

THE UNITED COUNTIES OF LEEDS AND GRENVILLE

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, January 6th, 2010

9:00 a.m.

The Public Works Committee met in the County Council Chambers, Counties Administration Building.

Members Present: Ron Holman, Chairman
Mel Campbell, John Conley
Larry Dishaw, Bill Gooch
Roger Haley, Frank Kinsella,
Jim Pickard, Doug Struthers,
Bill Thake, Warden

Staff Present: Les Shepherd, Director, WPSAM
Steve Silver, Chief Administrative Officer
Lesley Todd, Clerk
Nigel White, Director of Corporate Services / Treasurer
Karen Fraser, GIS Coordinator
Sandy Hay, Planner
Geoff McVey, Forest Manager
Debbie Williams, Public Works Coordinator
Cindy Casselman, Recording Secretary

Others Present: Christian Kroeger

Media Present: Christine Endicott, Brockville Recorder and Times

1.0 Opening Remarks.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Mr. Silver called for nominations for the Chair of the Public Works Committee for 2010. Mr. Struthers nominated Mr. Holman and Mr. Thake seconded the nomination. Mr. Gooch moved that the nomination be closed. Mr. Silver then called for nominations for Vice Chair of the Public Works Committee for 2010. Mr. Struthers nominated Mr. Haley and Mr. Dishaw seconded the motion. Mr. Kinsella moved that the nominations be closed.

Resolution No. PW-01-10

Moved by Mr. Dishaw and seconded by Mr. Gooch

THAT Mr. Holman be appointed Chair of the Public Works Committee for the year 2010; and

THAT Mr. Haley be appointed Vice Chair of the Public Works Committee for the year 2010. Carried.

Mr. Holman welcomed everyone in the gallery including Christine Endicott from the Recorder and Times.

2.0 Adoption of the Agenda for Wednesday, January 6th, 2010

Resolution No. PW-02-10

Moved by Mr. Dishaw and seconded by Mr. Gooch

THAT the Agenda for Wednesday, January 6th, 2010 be approved. Carried.

3.0 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof - Nil

4.0 Adoption of the Public Works Committee Minutes of December 2nd, 2009

Mr. Shepherd reported that he has not yet received reports from the Ministry of Transportation or the St. Lawrence Parks Commission regarding both bridge inspections done on the Parkway.

Resolution No. PW-03-10

Moved by Mr. Struthers and seconded by Mr. Dishaw

THAT the Minutes of the Public Works Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, December 2nd, 2009 be approved. Carried.

5.0 Delegations / Presentations

5.0.1 Mr. Guy Laporte, AECOM – Presentation Regarding Class EA for County Road 43 Widening.

Mr. Shepherd introduced Guy Laporte, Manager, AECOM, Kingston Office, Steve Sergeant, Traffic Specialist and Shane Gray who is new to AECOM and also new to the Country.

Mr. Laporte presented the details of his report. He noted that his report was basically a progress report of the work done over the past year to develop a preliminary design for the County Road 43 expansion to widen the road from two lanes to four lanes from Hwy 416 to Somerville Road to accommodate increasing traffic in that area. Additionally, separate bicycle and pedestrian paths are being proposed on each side of the road expansion.

A new two lane bridge over Kemptville Creek would be built south of the existing bridge and it has been discovered that “significant species” nest in that area; thus the reason for the involvement with Rideau Valley Conservation Authority. Under Fisheries and Oceans regulations, any fish habitats that might be destroyed would need to be replaced in an agreed upon location nearby. Mr. Laporte noted that there were concerns expressed over the height of the bridge; however, the height cannot change if the existing bridge is kept.

With respect to the centre corridor intersection control, Mr. Laporte noted that a cost benefit analysis was done and the costs to convert that area to a Roundabout vs a traffic signal were similar. He said the preference to have Roundabouts at County 44, Community Square and St. Michaels High School was primarily for movement of traffic and for access to the high school and local businesses.

Mr. Sergeant commented that there has been a great deal of research done on pedestrian safety at crosswalks and that they are considered safe during high volumes of traffic as long as the appropriate design features are in place. Some of the features include special features for the visually impaired; pedestrian crossings that are strategically placed in areas where low speeds occur; two stage pedestrian crossings, etc.

Mr. Gooch thanked AECOM for their presentation. He indicated that he is a strong proponent of roundabouts and that they are excellent in moving traffic; however, his Council does not wish to see a roundabout at County Road 44. He said that he has discussed this issue with his Council and they along with many North Grenville residents will not support a roundabout in that location because of safety concerns for the 100 or more students who cross that road everyday from school to get their lunch. Mr. Gooch added that when AECOM makes their presentations later this month they will have to justify in detail why they wish to have a roundabout in that area and demonstrate that they are in fact safe to use.

Mr. Gooch said that bicycle and pedestrian lanes are going to add a tremendous cost to the project in terms of property acquisition and that in other areas it is quite common for pedestrians and cyclists to share a lane. He added that he would like to see a cost comparison for a normal width sidewalk vs one that would be wider and could be shared by both cyclists and pedestrians.

In response to a concern raised from Mr. Struthers concerning the overall costs for this project, Mr. Laporte indicated that based on past experience, if you are able to get your environmental assessment finished within six months then you are considered project ready and in a position to apply for any potential funding that might be available.

5.0.2 Mr. Robert Laporte, Neutopia EcoSolutions Inc. – Presentation regarding Municipal Solid Waste

Mr. Holman welcomed Mr. Laporte to the meeting and asked that only the new material be presented as all of Council were in attendance for the initial presentation in October, 2009.

Mr. Laporte reported that an interim report had recently been presented to Edwardsburgh Cardinal that included a proposal to build a bio-refinery in the area to convert garbage to energy. However; before proceeding with such a bio-refinery, it would require the coordinated effort of the member municipalities and surrounding area.

After some discussion, it was agreed that while there is interest in the project, Mr. Laporte should contact the member municipalities in order to meet with them individually and focus on the local situation before attempting to come up with a plan for the entire County. Mr. Gooch noted that there is an urgent need to find a solution for waste; however, more information is required before making a commitment.

There was a brief recess at 10:15.

The meeting resumed at 10:20.

6.0 Correspondence, Communication and Petitions

6.0.1. Mr. Matt Craig, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (10-Dec-09)

Re: Positive Feedback Regarding New Consent Process

Mr. Shepherd commented that this item was for information purposes only.

6.0.2 Mr. Gary Shaw, Grey County (14-Dec-09)
Re: Audible Pedestrian Signals

Mr. Shepherd commented that this item is of interest in the discussions around cost sharing for sidewalks, versus shared use trails versus bike paths. Traditional pedestrian signal heads are a small extra cost at a signalized intersection but, as pointed out in the Grey County correspondence, the audible signals and other accessibility features which are likely to become common or even mandatory will greatly increase this cost and a cost sharing policy will be desirable.

6.0.3 Media Relations, Transportation Safety Board of Canada (Dec. 09)
Re: TSB Calls for Better Railway Warning Signs and Truck Driver Training for Emergencies

Mr. Shepherd noted that this study was done as a result of the train derailment on County Road 4 in Mallorytown. The investigation showed that no signs were installed at the crossing to warn the truck driver that the slope of the road over the crossing was too steep for his truck. There are low ground clearance signs at some crossings but the design and placement of them is inconsistent as there is still not a national standard. The report recommends that Transport Canada, the railways and the road authorities all work together to identify high-risk crossings, put up appropriate signage where needed and ensure drivers get the information and training required to avoid future accidents.

6.0.4 Mr. Michael Galambos, Resident at 11 Railway St. in Lansdowne (09-Dec-09)
Re: Establishing an Anti-Whistling Crossing in Village of Lansdowne, ON, County Road 3 and CNR Mile Marker 146.7

Mr. Shepherd indicated that a similar request had been received a few years ago and that the position at that time was to not remove the train whistling. It was agreed that there was no desire to make a change at this time.

6.0.5 Mr. R. Trivett, Township of Edwardsburgh/Cardinal (24-Nov-09)
Re: Speed Limit Requests on County Road No. 2

Mr. Shepherd commented that a report will be provided once he meets with staff from Edwardsburgh-Cardinal.

6.0.6 Ms. Donna Bickerstaffe, Ministry of Transportation (24-Nov-09)
Re: Follow-up of questions from October, 2009 Public Works Committee meeting

Mr. Haley commented that a lot of the particulars were missing in the report received from MTO with respect to the service centre closures. He said that he remains concerned for many individuals whose unemployment insurance benefits will soon be running out and many of these individuals will be forced to go on social assistance at a time when more people are on social assistance than ever before. Staff was asked to follow up with MTO to confirm if the dates to reopen the Mallorytown Service Centres north and south are still scheduled for spring and summer, 2011.

Mr. Haley expressed a concern with respect to the traffic light on Hwy 29 in Brockville at Exit 696 onto the 401. Mr. Shepherd to follow up with staff at the City of Brockville to find a solution to the traffic back-up in that area.

6.0.7 Property Purchase Agreement – Pinehill Roundabout in Kemptville

Mr. Shepherd commented that we now have written agreement to proceed under the Expropriations Act to obtain the land required for the Roundabout. He noted that the Counties will pay for the price of land and the costs to have it appraised and that this has been included in the budget for 2010.

As an aside, Mr. Shepherd commented that the new owner of the Ultra-Mar Station at James Street and across from the high school in Kemptville has agreed to move the propane tanks off the property and move the entrances around which works out in the Counties' favour for the Pinehill Roundabout.

Resolution No. PW-04-10

**Moved by Mr. Struthers and seconded by Mr. Thake
THAT BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Public Works Committee recommends that the Warden and CAO be authorized to execute a Property Purchase Agreement for the acquisition of Part 1 on Plan 15R-11074 under Section 30 of the Expropriations Act. Carried.**

7.0 Information Items Available Upon Request

7.0.1 Mr. Donald Maciver, Director of Planning, RVCA (1-Dec-09) Re: Amendments to RVCA local administration policies for the “Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alternations to Shorelines and Watercourse” regulation (Ontario Regulation 174/06).

7.0.2 Mr. Guy Laporte, AECOM to Mr. Hay (27-Nov-09) Re: Notice of Addendum to Environmental Study Report Merrickville Wolford Sewage Treatment Plant.

8.0 Staff Reports

8.0.1 Geoff McVey, Limerick Forest Manager

8.0.1.1 Limerick Forest Report – Jan. 10

Mr. McVey reported that the foundation for the new Interpretive Centre is completed and that 80% of the funding received from the Trails Coalition has been spent and/or committed. The trail rehabilitation continues and work on the boardwalk in Limerick North will begin mid-January; weather permitting.

Mr. McVey reported that the highest bid for the Limerick Conifer Thinning Tender for 2010 was from Ben Hokum and Son Ltd. and it was recommended that it be accepted.

Resolution No. PW-05-10

**Moved by Mr. Thake and seconded by Mr. Struthers
THAT the Limerick Forest Report be received as presented with the recommendation that the highest bid from Ben Hokum and Son Ltd. for the sale of standing red pine lumber and poles be accepted. Carried.**

8.0.1.2 Waste Management Report – Dec. 09

It was agreed that the household hazardous waste events will remain at the County level and that the lower tier municipalities advertise accordingly for these events.

Mr. McVey was directed to renegotiate a contract with Drain-All for 2010 and bring back to the Public Works Committee for approval in February.

8.0.2 Sandy Hay, Planner – No Report

8.0.3 Karen Fraser, GIS Coordinator

8.0.3.1 GIS Update Report – Jan. 10

Mrs. Fraser reported that her report was a summary of the projects that were completed for 2009. She noted that the GIS Department supports 118 employees on a regular basis including training, requests for new data, queries, new accounts and login problems.

Resolution No. PW-06-10

**Moved by Mr. Pickard and seconded by Mr. Thake
THAT the GIS Project Review be received as presented.
Carried.**

8.0.3.2 9-1-1 Civic Addressing Report – Jan. 10

Mrs. Fraser provided a power point presentation highlighting the progress made to date with respect to the 911 Civic Addressing Verification project and asked that the project continue into 2010 with the renewal of the contract position. It was agreed that the contract position be considered during the upcoming budget deliberations.

Resolution No. PW-07-10

**Moved by Mr. Campbell and seconded by Mr. Gooch
THAT the 911 Civic Addressing Verification Progress Report
be received and that the recommendations to continue the 911
Civic Addressing Verification project into 2010 and renew the
contract position for one year be considered during the 2010
budget deliberations. Carried.**

8.0.4 Les Shepherd, Director, WPSAM

8.0.4.1 Construction Update Report – Jan. 10

Mr. Shepherd presented the Construction Update Report for January, 2010 and it was noted that it included all of the projects approved in the 2009 budget.

Resolution No. PW-08-10

**Moved by Mr. Pickard and seconded by Mr. Campbell
THAT the Construction Update Report be received as
presented. Carried.**

8.0.4.2 ED-19 C of A – Expiration Date – Verbal Report

Mr. Shepherd reported that he believes that once a C of A is obtained; that they do not expire.

**8.0.4.3 Quotation and Tender Report – GPS Tracking for
County Roads Vehicles**

Mr. Shepherd discussed the details of his report concerning the GPS Tracking for County Roads Vehicles and indicated that it had been budgeted for in the 2009 Budget. The proposal is to have TELUS install units on 36 vehicles including snow plows and patrol trucks totaling \$20,196.00 annually. Since TELUS is already a customer, they offered \$150.00 per unit in airtime credits for a total of \$5,400.00.

Resolution No. PW-09-10

**Moved by Mr. Conley and seconded by Mr. Haley
THAT the GPS Tracking for County Roads Vehicles Report be
received as presented with the adoption of the
recommendations therein. Carried.**

8.0.4.4 Roads Budget Variance Report

Mrs. Williams presented the details of her report. Mrs. Williams reported that capital was over but revenue was down in 2009.

Mr. Struthers commented that he would like to ensure that the work to be done on Main Street in Merrickville will be budgeted for in 2010 in conjunction with the Village's water and sewer project.

Resolution No. PW-10-10

**Moved by Mr. Kinsella and seconded by Mr. Haley
THAT the Roads Budget Variance Report be received as
presented. Carried.**

8.0.5 Debbie Williams, Public Works Coordinator

8.0.5.1 Asset Management Update Report – Jan. 10

Mrs. Williams presented the details of her report which included accomplishments for 2009 and a workplan for 2010.

Resolution No. PW-11-10

**Moved by Mr. Haley and seconded by Mr. Struthers
THAT the Asset Management Report be received as presented.
Carried.**

Mr. Struthers returned to the meeting at 12:28 p.m.

9.0 Sub Committee, Special and Adhoc Committee Reports

9.0.1 Paved Shoulders – No Report

10.0 Unfinished Business

10.0.1 Updated Action List from December 2009 (see attached table)

11.0 Announcements

12.0 Notice of By-Laws / Notice of Motions – Verbal

**12.0.1 Notice of a By-Law for the Warden and CAO to execute a
Property Purchase Agreement for the acquisition of Part 1 on
Plan 15R-11074 under Section 30 of the Expropriations Act for
the purpose of constructing a roundabout at Pinehill Road on
County Road 43.**

13.0 Media Questions

Christine Endicott from the Recorder and Times asked for more information on the County Road 43 road widening project in North Greenville. Mr. Shepherd reported that assuming that the project becomes a reality; the hope would be to start with the bridge; however, this is the largest single project ever (costing 32 million) and last year's roads budget alone was only 14 million. The challenge will be to come up with the dollars and to apply for whatever funding might be available.

In answer to another question from Ms. Endicott concerning the GPS devices, Mr. Shepherd noted that the devices will be placed in 36 public works vehicles; including 21 snow plows with the remainder being service and patrol vehicles.

14.0 Questions from the Public

There were no members from the public in attendance.

There was a brief recess at 12:15 with the meeting resuming at 12:30 p.m. Mr. Kroeger, Christine Endicott and all staff except Mr. Silver, Mr. Shepherd, Mr. White and Mr. McVey left the meeting.

15.0 Closed Meeting

Resolution No. PW-12-10

**Moved by Mr. Gooch and seconded by Mr. Campbell
THAT the Public Works Committee, as provided in Section 239 (2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 S.O. 2001. Chapter 25, move "In Camera" at 12:30 to address a matter pertaining to security of property of the municipality or local board. Carried.**

Resolution No. PW-13-10

**Moved by Mr. Campbell and seconded by Mr. Gooch
THAT the Public Works Committee return to open session at 12:42 p.m.**

16.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Resolution No. PW-14-10

**Moved by Mr. Haley and seconded by Mr. Conley
THAT the Public Works Committee does now adjourn to meet again on
Wednesday, February 3rd, 2010. Carried.**

Chair

ACTION ITEM – MEETING NAME

(List to be updated immediately after each meeting)

| Date | Item | Descriptive | Assigned To: | Expected Completion |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| 1. Brought forward from the Dec 5 th , 2007 Public Works Unfinished Business List | Preparation of a County Drainage Policy | Staff is directed to collect drainage policies including formats for drainage agreements and reference to the Drainage Act with respect to agreement drains and drainage rights of the County. | Peter Randall and Les Shepherd | 2009 |
| 2. Brought forward from the Dec 5 th , 2007 Public Works Unfinished Business List | Traffic Study on County Road No. 29 | Staff to arrange for an independent firm to provide a traffic study on County Road No. 29. | Les Shepherd | 2009 |
| 3. Brought forward from the Dec 5 th , 2007 Public Works Unfinished Business List | Re-designation of County and Township Roads | To be discussed as part of the Service Delivery Review. May result in a long term concept over the next few years. | Public Works Department and Public Works Committee | Long Term |
| 4. Brought forward from the Nov 4 th 2009 Public | County Policy on Oversized Loads | County Policy for oversize loads was developed | Les Shepherd | Dave Darch to develop an umbrella policy for all |

| Works Unfinished Business List | | and sent to Dave Darch for review. | | of the local Counties to use |
|--------------------------------|--|---|--|---------------------------------|
| 5. Dec 5 th , 2007 | County wide Development Charge By-law | Staff to prepare a County wide Development Charge By-law for review by Public Works Committee | Les Shepherd and Sandy Hay | Bring Forward April 2010 |
| 6. Feb 6, 2008 | Request by Township of Augusta for a reduced speed zone in the area of Maynard from Blue Church Rd to Merwin Lane. | Mr. Shepherd to provide a feasibility report and an estimated cost for the proposed left hand turn lane on Cty Rd 26. | To be discussed at a Future Public Works Committee Meeting | Ongoing |
| 7. June 3, 2009 | Paved Shoulders on County Roads. | Adhoc Cttee consisting of Les, Anne Weir and Ron Holman. | To discuss policy recommendations for paved shoulders. | Ongoing |