

Transportation and Public Safety Committee December 20, 2012 – 10:00 a.m.

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

Present: Brian Milne, Councillors Bob Pringle, Alan Barfoot, Paul McQueen, Bob White, Harley Greenfield, Deborah Haswell, Ellen Anderson, Kevin Eccles and Warden Duncan McKinlay

Regrets: None

Staff

Present: Lance Thurston, Chief Administrative Officer; Sharon Vokes, County Clerk/Director of Council Services; Michael Kelly, Director of Transportation Services; Mike Muir, Director of Emergency Medical Services; Kevin Weppler, Director of Finance, Mike Alguire, Purchasing Manager; Sharon Melville, Buyer; Sheila McKerroll, Special Projects Coordinator; Jim Stevenson, Senior Engineering Technician; Pat Hoy, Engineering Manager; and Tara Warder, Recording Secretary

Call to Order

County Clerk Sharon Vokes called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Mrs. Vokes called for nominations for Chair of the Transportation and Public Safety Committee for 2013.

TAPS01-13 Moved by: Councillor Barfoot

Seconded by: Councillor Anderson

THAT Councillor Milnebe nominated Chair of the Transportation and Public Safety Committee for 2013.

On motion by Councillor White, nominations closed.

Councillor Milne was acclaimed Chair of the Transportation and Public Safety Committee for 2013.

Mrs. Vokes then called for nominations for Vice Chair of the Transportation and Public Safety Committee for 2013.

noted the surplus could be larger if there is not a heavy demand for winter maintenance in the upcoming week.

Kevin Wepler addressed the Committee's questions regarding the level of funding in the Transportation General Reserve and Winter Maintenance Budget.

Mr. Kelly further reviewed the resurfacing projects completed over the past year. It was noted that the gas tax revenue which the County has received totals approximately \$2,500,000. The Transportation Services Department 2013 budget currently includes approximately \$4,600,000.00.

TAPS05-13 Moved by: Councillor Greenfield

Seconded by: Councillor Eccles

THAT Report TR-TAPS-02-13 regarding Transportation Services Year End Financial Projection and Treatment of Year End Budget Surplus/ (Deficit)be received;

AND THAT any surplus funds from the Transportation Services Budget be transferred to the Transportation Services General Reserve for future capital projects.

Carried

Reports – Transportation

Addendum to Report TR-TAPS-53-12 Tree Removal – Grey County Road 31 – Osprey Museum

Mr. Kelly noted that the Heritage Board, Osprey Museum Board and Municipality of Grey Highlands have agreed that one tree located at the Osprey Museum requires removal and the other requires trimming. The Committee discussed the importance of developing a policy which provides direction on how tree cutting/trimming is to be treated in the future. Discussion occurred regarding what responsibilities would be delegated to the County and Osprey Museum Board and options for replacing the trees.

TAPS06-13 Moved by: Councillor Barfoot

Seconded by: Councillor Pringle

WHEREAS Section 62 of the Municipal Act gives the County the authority to remove decayed, damaged or dangerous trees or branches of trees on or adjoining its roadways that in the County's opinion, pose a danger to the health or safety of any person using the road;

AND WHEREAS County staff in consultation with a tree specialist from Grey Sauble Conservation Authority, have identified two trees on property owned by the Osprey Museum Board in Rob Roy as posing a safety threat to persons using adjoining County Road 31; one requiring removal and the other requiring trimming of branches and annual monitoring;

AND WHEREAS the Heritage Board of Grey Highlands, Osprey Museum and the Municipality of Grey Highlands have been consulted on this matter and concur with the recommendation provided by Grey Sauble Conservation Authority;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Addendum to Report TR-TAPS-53-12 regarding tree removal on Grey County Road 31 in front of the Osprey Museum be received;

AND THAT County staff take the necessary steps to remove one of the remaining trees, trimming branches from another and monitoring its condition;

AND FURTHER THAT the County place four hand dug trees each with a height of at least 1.5m on the Osprey Museum property in a mutually acceptable location or will pay the Osprey Museum the cost for them to purchase, spade and maintain four replacement trees up to a maximum cost of \$800.00, and the County will leave the cut tree stumps as is.

TAPS07-13 Moved by: Warden McKinlay

Seconded by: Councillor Anderson

THAT Addendum to Report TR-TAPS-53-12 and Resolution TAPS 06-13 be deferred to the Transportation and Public Safety Committee meeting to be held January 24, 2013.

Carried

TR-TAPS-01-13 Award of Two Tandem Plow Trucks

Michael Kelly addressed the Committee on the above noted report recommending that the tender for two tandem axle trucks be awarded to Lewis Motor Sales for the amount of \$227,697.00 per tandem axle truck. Mr. Kelly noted that this bid does not include tax and is lower than the previous year's bid. The plows and winter weather equipment will be mounted on the vehicles by Viking Cives, which is a subcontractor to Lewis Motor Sales.

Councillor Pringle briefly left the meeting, then returned.

TAPS08-13 Moved by: Councillor McQueen

Seconded by: Councillor Greenfield

WHEREAS report TR-TAPS-49-12 was endorsed at County Council on November 6, 2012, authorizing staff to tender two tandem axle trucks prior to 2013 capital budget approval;

AND WHEREAS all purchasing policies and procedures have been adhered to;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT TR-TAPS-01-13 regarding tender recommendations for two tandem trucks be received;

AND THAT RFT-TS-40-12, tender for two tandem axle trucks, be awarded to Lewis Motor Sales for the bid amount of \$227,697 per tandem axle truck excluding H.S.T., tire tax and Air Conditioning tax.

Carried

TR-TAPS-03-13 Update of Transportation Services Review

Sheila McKerroll provided an update to the Committee on the operational review of Transportation Services. It was noted that the original recommendation of Prior and Prior has been expanded to include maintenance, and will examine the department in its entirety. It was further noted that the Transportation Master Plan will also be considered in this process, and that the full report will be coming forward to the Committee at a later date.

Staff outlined the overall goals of the Transportation Master Plan and how it fits within the Transportation Services Review, noting that the review examines the operational aspect, seeking to understand the current state of the department. It was noted that implementation will be staged depending on the impact of the changes.

Discussion ensued regarding the process for each of the respective studies and the need for an operational review.

TAPS09-13 Moved by: Councillor Anderson

Seconded by: Councillor Haswell

THAT Report TR-TAPS-03-13 which provides an update of the status of the Transportation Services Department's review of its operation practices (Maintenance, Construction, Sign Shop and Quarry) be received.

Carried

TR-TAPS-04-13 Engine Brake Signs

Michael Kelly presented the above report regarding engine and compression brake signs. It was noted that the County has received requests from residents to install signage asking drivers to refrain from using compression brakes. The installation of this signage however, is not legally enforceable. Mr. Kelly further noted that installing the subject signs could increase the County's risk if there is an accident.

TAPS10-13 Moved by: Warden McKinlay

Seconded by: Councillor Haswell

WHEREAS road side signs that request drivers to refrain from using engine and compression brakes have no legal authority and are not enforceable on Grey County roads;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Report TR-TAPS-04-13 regarding engine and air brake signs be received;

AND THAT staff discontinue replacing any existing engine and air brake signs on Grey County roads after the end of their service life;

AND FURTHER THAT no additional engine or air brake signs be installed on Grey County roads.

Carried

The Committee briefly recessed then reconvened.

TR-TAPS-05-13 Municipal Infrastructure Investment Capital Program

Michael Kelly addressed the Committee on the above report requesting approval to submit an Expression of Interest under the Municipal Infrastructure Investment Initiative Capital Program for the reconstruction of one stage of Grey Road 119. Mr. Kelly noted that there is \$90,000,000.00 available under this program. The deadline for an Expression of Interest is January 9th, 2013. The potential for partnership opportunities with respective lower tiers was discussed.

Mr. Kelly outlined the criteria used in determining the priority projects being considered for the Expression of Interest. The Committee further discussed project timelines and possible budget constraints. Staff noted that the project must be completed by December 31st, 2014.

TAPS11-13 Moved by: Warden McKinlay

Seconded by: Councillor White

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario, through Ontario's Municipal Infrastructure Investment Initiative Capital Program has made available in 2013-14 and 2014-2015, up to \$51 million in funding with the objective to:

- **Further strengthen municipal asset management practices**
- **Support the most critical roads, bridges, water and wastewater projects**
- **Provide funding to municipalities and Local Services Boards that are unable to undertake projects without provincial support**

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Infrastructure Investment Initiative Capital Program includes a pre-screening process to identify projects that have the greatest potential for alignment with the objectives of the Program and to minimize the time municipalities spend preparing applications;

AND WHEREAS applicants must submit an Expression of Interest for pre-screening on or before January 9, 2013;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Report TR-TAPS-05-13 be received, which provides a summary of the Municipal Infrastructure Investment Initiative and identifies a project for consideration for application;

AND THAT Council approve the submission of an Expression of Interest for the reconstruction of one stage of Grey Road 119 under the Municipal Infrastructure Investment Initiative Capital Program to provide \$2 million in provincial funding for this project.

Carried

TR-TAPS-06-13 Rumble Strips

Michael Kelly addressed the Committee on the above report regarding rumble strips on County roadways. Mr. Kelly noted the need to revise the current policy in order to give staff discretion regarding the placement of rumble strips according to each situation. The current policy states that rumble strips will be installed when two county roads with a posted speed limit of 80 km per hour intersect, however the amended policy should provide some flexibility.

TAPS12-13 Moved by: Councillor McQueen Seconded by: Councillor Haswell

WHEREAS the placement of rumble strips is not a legal requirement;

AND WHEREAS the placement of rumble strips can assist to alert motorists;

AND WHEREAS the sound from rumble strips can be annoying to residents;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Report TR-TAPS-06-13 regarding the placement of rumble strips on Grey County Roads be received;

AND THAT Transportation Services staff be directed to complete a new policy for the placement of rumble strips.

Carried

TR-TAPS-07-13 Setback Exemption Grey County Road 1

Jim Stevenson presented the above report regarding a request for a setback exemption along Grey County Road 1. The request would involve moving the setback to 19.5 m from the centre line rather than the required setback of 23 metres. The owner is proposing to construct a residential dwelling 19.5 metres from the centre line of the roadway.

TAPS13-13 Moved by: Councillor Barfoot Seconded by: Councillor Pringle

WHEREAS the Grey County Transportation Services policy on the erection of buildings and structures on lands abutting Grey County Roads specifies that no building or structure shall be erected within 23 metres (75 feet) from

the centre line of any County Road unless approved by the Director of Transportation Services and the Transportation and Public Safety Committee;

AND WHEREAS the owner of Part Lot 21, Georgian Range, formerly the Township of Keppel, the Township of Georgian Bluffs, civic address number 505517 is seeking permission to construct a new residence 19.5 metres (64 feet) from the centre line of Grey Road 1;

AND WHEREAS accommodating the requested setback exemption will not have any adverse impact on Grey Road 1;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Report TR-TAPS-07-13 be received;

AND THAT the Transportation and Public Safety Committee approve the request for a building setback 19.5 metres from the centre line of Grey Road 1 at Part Lot 21, Georgian Range, formerly the Township of Keppel, the Township of Georgian Bluffs, civic address number 505517.

Carried

Closed Meeting Matters

There were none.

Other Business

TAPS14-13 Moved by: Councillor Anderson

Seconded by: Councillor Pringle

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the County of Grey supports the continued appointment of Warden Duncan McKinlay to the Ontario Good Roads Association Board of Directors for the 2012-2013 term.

Carried

OGRA/ROMA Combined Conference Delegation Request

Lance Thurston noted that the deadline for OGRA/ROMA delegation requests is January 18th 2013 and sought the Committee's wishes on whether to submit a request. The merits of requesting a delegation were discussed.

Transportation Services Update

Michael Kelly provided the Committee with an update, noting that the County has received a request from a non-profit group for 43 Green Belt signs to be installed on Grey County roads. It was noted that there is a possibility for strategic placement, however further details and requirements must be established. The opportunity to enhance tourism and advertising were

discussed, as well as the need to communicate with the Niagara Escarpment Commission. A report is forthcoming on the matter.

Staff were directed to investigate how the signage could be coordinated with County wide signage efforts.

Options for the reconstruction of the Normanby – Carrick bridge were reviewed. It was noted that the traffic volume on that road is higher than what is recommended for a single lane. A report will be forthcoming in January of 2013 outlining the options for the bridge reconstruction.

Staff were requested to investigate the possibility of pre-fabricated bridge construction for this project.

Additionally, Mr. Kelly updated the Committee on the trapping taking place within Grey County and noted that the County will continue working with the trappers regarding placement of traps.

Discussion occurred regarding the need for coordination with lower tiers to investigate the development of a common policy related to wind turbines and required setbacks, as well as an update on the Transportation Master Plan review.

The Committee raised an issue with the title of a property along Grey Road 3 and the road allowance abutting the parcel. Councillor Eccles inquired as to the status of the land transfer in Neustadt noted in Report CAOR-TAPS-20-12. Transportation staff and the CAO will review the status of both parcels.

Councillor Haswell then left the meeting.

Emergency Medical Services Update

Mike Muir updated the Committee, indicating that staffing for the Dundalk base will occur on January 19th. Additional staffing at this location will provide assistance in the south end of Grey County. A further update will be provided in 2013 regarding Emergency Medical Services staffing.

Next Meeting Dates

January 24, 2013 at the Grey County Administration Building

On motion by Councillor Pringle, the meeting adjourned at 12:26 p.m.

Brian Milne, Chair