



Committee Minutes

Grey County – The Blue Mountains Task Force

January 9, 2020 – 2:45 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 and Scott Mackey; The Blue Mountains Mayor Alar Soever, Councillor Rob Sampson

Regrets: Councillors Odette Bartnicki and Shirley Keaveney

Staff

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

Call to Order

Warden McQueen called the meeting to order at 2:45 PM.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

Adoption of Minutes

TBM01-20 Moved by: Councillor Sampson Seconded by: Councillor Desai

That the Grey County – The Blue Mountains Task Force minutes dated October 24, 2019 be adopted as presented.

Carried

Items for Direction and Discussion

Schedule of Meetings and Grey County – The Blue Mountains Task Force Workplan for 2020

Mayor Soever noted that the Task Force has met irregularly due to a lack of agenda items since the beginning of the 2018 term. The Terms of Reference state that the Task Force will meet monthly. It was suggested that the meetings be scheduled in advance. A workplan would be beneficial as well.

Potential workplan items were discussed including a master drainage plan, attainable housing and transportation master plan.

The Town will come back with the tasks it would like to see included in the workplan

In terms of scheduling meetings, the Task Force discussed options. It was decided that meetings will be scheduled after County Council on the second Thursday of the month for February, April, June, September and November.

Participation of Grey County staff in the Blue Mountains Budget Public Information Centres and Public Meetings

Mayor Soever spoke to the Town of the Blue Mountains' budget process. There has been discussion about having County staff make a presentation on the County's budget or having an information table at the Town's Public Information Centres to better inform taxpayers of the County's role in service provision.

Grey County staff have not previously presented at any lower tier budget meeting. Staff further noted that people can attend County Council as a delegation at any time if they have questions or concerns with the budget.

Inquiry was made as to how the County can communicate all the different services it provides in order to improve understanding.

A service summary has been circulated on several occasions. Staff will forward this document to the Task Force members.

SWIFT – Update on Proposed Presentation to be presented at County Council

The Town has questions for SWIFT regarding its financials, timelines for the roll out of its internet project and technical questions. SWIFT does not have the capacity to meet with each lower tier as well as the 15 upper tiers. The Chief Operating Officer of SWIFT provided an update to County Council in October.

Ms. Wingrove noted that SWIFT did provide information surrounding its financials and governance structure, etc. Specific information about additional broadband services won't be known until the Grey County SWIFT procurement is complete. Ms. Wingrove will send the SWIFT information to the Task Force.

Integration of County Tree By-law with the Blue Mountains' By-law

Mayor Soever noted that the Town is updating its tree cutting by-law.

It was noted that Planning staff are working on the County's Forest Management by-law and it is anticipated to come forward in April 2020. The By-law Enforcement Officer from the Niagara Escarpment Commission is involved as well and would like to be part of the public consultation piece.

The Task Force discussed the merits of both municipalities having complimentary by-laws.

Ms. Wingrove noted that the Town and Grey County are planning joint workshops for public education purposes and will help stakeholders understand the purpose of the by-law.

Integration of traffic counts through use of OPP Black Cat traffic counters

There are radar detectors used by the OPP that collect valuable traffic count information. There is an opportunity to work with the police on collecting this data for transportation planning purposes.

Staff noted that the Blue Mountains detachment will clean up the data and is willing to provide it to the Town.

Notice of Motion introduced by Councillor Odette Bartnicki regarding Prioritization of Attainable Housing

Notice was provided by Deputy Mayor Bartnicki at the November 14, 2019 Grey County Committee of the Whole meeting regarding prioritization of attainable housing and using recently found supplementary assessment revenue from the Town to dedicate towards this purpose.

Mayor Soever noted that he will bring an amended motion forward at a later date.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Next Meeting Dates

February 13, 2020 at the Grey County Administration Building.

On motion by Councillors Mackey and Desai, the meeting adjourned at 4:14 PM.

Warden Paul McQueen, Chair