



## Committee Minutes

### Grey County – The Blue Mountains Task Force

### February 13, 2020 – 2:33 PM

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

Present: Grey County Warden Paul McQueen; Grey County Councillors Aakash Desai, Shirley Keaveney and Scott Mackey; The Blue Mountains Councillor Rob Sampson and Deputy Mayor Potter

Regrets: Mayor Alar Soever

#### Staff

Present: Kim Wingrove, Grey County Chief Administrative Officer; Shawn Everitt, Town of the Blue Mountains Chief Administrative Officer; Heather Morrison, Clerk; Kevin Wepler, Director of Corporate Services and Tara Warder, Deputy Clerk/ Legislative Coordinator

## Call to Order

Warden McQueen called the meeting to order at 2:34 PM.

## Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

## Items for Direction and Discussion

## Workplan for 2020

The Task Force discussed the minutes from the January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Task Force meeting. It was noted that the minutes were circulated to taskforce members but did not come forward to the Task Force for formal adoption before being adopted by Council. The request from the Task Force was that they continue to come to the Task Force for

discussion before being put on the respective Council agendas.

The Task Force noted that the discussion surrounding county staff attending the Public Information Centre was discussed at both the October and January meetings. It was at the January meeting where the discussion was held regarding bringing forward a notice of motion requesting staff to attend the Town's Public Information Centre in March. Staff acknowledged the oversight from the January meeting. Staff advised the Committee that regarding their advice to present a notice of motion to Council, they misspoke at the County Committee of the Whole meeting that had just concluded and would advise County Council of that error at the next Council meeting.

The January 9 minutes will be amended to reflect that staff advised the Town of The Blue Mountains to submit a Notice of Motion to County Council if they wished County staff to attend the Town's Public Information Centre meeting.

It was confirmed that County staff will be available to attend the Blue Mountains Public Information Centre in March if requested by the Town.

Mr. Everitt will send the meeting details.

The Task Force noted that the Community Improvement Plan is in progress.

With respect to the completion of a Drainage Master Plan, the work is underway through the budget process and is moving along well.

It was noted that collaboration between the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority, the Niagara Escarpment Commission and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry on a review of a tree preservation and tree cutting by-law is taking place. The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority should be added to this action item as well.

There is advocacy work to be continued with the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario (MTO) regarding the completion of a Highway 26 transportation sub-master plan. There is a meeting on March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 in Thornbury regarding this matter. MTO staff and surrounding municipalities will be attending.

There was a suggestion to establish short term goals to try to alleviate some of the traffic bottlenecks and to request MTO to come up with a plan soon in order to address the need.

The MTO draft plan is for four lanes and there are a couple of municipalities that will need to be bypassed and a significant amount of development that will need to be put on hold if additional lanes are to be constructed. It was also noted that there is considerable existing private property that will be impacted in The Town of The Blue Mountains if any widening of Highway 26 is implemented.

It was noted that there has been approval to hire a project coordinator to work on the Town's 2020 Transportation Master Plan. The desire is to work collaboratively and ensure all groups are talking to one another.

Deputy Mayor Potter noted that the Town, Grey County, and local municipalities have to take the lead on the traffic issues in the municipality and determine what happens to the traffic when it gets to the Grey County/Town border rather than having a solution imposed on us.

The Task Force then discussed how issues and concerns would come forward to Committee of the Whole for discussion after the Task Force has been dissolved. There is a need to have a mechanism that everyone understands that moves concerns forward. Staff to staff discussions are critical and for issues requiring further investigations or resources a notice of motion or staff report can be brought forward.

Staff noted the positive relationships between the Town and County and the benefit of letting each respective Council know when the two organizations are working together and collaborating.

It was noted that if there is a project specific need for a task force to be established, there is nothing stopping this from occurring.

Through Report CAOR-CW-02-20, there has been a commitment to the Grey County – Blue Mountains workplan and there is a need to demonstrate that progress is being made on the workplan. Timely communication back to both Councils on the progress of these projects is important.

Councillor Keaveney left the meeting at 3:31 PM.

## Other Business

There was no other business.

On motion by Councillors Mackey and Potter, the meeting adjourned at 3:37 PM.

Warden Paul McQueen, Chair