



Committee Minutes

Planning and Community Development Committee

August 14, 2014 – 10:00 AM

The Planning and Community Development Committee met on the above date at the County Administration Building with the following members in attendance:

Present: Vice Chair Paul McQueen; Councillors Terry McKay, Alan Barfoot, Kathi Maskell, Francis Richardson, Norman Jack, Duncan McKinlay and Kevin Eccles; and Warden Brian Milne

Regrets: Councillor Arlene Wright

Staff

Present: Randy Scherzer, Director of Planning; Sharon Vokes, County Clerk / Director of Council Services; Kevin Wepler, Director of Finance; Scott Taylor, Senior Planner; Sarah Morrison, Intermediate Planner; Brian Manser, Museum Manager; Mike Alguire, Purchasing Manager; Rob Hatten, Communications Officer and Tara Warder, Recording Secretary

Call to Order

Vice Chair Paul McQueen called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There was none.

Business Arising from the Minutes

Planning and Community Development Committee minutes dated July 22, 2014

These minutes are for information only as they were adopted by Grey County Council on August 5, 2014.

Deputations

Pam Coulter, Director of Community Services – City of Owen Sound – Heritage Property Tax Relief Program

Pam Coulter attended the Committee meeting to discuss the City of Owen Sound's Heritage Property Tax Relief Program and requested the Committee to consider participating in the program.

Ms. Coulter provided background information on the program, the benefits and the legislative framework. The purpose of the program is to offer a permanent tax incentive to promote heritage conservation in the community.

The City of Owen Sound allows for a 20% refund on the municipal portion of property taxes. Currently 32 properties are designated and a further 16 are eligible for the refund.

Ms. Coulter addressed questions and comments from staff and the Committee.

The Committee noted that tax policy is handled through the Corporate Services Committee and explored options for moving forward to consider participation in the program.

Reports – Clerk's

CCR-PCD-17-14 Update on the Status of the Grey Roots Logo Sculpture

Brian Manser introduced Grant Diemert, the architect who has assisted with the design of the project. Mr. Manser then addressed the Committee on the above report, providing an update to the Committee on the status of the project and the costs to date. Mr. Manser outlined three options for the Committee to consider to complete the project and the various costs of each.

Detail was provided on the proposed topographical map at the base of the structure.

Staff are recommending Option A be pursued in 2014 and funded by the deferral of the construction of the church. Finalization of the sculpture would be included for consideration in the 2015 budget deliberations.

Concern was expressed with the cost of the project and the need to have accuracy

when designing projects moving forward. It was noted that community projects are meaningful in terms of the value of community support to the project itself as well as community interest in general. It was also noted that there is always some risk involved with projects that rely on community support.

Staff noted that in the future, they will ensure that Committee is aware of the total costs of all projects and the amount of in kind contributions that have been committed so that Committee and Council is aware of the risks if the amount of in kind contributions do not materialize.

PCD94-14 Moved by: Warden Milne

Seconded by: Councillor Richardson

WHEREAS a Grey Roots logo sculpture was recommended as part of the 2010 Marketing Plan for Grey Roots;

AND WHEREAS a budget of \$25,000 was allocated to the creation of the sculpture;

AND WHEREAS the initial concept of the sculpture evolved to a larger project on the basis that additional costs would be offset through community partnerships;

AND WHEREAS while community partnerships have been successful for this project, additional funding is required to complete the sculpture;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Report CCR-PCD-17-14 regarding an update on the Grey Roots Logo Sculpture project be received;

AND THAT the Committee endorses Option A, being the installation of the steel sheaves in 2014 with the estimated cost of \$33,613 needed to reach this phase of the project being funded from the deferral of the Grey Roots Church Construction Capital project;

Carried

Correspondence

City of Owen Sound Request for County to Consider Participation in Heritage Property Tax Relief Program

The Committee considered the above noted correspondence in response to the presentation earlier in the meeting.

It was noted that the subject matter rests with the lower tier municipalities as opposed to the County.

PCD95-14 Moved by: Councillor Eccles Seconded by: Councillor Maskell

THAT the correspondence from the City of Owen Sound regarding the request for the County of Grey to consider participation in the Heritage Property Tax Relief Program be received for information.

Carried

Town of Grand Valley Resolution – Ban on Use of Sprays Containing Neonicotinoids

The Committee discussed the above correspondence.

PCD96-14 Moved by: Councillor McKinlay Seconded by: Warden Milne

THAT the correspondence from the Town of Grand Valley regarding a ban on the use of sprays containing neonicotinoids be received for information.

Carried

Reports – Planning

PDR-PCD-28-14 Invasive Species Update and Grey County Woodlot Association Request

Sarah Morrison addressed the Committee on the above report regarding an update on the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) and some other invasive species in the County. The Woodlot Association submitted a request in 2013 requesting the County assist in

eradicating invasive species from landowner properties.

No financial support is being provided for invasive species. An EAB Working Group has been established and is undertaking various activities to assist in combatting the species. Staff are recommending that a letter be sent to the Grey County Woodlot Association outlining the activities of the working group and the resources available to the Association.

PCD97-14 Moved by: Warden Milne

Seconded by: Councillor Barfoot

WHEREAS a request was received in 2013 from the Grey County Woodlot Association asking whether the County would be interested in partially funding efforts to manage and/or eradicate invasive species from landowners properties such as Emerald Ash Borer, Wild Chervil, as well as other invasive species;

AND WHEREAS Committee asked staff to provide some further information with respect to the request including engaging in discussions with the conservation authorities to outline applicable roles;

AND WHEREAS since the request has been made, an Emerald Ash Borer Working Group has been established with Grey County, Bruce County, conservation authorities, Ministry of Natural Resources and the City of Owen Sound being part of the Working Group;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Report PDR-PCD-28-14 be received;

AND THAT a letter be sent to the Grey County Woodlot Association informing them of the Emerald Ash Borer Working Group and the work being done by this group, as well as providing them with any updates, information and non-monetary resources with respect to some of the other invasive species identified in their letter;

AND THAT staff be directed to continue to provide information and non-monetary resources to the Grey County Woodlot Association on invasive species as it becomes available;

AND THAT Grey County has no program to fund landowner compensation.

Carried

Committee Review of Land Use Planning Appeals / Potential Appeals

Grey County Active Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) Appeals File List

Randy Scherzer noted that a prehearing has been scheduled for November 5, 2014 in regard to OPA 122 with regard to the Municipality of West Grey and the Town of Hanover Secondary Plan.

Other Business

Update on Large Renewal Energy Procurement Projects

Scott Taylor noted that the deadline for comments on the draft Request for Proposals (RFP) framework is September 2, 2014. In October and November, a draft Request for Proposals will be released for comment from the Ontario Power Authority. Staff are seeking direction on whether staff should comment on the draft framework at this time or comment on the draft RFP later in 2014 when it becomes available.

Staff further noted that Grey County is an “orange zone” wherein there is no further transmission capacity for any new, large renewable energy procurement.

The Committee discussed the benefits and disadvantages of commenting on the matter, and requested no further comments at this stage.

Planning Department Update

There were no further updates.

Next Meeting Dates

Tuesday, September 16, 2014 at the Grey County Administration Building

On motion by Councillor Barfoot, the meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM.

Paul McQueen, Vice Chair