

**MINUTES:           INFRASTRUCTURE & RECREATION COMMITTEE**



**MEETING DATE:** TUESDAY, March 9, 2010  
**MEETING TIME:** 7:00 pm  
**LOCATION:** Ravenna Hall  
**PREPARED BY:** Krista Royal, Administrative Assistant

**A. Call to Order**

**Present:** Duncan McKinlay, John McKean, Bob Gamble, John McGee, Reg Russwurm, John Caswell, Jim McCannell, Jeff Fletcher, Shawn Everitt, Krista Royal

**Regrets:** (none)

**A.1 Approval of Agenda**

Councillor John McKean informed Committee of an addition to the agenda.

With Additions:

1. Simcoe County Road 91 – Proposed Road Closure

*Moved by: Bob Gamble    Seconded by: John McGee*

*THAT the Agenda of the March 9, 2010, Infrastructure & Recreation Committee Meeting be adopted as amended.*

**“CARRIED”**

**A.2 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest**

None.

**A.3 Previous Minutes – February 23, 2010**

*Moved by: John McGee    Seconded by: John McKean*

*THAT the minutes of the February 23, 2010 Infrastructure and Recreation Committee be adopted as circulated.*

**“CARRIED”**

## **B. Deputations/Presentations**

### **B.1 Access to The Community of Slabtown – Peter Brown**

Committee welcomed Peter Brown for attending the meeting. Deputy-Mayor Duncan McKinlay introduced the Committee to the public in attendance. Peter thanked the Committee for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the Slabtown residents. Peter presented his correspondence that was previously submitted to Committee for review.

#### **Peter addressed key points to Committee:**

- EA Report suggests an access road out to the west end of Slabtown to Grey Road 13
- neighbours met with Reg Russwurm and Michael Cullip in August 2009 and conveyed that the residents would rather not have another road out but want to replace existing bridge
- building a road opens up development on both sides of the road which is currently being used for agricultural purposes
- reminded Committee of the Town's Community Vision Statement
- increased travel time for emergency vehicles to access our community
- maintenance costs over the next 50 years of the proposed newly constructed road
- impact points recommended by the engineering firm

Peter asked Committee if there were any questions to his presentation. Committee had no questions at this time.

Committee thanked Peter for his presentation and noted that everyone is welcomed to stay for the remainder of the meeting.

Reg advised Committee that the next step involved now that Public Information Centre has been held and once the public have provided feedback, will be working with the Consultant to compile the information, identify the preferred alternative for the Town, prepare a report back to Committee with recommendation for Notice of Completion. A possible 30 day notice period will follow. Baring any issues, the EA will be adopted and design will continue.

Duncan asked what the width of the bridge would be for Alternate "C" option. Reg noted that the bridge will be single width with featured railings. Duncan commented that the design will be strong and pleasing to the eye.

Peter Norbett asked to speak to the Committee. Peter asked if it is going to be a democratic procedure. Duncan stated that it will not be a process of voting by residents. The municipal government has rules under the Municipal Act and further that the tool to having conducted an EA allows the opportunity to hear from the community. Duncan further stated that the consensus of the residents of Slabtown may be to replace the existing bridge, but it will be at the expense of the rest of the ratepayers to cover the extra costs.

Duncan noted that the Engineers outline the weighting system and then present it to the Committee to make their decision.

Reg advised Committee that he is in the process of gathering all of the public's input from speaking with the property owners directly. Staff will come back to Committee in a few weeks and will inform the Slabtown residents of the date the report will be presented to the Committee.

Rosalind Hobart of 164 Slabtown Road also asked to speak to the Committee. Rosalind addressed a concern if Option "F" was to be considered, it will be very difficult in the winter to turn left out of her driveway to make it up the steep hill. Duncan advised Rosalind to address any issues related specifically to her property to ensure to drop a note and map to Reg identifying the property and steepness of the grade so it can be dealt with in the early stages. Reg provided Rosalind with his business card to send him an email or letter on the matter.

Committee thanked the residents for coming to the meeting.

## **B.2 Peel Street Snow Storage – Michael Seguin, Dick Edmunds and Dave Grant**

Michael Seguin introduced Dick Edmunds, Dave Grant and himself to the Committee.

Michael referenced correspondence that he had submitted to Reg in regards to issues/concerns he had with the proposed Peel Street Snow Storage.

- concerned of the noise from the trucks
- Section 4 of the Official Plan (OP) has no provisions for a snow storage or snow dump, Town would required an amendment to the OP which will need Oceans and Fisheries, Grey Sauble Conservation Authority approvals
- concern wild life will be eat debris out of the site that will be contaminated
- zoning allows for two permitted uses 1) Single Family Dwelling & 2) accessory buildings
- more appropriate Town sites for this snow storage, which will provide better drainage and less threat to the environment, for example, the Tomahawk property
- environmental problem as the site is in close proximity to the Little Beaver River which is already determined by the Oceans and Fisheries is a cold water stream and spawning ground for fish and for a better area suited than close to the river and lake
- snow will contain contaminates such as salt, sand and oil that will drain directly down towards the water treatment plant thereby exposing our drinking water to hazardous materials and will result in additional work and costs to treat our water supply
- movement of heavy trucks in and out of a residential area is both a traffic and safety problem

Michael Seguin referenced the Town's Sustainability Plan with John McGee present at the workshop addressing the need to protect and enhance our natural environment.

Michael noted of the November 26<sup>th</sup> Sustainability workshop with public engagement addressing clean water and protecting our water. Michael further noted the winter workshop of the water stewardship to be proactive and protecting our environment.

Dave Grant addressed his concern of the loud noise two weeks ago between 11 and 12 o'clock at night from the slamming of tailgates of the trucks making it impossible to sleep.

Councillor Bob Gamble noted that he would like some thought taken to considering other storage areas other than King Street. Bob further noted that 8 years ago there were more snow banks than this present past year and the King Street site was able to accommodate all of the accumulated snow.

Bob also addressed concern that the intent for Peel Street was more for affordable housing than for the purpose of snow storage.

Duncan advised that this will be temporary for one year with the long term plan to identify snow storage sites that will benefit the community. Reg advised that in 2011 there is money set aside in the budget to initiate a snow storage study.

Dick Edmunds stated of the danger that once you start using it as a snow storage you won't stop. Duncan assured Dick that the municipality will do the right thing.

John McKean commented that the salt being placed on the road creates a brine to keep the road bare therefore it is already doing its job with most of the salt is going down the storm sewers and the amount of salt will be negligible at best because of the characteristics of salt.

*Moved by: John McKean    Seconded by: John McGee*

*THAT item C.4 EPW.10.026 Peel Street Snow Storage of the agenda will be discussed at this time as it is in relation to the deputation.*

***"CARRIED"***

#### **C.4 EPW.10.026 Peel Street Snow Storage**

Councillor John McGee agreed with Bob and questioned how often has the King Street storage site been full. Jim McCannell advised that in the last two years that he has been in his position the site has been  $\frac{3}{4}$  full and that currently sail boats and asphalt is taking up some of the snow storage space.

John McGee questioned of the ability to use the site for temporary snow storage in relation to our Official Plan or Zoning By-law. Reg advised that Planning have not been directly asked but Staff will enquire with Planning for permitted uses of the land.

John McGee asked if there are such guidelines from the Ministry of Environment (MOE) for snow storage. Jim advised that there are guidelines from the MOE to address disposition/settlement of salt and sand. Jim further advised that in 2011 as part of the study and requirements by the MOE, the natural environment will be a key concern.

John McGee questioned if there was a minimum distance from cold or warm water. Reg advised that it is not measured in metre distances but measured by impact.

John McKean questioned if the lot was leveled enough that a street sweeper could go in and clean up the gravel and sand left on the site. Jim advised that the site was level, but wants to keep the grass in place to assist in filtering the snow.

Bob questioned when the snow is being removed from Bruce Street does the Town use two trucks and one loader. Jim stated that was correct and that sometimes three trucks are used. Bob suggested an alternative would be to put the third truck on and for an extra km haul the snow to the landfill site or utilize the large parking lot at Tomahawk. John McKean commented that there is an environmental impact to another truck on the road hauling further.

Committee discussed the proposed recommendation and concurred to revise the existing motion to read:

*Moved by: Bob Gamble    Seconded by: John McGee*

*THAT Council receives Report EPW.10.026 entitled "Peel Street Snow Storage".*  
**"CARRIED"**

Committee concurred to further request to add a motion to read:

*Moved by: John McKean    Seconded by: John McGee*

*THAT Council refers Staff to review and address other matters as well as the concerns of the Committee for planning and feasibility.*  
**"CARRIED"**

Committee further requested for Staff to prepare a report to be provided back to Committee with additional information.

Committee thanked the residents for coming to the meeting to address their concerns.

## **C. Staff Reports as circulated**

### **C.1 DOR 10 05 Request for Curling Club Facility**

John McGee questioned the wording of paragraph "A" in the recommendation relating to additional funding. John questioned as to how much money has been spent to date. Shawn advised that no money to date has been spent. Shawn agreed that additional needs to be removed from the motion.

John McGee further questioned as being co-applicant how will the Town stay out of participating financially.

Shawn Everitt advised that the Curling Club is not asking for any money for the construction of the facility and that they are only looking for support to apply for grants with no request of money to the table. Duncan noted that land will be of value.

#### **Committee concerns/suggestions:**

- having the same issues with the Medical Clinic, but realize that the Club would not have the same emotional leverage as the clinic
- provisions of the Town land being utilized
- potential of the Curling Club business going under and who will then be responsible
- concerns of the status of current Curling Clubs in Meaford and Collingwood
- what happens to the skateboard park

#### **Shawn addressed Committee's concerns:**

- lot of discussions would need to take place and an agreement would outline no funding at anytime would be requested
- Curling Club would not be subject to taxation or development charges with no funding from taxation and with all operational cost being solely responsible by the Club
- Town would own the land with the possibility of an option to lease the land
- Shawn noted that he has called both Meaford and Collingwood, with no response from Meaford at this time, but Collingwood has 500 members and are doing very well, the challenge will be with Meaford as they are an older club with currently 55 members and are not actively recruiting new members
- being a co-applicant will with the Town as the lead will allow for as many grants as possible
- the existing skateboard park can be easily dismantled and constructed at the other end of the Community Centre on the far end towards Elma Street

Bob suggested to add another clause as (f) to the recommendation to state that no approval from Council to proceed be granted until proof of financing is in place for both Capital and Operating costs. Shawn noted that the Curling Club must have a significant business plan in place.

*Moved by: Bob Gamble    Seconded by: John McGee*

*THAT Council receive Staff Report DOR 10 05 "Request for Curling Club Facility"; and ,*

- a) Approve in Principle the Curling Club Working Group's ability to apply for funding for the Curling Club Facility. Construction anticipated costs of \$3,000,000.00, with no funding being made from taxation or development charges; and,*
- b) Approve in Principle that all Grant Applications be based on the Curling Club Executive and Membership being responsible for Year Round Operation of the Facility and all operational costs; and,*
- c) Direct Staff to include the Curling Club project as a possible Grant application candidate where qualifying; and,*
- d) Authorize the Director of Recreation and the Treasurer to sign as co-applicant on grant applications with the Curling Club as Lead Applicant; and,*
- e) Consider the provision of lands for the potential construction of a curling club facility as the sole Town contribution to said project.*

**"LOST"**

## **C.2 DOR 10 021 Parks and Trails Winter Parking Lot Maintenance**

Shawn briefed the Committee on the Staff report outlining the four parking lots that currently only allow seasonal use. Shawn advised that the Heathcote parking lot took approximately 15 minutes to plow with a truck and plow. Shawn further advised that the public school has approached the Recreation Department of utilizing the Tomahawk property to provide cross country skiing and snow shoeing to the students. Shawn stated that the plowing of Metcalf is difficult due to the berms therefore contracting to blow the snow will be required instead of plowing the parking lot.

John McGee expressed concern to the reasoning of committing the 2011 budget at this time. Duncan advised that addressing this issue now will allow Staff time to receive approval from the Ministry of Natural Resources and to revise the Memorandum of Understanding to permit year round use.

Committee concurred to support option #1 of the recommendation.

*Moved by: John McKean    Seconded by: Bob Gamble*

*THAT Council receives Staff Report DOR 10 21 "Parks and Trails Parking Lot Winter Maintenance" for information purposes; and,*

*THAT Council direct Staff to provide for operational funding for 2011 budgets discussions based on;*

*Option 1     Hire a contractor to provide snow clearing services for Metcalfe Rock Parking Lot, and add Heathcote Park to Parks Division for snow removal.*

**"CARRIED"**

Committee concurred to take a five minute recess.

### **C.3 EPW.10.014 Koster Servicing Agreement**

John Caswell briefed the Committee to the purpose of requiring an agreement between Koster and The Blue Mountains.

Bob addressed concern of the damage that occurred on the Georgian Trail from the equipment during the clearing of the lot. Bob advised that the Trail Board has been trying to collect money to restore the trail but has had no success. John Caswell noted that the clearing was not done by Koster but the previous owner before them.

Committee discussed the issues in regards to the damage of the trail and not granting a connection to the Town services unless the trail is restored. Committee concurred to revise the recommendation to include in the agreement restoration of the Georgian Trail.

*Moved by: Bob Gamble    Seconded by: John McGee*

*THAT Council receives Report EPW.10.014 entitled "Koster Servicing Agreement;" for their information; and*

*THAT Council authorizes the Mayor and Clerk to execute the Servicing Agreement between Michael P. Koster and Lindsey Koster and the Town of The Blue Mountains for the extension of temporary water and sewer servicing along the King Street road allowance or on municipal property adjacent to the Georgian Trail, and*

*FURTHER THAT the agreement include requirement for restoration of the Georgian Trail Land to the satisfaction to the Georgian Trail Board.*

**"CARRIED"**

John addressed that the sale of the property is pending with the potential buyer to granting the connection to Town services. Reg noted that to address this issue the Town can request for securities up front in order to not delay the connection to Town services.

#### **C.4 EPW.10.026 Peel Street Snow Storage**

Item C.4 had been addressed with item B.2 Deputation

### **D. Information Reports/Correspondence**

#### **D.1 DOR 10 10 Georgian Trail Bridge Inspections**

Shawn advised that this report was a follow up from a previous meeting to outline the responsibility of the Town to complete the bridge inspections along the Georgian Trail. Shawn further advised that this is consistent with Meaford and Collingwood who have completed their structure inspections.

*Moved by: John McGee    Seconded by: Bob Gamble*

*THAT Council receive Staff Report DOR 10 10 "Georgian Trail Bridge Inspections" for information purposes.*

**"CARRIED"**

#### **D.2 EPW.10.021 Contract Extension of TBM-2008-05 Supply, Haulage and Application of Calcium Chloride**

*Moved by: John McKean    Seconded by: John McGee*

*THAT Council receives Staff Report EPW.10.021 entitled "Contract Extension of TBM-2008-05 Supply, Haulage and Application of Calcium Chloride" for their information.*

**"CARRIED"**

#### **D.3 EPW.10.031 2009 Water Summary Report**

John Caswell advised Committee that the Water Summary Report is legislative to be submitted to Town Council no later than March 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. John informed Committee that Staff have operated within the MOE legislation and have currently received 100% rating during their recent inspection. Committee discussed/reviewed the water flow charts of the Thornbury Water Treatment Plant and the supplemental supply received from the Town of Collingwood.

Bob questioned as to the high production of 6,000 m<sup>3</sup> on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Reg advised that the Town of Collingwood's supply was offline and were not able to supply water, which caused the high production.

Duncan questioned if the Town receives credit when the usage is not received from Collingwood. John Caswell noted that the Town does receive a credit. John further noted that he will be meeting with Marcus Firman to discuss alternatives.

*Moved by: Bob Gamble      Seconded by: John McKean*

*THAT Council receives Report EPW.10.031 entitled "2009 Water Summary Report" for their information.*

**"CARRIED"**

#### **D.4 EPW.10.032 Solid Waste Collection Policy Review**

Jeff Fletcher briefed the Committee in regards to the collection of solid waste and the process involved in dealing with any inquires from residents. Jeff noted that the new Wastewatcher Guide is now being circulated. Duncan questioned if the short-term visitors have a place where they can go to be provided the guide. Jeff advised that through emails Heather Drane is providing concerned residents a copy of the brochure.

Jeff further advised that the brochures are dropped off at a few locations including the ski and country clubs. John McGee complemented on the excellent handout provided and the seamless transition from Contractor to another.

Duncan noted that this is a good report to reference when calls are received from residents to address any matters or concerns with the collection policy. Duncan further noted for Jeff to send a copy of this Staff report to the concerned citizen that had enquired about collection issues.

*Moved by: John McGee      Seconded by: John McKean*

*THAT Council receives Staff Report EPW.10.032 entitled "Solid Waste Collection Policy Review" for their information.*

**"CARRIED"**

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

#### **E.1 Hester Street Parking Lot Update**

Reg briefed the Committee on the status of Hester Street:

- met with three of the four property owners and that he will be meeting with Jerry from Wong's restaurant on March 10<sup>th</sup> to discuss the design process
- John Metras has prepared a draft agreement to be reviewed by Staff
- need to finalize a concept plan
- compile comments back from the property owners
- tender process once final design is complete

Reg commented that he will advise Councillor Cam Kennedy on the Hester Street Parking Lot progress to date.

## **E.2 Infrastructure & Recreation Committee - Meeting Location**

Committee concurred to continue to have the I&R Committee meetings at the Ravenna Hall location.

## **E.3 Simcoe County Road 91 – Proposed road closure**

Councillor John McKean expressed concern of trucks travelling from Grey Highlands gravel pits that will avoid taking the County roads and just take the shortest route which will be through The Blue Mountains. Committee discussed issues and concerns over the possibility that the closure of Simcoe Rd 91 over the escarpment will lead to significantly increased truck traffic in the Town, particularly on local roads not built to handle that type of traffic.

Committee requested for Reg to coordinate with Gary Shaw from the County of Grey to ensure that a full weight road is provided over the escarpment that doesn't put The Blue Mountains roads at risk. Committee further requested Reg to inform other members of Council that are not in attendance as well as the CAO to ensure all are advised of the situation at hand.

Reg informed Committee of additional items that he would like added to the agenda:

## **E.4 Vehicle Purchase – EPW Department**

Jim advised Committee that the Public Works Division has purchased a used green 2008 F250 4WD pickup truck to replace the 1998 F150. Duncan questioned the number of kilometers (km) on the new truck. Jim advised that the truck has 60,000 km. Jim further advised that currently the truck is in the process of having a back rack installed as well as a few other accessories. Duncan questioned as to the reason for the replacement of the truck. Jim commented that the old truck had approximately 250,000 km with challenges to the transmissions slipping as well as issues putting the truck in and out of gear. Jim noted that the purchase price of new truck is \$23,000 which is within the approved 2010 budget amount of \$40,000.

Reg also advised Committee that the Engineering Division is also in the process of purchasing a small SUV to replace the inspection truck. A small SUV will be more beneficial for use by our field Staff and to allow room for drawings, survey equipment, etc. Reg further advised that the old truck will be utilized by the Recreation Department for use in the Parks Division for watering plants.

## **E.5 Wood Chipper Purchase – EPW Department**

Jim noted to Committee that he is in the process of considering purchasing a 2006 used wood chipper. Jim further noted that he has asked for an oil analysis before purchasing the equipment to determine that quality of the chipper.

## **F. Next Meeting Date**

Tuesday, March 23, 2010 at 7:00 p.m., Ravenna Hall

## **G. Adjournment**

*Moved by: John McKean    Seconded by: Bob Gamble*

*THAT the Infrastructure & Recreation Committee Meeting of March 9, 2010 is adjourned at 9:35 p.m.*

***“CARRIED”***