos noted that he is always focusing on the environment over machinery, but in this case he agrees with the recommendation passed and is hopeful that it will work for both the residents and for Staff.

Committee Chair Councillor Gamble allowed Mr. Vomvolakis to address Committee. Mr. Vomvolakis asked Committee why they did not consider the scenario he presented earlier requesting that the curbs be changed to mountable curbs. Mr. Vomvolakis reminded Committee that it is the less expensive route and that it is the tax payer's money the Town is using to make these unnecessary changes.

Councillor Martin reminded Mr. Vomvolakis that the motion has been passed by Committee and that it still has to be presented to Council. Councillor Martin invited the proponent to speak to Committee at the next Council meeting.

C. Staff Reports as circulated

C.1 DOR.13.13 2013 Centurion Event Approval Requirements

Shawn Everitt

Director of Recreation, Shawn Everitt presented Committee with a revised version of Report DOR.13.13, noting a change to the recommendation which was previously presented.

Shawn noted that the Centurion is in its 4th year with the Town and that he works closely and meets regularly with Simcoe County, Grey County, the Town of Meaford, the Town of Collingwood, the OPP, the Village Association, Blue Mountain Resorts and the Centurion Cycling to go through the logistics of the event.

Councillor Gamble asked about closing sections of the road and how it will affect parking lot traffic. Shawn explained that the road closure will impact the Westin, but assured Committee that Staff are working with The Westin regarding this concern.

Moved by: Michael Martin

Seconded by: Duncan McKinlay

THAT Council receive Staff Report DOR 13 13, "2013 Centurion Event approval requirements" for their information; and

THAT Council authorize the Road Use of Gord Canning Drive, 24th Side road and 10th Line for the 2013 Centurion cycling event, on Saturday September 14th & Sunday September 15th; and

THAT Council Designate the 2013 Centurion Cycling Event as a Significant Community Event; and

THAT Council authorize the Clerk to approve a full road closure of

- Jozo Weider Boulevard from Wintergreen Place to Gord Canning Drive
- Gord Canning Drive from Jozo Weider Boulevard to Carmichael Crescent

from 3p.m. until 6p.m. Saturday September 14, 2013 for the Centurion cycling criterium Event ; and

THAT such authorizations shall be subject to compliance with all conditions established through the Towns Event Notification Process, **CARRIED**.

C.3 EPW.13.064 Consideration of Sale of Gordon Street Road Allowance Portion, Plan 547

Reg Russwurm

Moved by: Joe Halos

Seconded by: Michael Martin

THAT Council receive Staff Report EPW.13.064, "Consideration of Sale of Gordon Street Road Allowance Portion, Plan 547";

AND THAT Council direct Staff to initiate the public notice procedures related to the consideration of stopping-up and closing a portion of the unopened Gordon Street road allowance east of an existing walkway and declaring the subject lands as surplus to the Town's needs and offering the subject lands for sale, **CARRIED**.

C.4 EPW.13.066 Water Backflow Prevention By-law and Control Program

John Caswell

Manager of Water and Wastewater John Caswell noted to Committee that the bylaw has been presented to Committee and Council in draft and also at a Public Meeting and Staff are Staff ready to move forward with the bylaw.

Moved by: Michael Martin

Seconded by: Duncan McKinlay

THAT Council receive Staff Report EPW.13.066, entitled "Water Backflow Prevention By-law and Control Program";

AND THAT Council enact a By-law to protect the Town's drinking water supply and distribution system from backflow and cross-contamination hazards, **CARRIED**.

D. Information Reports / Correspondence

D.1 EPW.13.067 Capital and Development Status Report

Mike Campbell

Moved by: Michael Martin

Seconded by: Joe Halos

THAT Council receive Staff Report EPW.13.067 entitled "Capital and Development Status Report" for their information, **CARRIED**.

E. New and Unfinished Business

E.1 Email Correspondence

Request for Wensley Drive Cul-de-sac

Director of Engineering and Public Works Reg Russwurm, provided Committee with correspondence from residents of Wensley Drive, asking the Town to reconsider the cul-de-sac on Wensley Drive and entertain the idea of having a small island instead. Reg noted that the Town's Engineering Standards do not permit islands in cul-de-sacs and that the standards of the cul-du-sacs are made to ensure that a plow truck and all emergency vehicles can readily navigate the road around it. Reg indicated that the residents were given the opportunity to speak to Committee this evening, but they did not respond to the deputation request form which was passed along to them.

Councillor Gamble asked Staff how big they are requesting the island to be. Reg noted that he believes they want it to be 10 feet across with low maintenance landscape on it. Reg explained that Staff does not support the proposed change.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay asked Staff how a cul-de-sac is plowed. Manager of Roads and Drainage Jim McCannell explained that it is not just making a simple circle and it takes a lot of backing up and moving forward, making several back and forth passes. Jim further explained that with an island in a cul-de-sac, there is much more tweaking involved in the process.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay asked Staff if there are other cul-de-sacs in the Town which have an island. Jim noted that there is one in Swiss Meadows.

Moved by: Joe Halos

Seconded by: Duncan McKinlay

THAT Council receive the correspondence entitled, "Cul-de-sac on Wensley Drive" for their information, **CARRIED.**

E.2 ADDITION- Grey Condo 1 (East Peaks) Entranceways

Deputy Mayor McKinlay noted that Sheridan Management was trying to get a hold of Mike Campbell in order to discuss the proposed entrances at Grey Condo 1 at The Peaks. Duncan noted that they are going from 4 entrances to 2 and they would prefer to have 4. Duncan indicated that they understand that if they were building new condos then they would adjust the parking area, but they believe having additional entrances will make the parking lot bigger. Duncan further noted that the proponent would be sending an email to him and Jenny-Maria Ferraro.

Director of Engineering and Public Works Reg Russwurm noted that he would leave the discussion between construction coordinator Mike Campbell and Manager of Roads and Drainage Jim McCannell as the original thought was that they were going to increase their parking space.

Jim McCannell indicated that he would speak with Mike Sheridan about his concerns.

E.3 ADDITION - Update on Frazil Ice

Councillor Gamble noted that at a previous meeting Staff indicated that there has been a change in funding for Frazil Ice. Councillor Martin noted that he would look into future options with the Ministry of Natural Resources.

E.4 ADDITION - Update from the Ministry of Current Affairs

Deputy Mayor McKinlay noted that he received correspondence from Ministry of Current Affairs regarding feedback on programs. Duncan asked if Chief Administrative Officer Troy Speck has received the email and Troy noted that he has not.

E.5 ADDITION -Update regarding the Liability of Councillors with new Water Regulations

John Caswell, Manager of Water and Wastewater noted to Committee that he will provide information to Council regarding the new Water Regulations.

E.6 ADDITION -Member of the Public Inquiry Re: Centurion and Scenic Caves Road

Committee concurred to allow a member of the public address Committee. The member of the public asked Committee if they have any control over the steep hill used for the Centurion Race, noting that riders can get hurt and can die, asking if the wants that bad publicity. Deputy Mayor McKinlay noted that the Centurion Race route does not go down Scenic Caves Road and suggested that the member of the public view the route maps presented in Staff Report DOR.13.13 after the meeting.

F. Next Meeting Date(s)

Tuesday, August 20th 2013, 3:00pm, Town Hall, Council Chambers

G. Adjournment

Moved by: Duncan McKinlay

Seconded by: Joe Halos

THAT the Infrastructure & Recreation Committee Meeting of Tuesday, July 9th 2013, is adjourned at 4:19pm, **CARRIED.**