



Committee Minutes

Grey County – The Blue Mountains Task Force

June 7, 2018 – 10:00 AM

The Task Force met on the above date at the County Administration Building with the following members in attendance:

Present: Grey County Warden Stewart Halliday; The Blue Mountains Councillor Michael Martin; Grey County Councillors Ian Boddy and Kevin Eccles.

Regrets: Councillors John McGee and Joe Halos

Staff

Present: Kim Wingrove, Grey County Chief Administrative Officer; Shawn Everitt, The Blue Mountains Interim Chief Administrative Officer; Kevin Wepler, Director of Finance; and Jacquelyn Morrison, Deputy Clerk/ Legislative Coordinator.

Call to Order

Warden Halliday called the meeting to order at 10:06 AM.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

Adoption of Minutes

TBM01-18 Moved by: Councillor Martin Seconded by: Councillor Eccles

That the Grey County – The Blue Mountains Task Force minutes dated March 6, 2018 be adopted as presented.

Carried

Kim Wingrove noted that the “to-dos” in the March 6, 2018 minutes have been

addressed.

Items for Discussion

Drainage

Michael Martin advised that there are a number of development projects moving forward, which may impact drainage in The Blue Mountains. He specifically noted County Roads 19 and 21. Shawn Everitt identified the need to get ahead of potential drainage issues.

Randy Scherzer, Director of Planning, entered the meeting.

Mr. Scherzer discussed the Monterra Phase III development, which has been previously draft approved and is currently going through a redline revision process. He advised that the Grey County Planning Department ensures that all new development projects meet the County's standards. For any new development or revisions to development proposals, comments from the local municipality and the conservation authority are key when it comes to stormwater management/drainage matters.

Mr. Scherzer also advised that the County's Planning Department received comments regarding stormwater management and drainage matters through the Recolour Grey process. These comments were considered when revising the new draft Official Plan.

Mr. Scherzer informed the Task Force that Grey Sauble Conservation Authority, the Town, and the County have applied for funding from the National Disaster Mitigation Program. The project includes collecting detailed elevation data to create a model of the geographic areas within the County. Through these models, the conservation authority, public works staff and planners will be able to look at specific areas and identify best practices to mitigate stormwater management/drainage risks associated with storm events. One of the specific areas to be looked at through this project is the Craigeith/Camperdown area in the Town of The Blue Mountains. Greenland Group of Companies out of Collingwood will be assisting with the project. This project is in the early stages and is anticipated to be completed in 2019. It is hoped that this project will serve as a model that can be replicated in other areas across the County.

Kim Wingrove suggested that The Blue Mountains contact the Greenland Group of Companies, based in Collingwood, Ontario, to arrange for a presentation to The Blue Mountains' Council.

Mr. Scherzer left the meeting.

Transportation Challenges

Kim Wingrove advised that Grey County was successful in receiving the Community Transportation Grant (“the Grant”). Grey County’s transportation project includes four transportation routes; two of which are intercommunity routes. She noted that there have been discussions between the County and the province regarding the transportation routes, specifically the routes to Shelburne and to the Blue Mountain Resort.

Ms. Wingrove noted that the County and The Blue Mountains will need to meet to begin planning the specifics of the Highway 26 transportation route to the Blue Mountain Resort. The target commencement date for the project is Spring 2019.

Kevin Wepler noted that the Grant is for a period of five years. Some discussion occurred around what would happen after the province ceased funding the transportation project.

Ms. Wingrove noted the potential benefit of the Highway 26 transportation route to the Georgian College campuses in Owen Sound and Collingwood. She suggested that the route could be of benefit to students as there is some overlap in areas of focus between the tourism and culinary students at the two campuses.

Museums and Archives – Joint Support

Warden Halliday noted that the County provides storage space to all of the municipalities for archives and that the Grey Roots Museum provides a service for the entire County.

Shawn Everitt noted space constraint for artifacts at the Craigeith Heritage Depot. He also noted that The Blue Mountains public library may be interested in storing records at Grey Roots.

Kim Wingrove noted a report coming to Council on June 28th regarding the Grey Roots Collection Plan.

Annual County Levy – Electors/ Assessment

Michael Martin noted the Annual County Levy and The Blue Mountains’ contribution.

Kevin Wepler advised that in order to change the apportionment of the Annual County Levy the tax legislation would have to change and this would also need to be supported by the other local municipalities.

Councillor Martin clarified that The Blue Mountains was interested in discussing whether the weighted vote calculation during Council and Committee of the Whole meetings could be changed to consider assessment values.

Kevin Eccles noted the importance of recognizing the number of individual residents in each municipality.

Shawn Everitt noted that a number of residents in The Blue Mountains do not qualify as electors because their homes are owned by numbered companies or are second homes.

Potential options for voting were discussed by the Task Force. Limited discussion occurred around the procedure for recorded votes in closed meetings.

Reconsideration of Optional Responsibilities under the *Municipal Act*

Michael Martin noted the joint responsibilities in the *Municipal Act* and whether there is any interest in looking at alternatives for dividing the responsibilities. He acknowledged that this would require going through the *Act* and sorting out what responsibilities are joint responsibilities. As examples of joint responsibilities he noted: libraries, planning, transportation, archives, etc. The reason for the review would be to achieve greater efficiencies.

Kevin Weppler noted that there is a county/local municipal collaboration framework to bring proposed changes forward to the County, which requires at least two municipalities.

Councillor Martin will look into this further and bring back a report.

Hospital Funding

Michael Martin noted that the Collingwood General and Marine Hospital is seeking funding.

Kevin Weppler advised that the County has not received a request to contribute any funding to the hospital.

Shawn Everitt advised that the hospital will be attending The Blue Mountains' Council where they will be seeking funds.

Economic Development Funding

Warden Halliday noted that each of the municipalities has their own individual economic development strategies in addition to the County's Economic Development team.

Discussion occurred around implementing overarching economic development policies. Councillor Martin gave an example of the municipal ability to levy a hotel (accommodation) tax. Shawn Everitt made note of the Blue Mountain Resort. Discussion occurred around such a tax in other municipalities.

Councillor Eccles discussed coordinating a team effort regarding economic development led by the County.

Kim Wingrove advised that Grey County has an Economic Development and Planning Advisory Committee that regularly meet.

There was further discussion around tourism. Ms. Wingrove discussed some of the efforts by the County on the tourism front. Shawn Everitt noted the positive working relationship between the County and the Town of the Blue Mountains regarding tourism.

Discussion occurred around the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus and the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus. Ms. Wingrove noted her involvement in the Western Ontario Warden's Caucus economic development strategic plan. She proposed orientating incoming Council on this issue.

Other Business

Michael Martin advised the Task Force of the development charges that The Blue Mountains has contributed to the County. Kevin Weppler commented on reserves and upcoming developments. It was noted that development charges will be put back into new growth, much of which is occurring in The Blue Mountains. The Task Force noted that more discussion is needed.

Shawn Everitt noted that discussions regarding a new roundabout in The Blue Mountains are still ongoing.

Kim Wingrove noted the Sustainable Development agreement from 2010. Shawn Everitt confirmed that The Blue Mountains is addressing this.

Next Meeting Dates

The Task Force suggested a meeting in September, to be hosted by The Blue Mountains.

On motion by Councillors Eccles and Boddy, the meeting adjourned at 11:53 AM.

Warden Stewart Halliday, Chair