

Transportation and Public Safety Committee October 8, 2015 – 10:00 AM

The Transportation and Public Safety Committee met on the above date at the County Administration Building with the following members in attendance:

Present: Chair Alan Barfoot; Councillors Bob Pringle, Stewart Halliday, Sue Paterson, Harley Greenfield, Ian Boddy, Anna-Marie Fosbrooke and John McKean and Warden Kevin Eccles

Regrets: Councillor John Bell

Staff

Present: Kim Wingrove, Chief Administrative Officer; Mike Muir, Director of Paramedic Services; Michael Kelly, Director of Transportation Services; Kevin Weppler, Director of Finance; Mary Lou Spicer, Deputy Director of Finance; Doug Johnstone, Financial Analyst; Ron Parkin, Maintenance Manager; Sharon Melville, Buyer; Pat Hoy, Engineering Manager and Tara Warder, Committee Coordinator

Call to Order

Chair Barfoot called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Adoption of the Agenda

TAPS125-15 Moved by: Warden Eccles

Seconded by: Councillor Paterson

THAT the Transportation and Public Safety Committee agenda dated October 8, 2015 be adopted as amended, by adding an in-camera matter regarding advice that is subject to solicitor – client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose regarding the proposed transfer of roads to the Town of the Blue Mountains, pursuant to Section 239 (2) of the Municipal Act, 2001.

Carried

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There was none.

Business Arising from the Minutes

Transportation and Public Safety Committee minutes dated September 17, 2015

These minutes are for information only as they were adopted by Grey County Council on October 6, 2015.

Reports – Finance

FR-TAPS-32-15 2015 Corporate Budget Overview and Background

Kevin Wepler presented the above noted report regarding the 2015 Corporate Budget overview and background. The proposed budget would result in a 2.46% levy increase corporately. Mr. Wepler outlined the significant impacts to the budget, as well as proposed staffing changes. Potential risks were cited such as legal costs and pay equity issues.

Staff addressed questions from the Committee.

TAPS126-15 Moved by: Councillor McKean Seconded by: Councillor Greenfield

THAT Report FR-TAPS-32-15 regarding the 2016 Corporate Budget Overview and Background be received for information.

Carried

2016 Transportation and Public Safety Budget Summary

Mary Lou Spicer outlined the operating and capital summaries of the Transportation and Public Safety Committee.

Reports – Paramedic Services

PSR-TAPS-08-15 Draft 2016 Paramedic Services Budget

Mike Muir addressed the Committee on the subject report, noting that the proposed budget translates to an increase of .53 % corporately over the 2015 budget.

Mr. Muir noted that the primary increases in the draft budget stem from wage increases and benefits. Mr. Muir spoke to the effects of lost time and modified duty on the budget.

It was noted that the County is a Schedule 2 employer, and as such, is self-insured. Workers Compensation premiums have decreased and these costs are now reflected in

the wages budget as employees return to work on modified duty, rather than staying on Workers Compensation.

Mr. Muir noted that no notice of provincial funding has been received for the Community Paramedicine Program.

The proposed capital purchases were outlined.

Staff noted that the stretchers are power lift stretchers which assist in reducing potential for injury to paramedics. Staff will be looking at opportunities in the future to extend the replacement cycle of stretchers beyond the current ten year lifecycle once sufficient repair history is available. Committee inquired as to where reductions in the draft budget could be made. Mr. Muir noted that lost time could possibly be funded from reserves and that the functional lines of the budget are mainly zero based.

Mary Lou Spicer spoke to the budget assumptions and outlined the way the funding increases from the Ministry are calculated. If the ratio changes significantly, the funding model could change.

Staff addressed questions from the Committee regarding whether there is a need for cardiac monitors / defibrillators to be in the Duty Supervisor vehicles and whether a public access defibrillator would instead be sufficient. It was noted that supervisors need to be equipped with the necessary equipment to respond and act immediately and perform all medical acts that a paramedic would perform.

TAPS127-15 Moved by: Warden Eccles

Seconded by: Councillor Paterson

THAT Report PSR-TAPS-018-15 regarding the draft 2016 Paramedic Services Budget be deferred to the October 22, 2015 Transportation and Public Safety Committee meeting;

AND THAT staff review the possibility of funding the leap year costing from reserves and other onetime items.

Carried

Reports – Transportation

TR-TAPS-79-15 Draft 2016 Transportation Services Department Budget Overview

Michael Kelly presented the above noted report regarding the draft 2016 Transportation Services Department budget. Mr. Kelly noted that the draft 2016 Transportation budget reflects a 4.53% increase over the 2015 Transportation budget. Mr. Kelly outlined the proposed projects in the capital and operating budgets and noted that the capital

purchases are the largest source of the increase.

Staff addressed questions regarding proposed inspections for bridges and culverts under three metres. It was noted that staff anticipate hiring a consulting firm to provide training to Area Foreman and Lead Hands in order to allow them to perform inspections on bridges and culverts under three metres.

Further inquiry was made as to the anticipated cost of the loader. Staff noted that with the increase in the U.S. dollar, the price of the loader has increased beyond what was budgeted, however it will be tendered and will not impact the levy as it will be funded from reserves. Committee inquired as to whether a demo unit could be requested. Purchasing staff indicated that it is a possibility.

The Committee inquired whether staff could find any opportunity to reduce the budget.

Mr. Kelly noted that Grey Road 3 is a project that could be deferred for a year.

Staff addressed questions from the Committee regarding shoulder paving and estimates regarding fuel costs.

TAPS128-15 Moved by: Councillor Boddy

Seconded by: Councillor McKean

**THAT Report TR-TAPS-79-15 be deferred to the October 22, 2015
Transportation and Public Safety Committee meeting;**

**AND THAT staff review the budget for possible reductions or
enhancements.**

Carried

*TR-TAPS-65-15 The Town of the Blue Mountains Winter Maintenance
Agreement*

Michael Kelly presented the above noted report, recommending that a winter maintenance agreement with the Town of the Blue Mountains be executed.

TAPS129-15 Moved by: Councillor Halliday

Seconded by: Councillor Greenfield

**WHEREAS the County of Grey and the Town of The Blue Mountains
have historically entered into Winter Maintenance Agreements for
the upkeep and maintenance of three kilometers of roads in the
Town of The Blue Mountains;**

**AND WHEREAS the current winter maintenance agreement with the
Town of The Blue Mountains expired in April, 2015;**

AND WHEREAS the County of Grey and the Town of The Blue Mountains wishes to renew the Winter Maintenance Agreement for three winters (2015 / 2016, 2016/2017, 2017/2018)

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Report TR-TAPS-65-15 be received;

AND THAT the Warden and Clerk be authorized to execute a three year winter maintenance agreement between the County of Grey and the Town of The Blue Mountains and to authorize the County of Grey to complete the winter maintenance of three kilometers of roads within the Town of The Blue Mountains.

Carried

TR-TAPS-66-15 2016 Shoulder Widening Project Modifications

Michael Kelly addressed the Committee on the above noted report. Mr. Kelly explained the process associated with designing and constructing paved shoulders and the analysis staff make to determine which shoulders are widened and paved. Mr. Kelly further spoke to the needs of the cyclists.

The Committee recessed and then reconvened.

The remaining discussion pertaining to this report occurred later in the meeting in order to discuss the closed meeting item at this time.

Closed Meeting Matters

TAPS130-15 Moved by: Councillor McKean Seconded by: Councillor Halliday

THAT the Transportation and Public Safety Committee do now go into closed session to discuss:

- i. Advice that is subject to solicitor – client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose regarding the proposed transfer of roads to the Town of the Blue Mountains subject to Section 239 (2) of the Municipal Act, 2001.**

AND THAT the following staff remain in attendance: Kim Wingrove, Michael Kelly, Kevin Wepler and Tara Warder.

Carried

The Committee proceeded into closed session at 1:08 PM.

TAPS131-15 Moved by: Councillor Pringle Seconded by: Warden Eccles

THAT the Transportation and Public Safety Committee do now return to open session at 1:18 PM.

Carried

Reports – Transportation (continued)

TR-TAPS-66-15 2016 Shoulder Widening Project Modifications

TAPS132-15 Moved by: Councillor Halliday Seconded by: Councillor Boddy

THAT Reports TR-TAPS-66-15 regarding the 2016 shoulder widening project modifications be deferred until the meeting of October 22, 2015.

Carried

TR-TAPS-81-15 Answering Services Single Source

Michael Kelly presented the above noted report regarding the provision of after hours answering services.

Mr. Kelly provided a history to date of the dispatch services and noted the importance of this communication to winter maintenance operations.

Councillor Boddy left the meeting at this time.

Staff are recommending that the Owen Sound Police Services be sole sourced to provide after hours answering service for Transportation Services in light of performance concerns with the new provider. Further, staff wish to proceed with the matter prior to Council approval in order to ensure that the service is set up in time for the winter season.

The Committee cited the importance of receiving appropriate levels of service and the ability to terminate the services if they do not meet the needs of the County.

TAPS133-15 Moved by: Councillor McKean Seconded by: Councillor Halliday

WHEREAS the County of Grey is responsible for the provision of a twenty-four hour answering service for multiple departments, specifically Housing, Transportation Services and Planning;

AND WHEREAS the current service (HR Security) was recently sold to a company that cannot provide the required radio dispatch service required by the Transportation Services Department;

AND WHEREAS the current annual fee is approximately \$8,000 for an answering service which excludes radio dispatch;

AND WHEREAS there have been ongoing concerns with the quality of service by the current provider since the transfer of service in May 2015;

AND WHEREAS the Owen Sound Police Services dispatch currently operate an answering service for multiple users within the County boundaries, including 9-1-1 emergency response for the County of Grey;

AND WHEREAS staff has held discussions with the Owen Sound Police Service to provide the required answering service;

AND WHEREAS the Owen Sound Police Services have provided the County a price of \$44,360, annually excluding HST plus a \$14,000 one-time set up fee to assume the afterhours service for the Transportation Services Department;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Report TR-TAPS-81-15 regarding the Transportation Services Department after hour answering Service be received;

AND THAT the Owen Sound Police Services be contracted as a single source for the operation of an after-hours (4:30 pm to 8:30 am including weekends and statutory holidays) answering service, for Transportation Services, for the bid price excluding HST of \$3,696.97 per month or \$44,360 annually plus a \$14,000 one-time set up fee for an 18 month duration with two one year extensions if mutually agreed;

AND THAT the answering service cost be funded from the ordinary maintenance budget;

AND THAT staff be directed to prepare an agreement with Owen Sound Police Services for signature by the Warden and Clerk;

AND FURTHER THAT staff be authorized to proceed with the project prior to County Council approval as per Section 24.13 (b) of Procedural By-law 4876-14, as amended.

Carried

Correspondence

Letter to Grey County Regarding Engine Brake Signage – Bruce Bunker

Councillor Halliday noted that consideration should be given to moving the speed limit to broaden the reduced speed limit zone.

TAPS134-15 Moved by: Councillor Pringle Seconded by: Councillor Greenfield

**THAT the correspondence from Bruce Bunker regarding engine
brake signage be noted and filed.**

Carried

Receive for Information

TAPS135-15 Moved by: Councillor Halliday Seconded by: Warden Eccles

**THAT the correspondence from Enbridge regarding its application to
the Ontario Energy Board for a franchise agreement renewal be
received for information.**

Carried

Other Business

There was none.

Next Meeting Dates

Thursday, October 22, 2015 at the Grey County Administration Building

On motion by Councillor Pringle, the meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM.

Alan Barfoot, Chair