



Minutes

The Blue Mountains Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting Date: January 25, 2018
Meeting Time: 2:30pm
Location: Town Hall, IPW & P&DS Meeting Room
Prepared by: Heather Drane, Clerk Receptionist, Infrastructure and Public Works

A. Call to Order

- **Present:** James McKinlay, John Ardiel, Shawn Everitt, Al Lockhart, Grant McMurchy, Reg Russwurm and scribe Heather Drane
- **Regrets:** Lynn Vail
- **Approval of Agenda**
- **Moved by:** Grant McMurchy **Seconded by:** Al Lockhart

THAT the Agenda dated January 25, 2018 be approved, including any items added to the Agenda, Carried.

- **Previous Minutes**

Minutes are circulated and approved by the Agricultural Advisory Committee, using electronic mail. Minutes of the November 23, 2017 meeting were included in the December 18, 2017 Council meeting.

B. Deputations, Presentations, Topics

B.1 Clendenan Bridge and the 10th Line discussion with Reg Russwurm

Reg Russwurm gave a bit of background information regarding the closure of Clendenan Bridge. Back about 6 or 7 years ago, the Clendenan Bridge was given an inspection and due to the structural problems, it was closed to vehicle traffic and has since been only open as a pedestrian and cyclist bridge ever since. Last year, Reg took a report to Council to consider implementing an EA at the time and they decided not to proceed.

Reg noted the Clendenan Bridge is over 40 years old and due to the age, falls under the Ontario Heritage Act and a Heritage Assessment EA would be necessary. Reg noted to

have an EA done, Council needs to allocate the money into the budget to spend on the bridge and plan to have it done in 2019 or 2020.

John Ardiel noted last year there was no money from the government grants but this year there was a grant program. Reg noted the grant monies received were used to fund prioritized work such as the Black Bridge improvement project as well as Alma & Alice Street project.

John noted with the bridge closed, Agricultural traffic travels along the main street of Clarksburg, up to Hwy 26 and creates a bottleneck at the lights in Thornbury. Vehicles are no longer able to pass on the right at that intersection. Traffic is often backed up as far as Foodland west of the lights and to around Elgin or Grey Street, east of the lights. John noted that taking Grey Road 40 up to 13 and through Clendenan up the 10th line to Hwy 26 would keep the agricultural equipment in the agricultural area. John Ardiel has also heard there have been complaints from residents about the agricultural traffic through Clarksburg.

Shawn Everitt noted that feedback from the OPP was traffic concerns about general traffic being faster, coming through Clarksburg, but no mention of residential complaints regarding increased agricultural use. In fact, seeing agricultural vehicles is part of the charm of living in this area.

Shawn Everitt will speak with the OPP regarding traffic and agricultural use on Grey County Road 13, through Clarksburg and report back to the Committee by email.

Shawn Everitt noted along with the Bridge repair component, elevating and contouring the roads that lead up to and away from the Clendenan Bridge would have to be looked at.

Shawn mentioned bringing a report to COW, identifying the different Town of The Blue Mountains Committees and functionally this Agricultural Advisory Committee is doing well.

Reg noted there are plans in the future to implement 4-5 lanes between Thornbury and Collingwood and reviewed handouts with the Committee concerning these changes.

John Ardiel noted these changes may be 20 years in the making and in the meantime, the 10th Line and Clendenan Bridge could be part of a bigger picture in that it could be used as a by-pass. We can locally do what we need to do to create a by-pass.

The Agricultural Advisory Committee has recommended the following to Council:

Moved by: John Ardiel

Seconded by: Grant McMurchy

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee recommend The Town of The Blue Mountains Council consider a Municipal Class EA Study for the Clendenan Bridge within the 2019 Capital Plan,
Carried.

B.2 Recycling Bale Wrap information – James McKinlay

James noted that presently they have their bale wrap picked up at their farms, with no charge. Now there is going to be a charge for picking it up. James is concerned that instead of paying to have it taken away, some people may resort to burning it and this will pose hazards to the environment. Filling up a landfill site with this material is not a good option either.

James McKinlay noted there is a recycling facility in Brighton that recycles bale wrap, using this resource for patio lumber and mixed with grasses it gets used for greenhouse fuel. James inquired as to whether the Town Landfill site would be a staging area for the Bale Wrap and the Brighton facility would be open to the idea of collecting the materials from the Landfill Site.

Reg noted he will follow up with Jeff Fletcher, Manager of Solid Waste and Environmental Initiatives and get back to the Committee.

Adjournment

Recommended (Move, second)

Moved by: Grant McMurchy **Seconded by:** Al Lockhart

THAT this Committee does now adjourn at 3:50 p.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair.