

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HORTON

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

May 3, 2010

There was a Meeting of the Public Works Committee held in the Municipal Council Chambers on Monday May 3, 2010. Present were Chair Dave Bennett, Mayor Robert A. Johnston, Councillor Bob Kingsbury, Murray Humphries and Rick Lester. Staff Members present were Jeff Schruder Municipal Infrastructure Manager and Mackie J. McLaren CAO/Clerk.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bennett called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Chair Bennett declared pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 11.

3. MINUTES OF APRIL 5, 2010 COMMITTEE MEETING

Murray Humphries asked if improvements had been carried out to the Garden of Eden Road and Bruce Street intersections? Chair Bennett noted that someone has done brushing. Mayor Johnston informed the Committee that he reported this to the County Works Committee. Murray Humphries noted that there are trees in the field along the fence that parallels Bruce Street that were not there when MTO constructed the intersection and they should be cut down as well.

Half Loads Lifted April 27, 2010

Jeff Schruder reported that on April 27, 2010, after consultation with the Chair of the Public Works Committee he lifted the half-load signs.

Councillor Kingsbury asked if there were any major breakups to the roads this year? Jeff Schruder reported that there was a breakup on Johnston Road and there was a small breakup on the Fraser Road.

Use of Debermer

Jeff Schruder reported that once the Road Staff complete the guardrails, which should be done mid-week, an employee will take the debermer and test it on several roads, possibly Wednesday or Thursday of this week.

Half Ton Truck Quotes for Infrastructure Manager

Jeff Schruder reported that he has not yet put together a report on the justification of purchasing a used half ton truck for his use as Infrastructure Manager. Chair Bennett suggested that \$17,000 expenditure should purchase a small used half ton with 80-90,000 kilometers. We would need at least two quotes. He noted that the money is not in the budget.

Rick Lester asked if this would be a four-wheel drive truck, as he recommended four-wheel drive for winter driving. Chair Bennet said it would not be four-wheel drive as it would only be for the Infrastructure Manager and his survey equipment. Rick Lester said he would support a four-wheel drive as a two wheel drive is not good in the winter.

Chair Bennett discussed the need to finance this purchase, if there is not sufficient budget room, as he believes that there was an effect to the budget in 2009 when the Excavator was purchased, when it could have been financed.

5. DELEGATIONS

8:45 Richard Walker – Opposed to Gate on Price Road
Correspondence from Wayne & Sharon Schruder

Richard & Agnes Walker, Michael Rouble, Sharon Schruder, Janet & Mike Fortier, Sabrina Fulton and her lawyer Joe Legris were present before the Committee to discuss the Committee's plan to put gates on Price Road and give keys to neighbours.

Richard Walker said he contacted the Municipal Office, after he noticed the gate posts being installed and expressed his concerns, that this would not work for moving farm equipment back and forth to his Admaston farm. The problem with Price Road is maintenance which has been totaled ignored. The Walkers call the Township Office from time to time to report the terrible condition of the road and the grader appears.

Gating the road would be a burden for a lot of people who use this road. Several other farmers use this road to access farms in both Townships. It is seven to eight kilometers of extra travel to go around this road. If the gates were installed and they are given a key, would there be a liability issue if the gate was left open, when they are making a number of trips to their farm ?

Richard recalled that at the On-site Meeting last Fall, concern was expressed that if some improvements were made to the road, would it have to be taken to a whole new class of road. He added that the road is not required to be upgraded, only some brushing, culverts changed that are collapsing and some gravel. Grading was carried out last week and has improved the road, but it will not last. He asked if the Fire Department use the road to service this end of the Township? Liability and use of the road for their farming operation is their concern and is the talk among the neighbours.

Michael Rouble said he can not see a reason to gate the road. All they asked for was some ditching, brushing and gravel. After the rain today he expects the road will be all mud. He does not support a gate and cannot see the point of doing so.

Sharon Schruder asked what the traffic count on the road was? She travels the road in the three seasons that it is open and has met people and they have always shared the road when they meet. The hill area is a concern. She cannot see any sense or useful purpose in gating the road. It is not just used by farmers, she objects to the idea of a gate and questioned who was liable if a farmer leaves a gate open. She expressed concern that there was no Public Meeting to discuss this gate and cannot understand how there is no public notice given, noting that the Township is obligated to maintain a road as required by the Municipal Act, and gating is not one of those solutions.

Gating the road could be negative revenue situation for his client, he suggested that the Committee look carefully at the process for installing this gate before it is done.

Mike Fortier noted that there was to be a financial costing of what it would cost to fix up the road. Chair Bennett said that it has not been completed yet. Mike Fortier asked if there was any idea of what this cost might be? Chair Bennett said the cost is going to be in the issue of resolving the steep hill at Highway 60.

Gerry Richards was present and said that he has used the road three times in the last week to access farm seed suppliers in Admaston/Bromley. He planned to do more trips this week, as part of his farming activity. He suggested that the Township does not have to bring it up to a major standard. A plan like the work schedule carried out on the upper end of Garden of Eden Road would work for this road. He does not want to see it gated.

Mike Rouble said that meeting farm equipment is difficult as the farm equipment can not back up, the road needs to be widened in areas.

Councillor Kingsbury expressed surprise with this concern, when he understood that the gate was a solution discussed at the On-site Meeting.

Mike Rouble contested this suggestion.

Councillor Kingsbury said that the hill is the problem, we do not have funds to make it suitable.

Mike Fortier said that the gate would prevent people dumping garbage on the road, that is the only thing that the gate will solve.

Rick Lester said that he was under the impression that when we left the On-site Meeting we had the solution - being gating it off with keys. He asked if our Fire Service vehicles use this road? Chair Bennett said this could be a possibility, they have used the road in the past.

Mike Rouble noted that two years ago there was a grass fire on Highway 60 near Price Road, how did the Fire Department get to that fire scene?

Rick Lester asked if the OPP and the Ambulance use this road? Mike Fortier said yes that it is a short cut from Highway 60 to Highway 17.

Sabrina Fulton said a transport truck went up the road last week to bring supplies to their pit.

Rick Lester said that the cost to upgrade this road would be a lot more than \$10,000. Other residents in the Township may have concerns where their money is spent.

Murray Humphries agreed that he thought we had a solution with the gates.

Chair Bennett said that he spent two hours on Saturday traveling Highway 60 and timing the travel time for various property owners if Price Road was not there. From Walker's gate on Pinnacle Road to Highway 60 via Pinnacle Road is 7 minutes at 30 k/hr. By traveling into Renfrew on Highway 60 and up Pinnacle Road it took 10 Minutes at 30 k/hr. From Schruder's gate he went through Orin Road out to Haley Road, then he went up Price Road and up Garden of Eden Road and it was 2 minutes longer on Price Road.

Sharon Schruder said there is a safety issue to drive on Haley Road that she does not want to use. Chair Bennett said he has heard comments this morning that we need to have a look at the solution again. We need the liability questions answered. We need a costing of the construction required, do we have to reconstruct the hill? The question is the more work we do the more our liability is. He agreed that we should hold off on the gate installation until the next meeting and the road will be graded until then.

Mike Fortier asked if the Township upgrades another road in the Township will the liability go up? Chair Bennett said he believes that Price Road is different, he can not come up with a similar road in the Township.

Joe Legris said that our concerns seem to be with liability but we may be overdoing that concern, common sense should prevail.

Chair Bennett suggested that it would take \$500,000 to fix the hill properly, he felt we had a solution as we were not restricting the use of people who need to use the road. We need to put costs together and have a Public Meeting, comments from lawyers and decide what kind of dollars are required.

Mike Rouble said we need to get a cost on the flat section of the road and not the hill, where they have a concern meeting other traffic. Only put money into the hill after the other work is done.

Councillor Kingsbury said the gating solution was an attempt to limit traffic on Price Road until such time as a solution to upgrade the road was resolved.

Richard Walker said gating was one of several ideas talked about at the On-site Meeting but it was to be investigated further and there was to be a meeting of the group held later, which never happened. He also added that one year there was a trip through with the Brush Hog and what it did was left sharp points from the saplings, when you went to swing off.

Mike Fortier asked what was the Township's concern with liability on the hill? Chair Bennett said, it is our understanding, if we start construction on a road we have to bring it to minimum standard, we cannot do a section and leave it for a length of time. The question is what we need for land acquisition, there is the issue of monetary costs, minor brushing and twenty loads of gravel, and we need to contact everyone in the room for a Public Meeting.

Councillor Kingsbury suggested an advertisement in the paper announcing a Public Meeting.

Gerry Richards noted that everyone has access to the internet why are Agendas for meetings not posted on the Web Site so people can apply to be on the Agenda if they see issues that concern them. Can we not do these notices electronically? Why is the Web page not used more?

Chair Bennett thanked the group for attending and informed them there would be a Public Meeting before any solutions are carried out.

6. GARDEN OF EDEN ROAD

Culverts – Approved to Use Steel Instead of Concrete

Jeff Schruder reported that he recently spoke with Ed Vickers at Stantec, who is back at his desk. Oceans and Fisheries and MNR have approved the use of steel culverts now rather than concrete culverts. Ed Vickers confirmed that he is working on the design and Tender document and plans to have a contractor on the job site on July 15, the date when we can start the culvert work, to meet Oceans and Fisheries rules. The date for the Tender will have to close in June.

Murray Humphries questioned the timing to receive the Tender Package for approval. Chair Bennett said once we receive the information in the next few weeks he will call a special meeting.

Gerry Richards asked how we plan to handle the situation of field drainage? There are several properties along this road that require field drainage – Allan Cole being one. Schully's have a pond near the road that they want left. He also commented on the need to slope the ditches so people can cut the grass. He asked how we would handle this?

Jeff Schruder informed the Committee that he has to get a proposed plan which will include the ditching then he will go on site and mark the areas on the Plan where things are to be changed.

Bob Kingsbury asked if we should meet with neighbours on site? Jeff said that he would need a better plan from the Engineer and that he could make the changes. Chair Bennett agreed that a meeting be called when the plans are available.

8. INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGER'S REPORT

Jeff Schruder presented the following Infrastructure Manager's Report:

Garden of Eden field work
River Road Drainage
Thomsonville plow damage to lawns
Public Works Meeting
Committee of the Whole
Used pick-up purchase
Eady Road outside furnace smoke complaint
Asset Management
WEEE Phase 2 and Invoicing
Tenders – Measure in field and distribute
Landfill Surveillance
Johnston Road
Building Inspections
Garden of Eden Field Drainage
Waste Management Building
Waste Management Meeting
Cunningham tie in information plot on site plan
Met at Pit regarding using our material for Granular
Price and arrange guide rail posts
Private Road grading application form
Price Road garbage concerns
CPR Railway crossings
CIF and Green Municipal Grant
By-Law Inspections
Invoices
County Of Renfrew Welcome Signs
Signs for RINC Grant
Jim Barr Road culvert issues
Cotieville culvert issues
Two-way Radio for Excavator

8. PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

Rod Eady had prepared the Public Works Superintendent's Report for April and Jeff Schruder submitted it on his behalf, as Rod was away at Road School.

WORK PROJECTS CARRIED OUT

- Brushing and tree removal in front of the landfill site
- Replaced some old fence with new fence and fixed some of the old fence that was there – put up new barb wire
- Put rink braces back onto the rink boards
- Three loads of gravel on frost boil on Johnston Road
- Put in boat dock and set up ramp
- Litter pick up – Major pick up on the Township Roads
- Cut cedar trees down on Eady Road for 10 foot posts and 8 foot posts for the gates on Price Road
- Started working on the gates for Price Road but requested to stop
- Cut cedar trees on Price Road for posts. 10 foot and 8 foot.
- Started working on the gates in the back yard of the garage for entrance into Thomas Reid's field for septage
- Cutting trees down on the Johnston Road ditching job
- Started the guard rail job on Thompson Road – Going to all the guard rails in the Township
- Serviced lawn mowers and started cutting grass

Moved by Murray Humphries, seconded by Jeff Schruder

That Public Works Committee recommends to Council that they accept the Smith's Construction quote in the amount of \$97,650.

Carried on Divison

Opposed Robert A Johnston
Opposed Bob Kingsbury

2010-02 Granular M Gravel

The following Tenders were opened for the Gravel Contract:

ITEM DESCRIPTION	UNIT	QUANTITY	CAVANAGH		FULTON		SMITH		CLOUTHIER	
			UNIT PRICE	TOTAL						
GOSHEN ROAD	TONNE	4500	12.75	57,375	8.25	37,125	10.00	45,000	7.14	32,130
WHITTON ROAD	TONNE	1500	12.70	19,050	8.25	12,375	10.00	15,000	7.14	10,710
STORIE ROAD	TONNE	2100	12.20	25,620	8.40	17,640	10.00	21,000	7.14	14,994
JOHNSTON ROAD	TONNE	1500	13.40	20,100	7.90	11,850	10.00	15,000	7.14	10,710

TOTAL **\$122,145.00** **\$78,990.00** **\$96,000.00** **\$68,544.00**

Moved by Rick Lester, seconded by Bob Kingsbury

That the Public Works Committee recommend that the low tender of R.G.T. Clouthier Construction be accepted subject testing the granular material to ensure that it meets the OPS Standards.

Carried.

Jeff Schruder noted that the Budget has an amount of \$50,000 for gravel. In this tender he included that work plus Goshen Road, which is included as part of \$150,000 expenditure with prime and double on another budget line.

2010-03 Winter Sand

The Committee opened the following tenders received for Winter Sand:

ITEM No.	ITEM DESCRIPTION	UNIT	QUANTITY	CLOUTHIER		SMITH		FULTON	
				UNIT PRICE	TOTAL	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL
1	SCREENED WINTER SAND	TONNE	2000	5.20	10,400	9.05	18,100	5.38	10,760

TOTAL **\$10,400.00** **\$18,100.00** **\$10,760.00**

Moved by Murray Humphries, seconded by Rick Lester

That Public Works Committee recommends to Council that they accept the R.G.T. Clouthier Construction quote for winter sand, subject to testing to ensure the sand meets the OPS requirements.

Carried.

11. HARRY BENNETT – INTEREST IN PURCHASING LOADER

Chair Bennett declared pecuniary interest and did not take part in the discussion. The CAO/Clerk reported that Mr Harry Bennett contacted him, noting that he had seen the Township Loader in the Yard not being used, and wondered if it was for sale.

After discussion the Committee agreed that it was not for sale.
Chair Bennett resumed the chair.

12. TOWNSHIP WELCOME SIGNS – HIGHWAY 60

MTO have given approval for a location of the sign on Highway 60 approaching Renfrew, however, the location they suggest is situated in the Admaston/Bromley side of the road, which is not satisfactory. Other suggestions were made and Jeff Schruder will discuss them with the Ministry contact.

County Roads

The County Roads have now approved the locations, however the Utility Locates will have to be carried out again, as the thirty day time limit has expired.

13. APRIL 30, 2010 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Committee reviewed the April 30, 2010 Financial Report for the Public Works Department.

14. OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Johnston informed the Committee that he has spoken with the father of the owner of the property at the intersection Cobus Road and Pinnacle Road. They need to do some ditching on their property and this was an area where the Township expressed need for ditching in the past.

Crozier Construction is to carry out some work soon and Jeff Schruder was requested to meet with Crozier Construction to see if we can resolve the Township's concern with drainage as well.

Jeff Schruder reported that the new Tandem Truck is expected by the end of this week. Chair Bennett informed the Committee that Jeff had expressed concern to him about researching the cost of the half-tons when there is no budget set up. We would need to talk about financing with Council, if there is no budget available.

15. NEXT MEETING

The Committee agreed the next meeting would be Monday June 7, 2010 at 8:30 a.m.

16. CONFIRMING RESOLUTION

Moved by Rick Lester, seconded by Bob Kingsbury

That the Committee pass this confirming resolution to cover any actions or directions given during the open portion of this Committee Meeting which are minor in nature and which were not set out in by-law or Resolution.

Carried.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Bob Kingsbury, seconded by Murray Humphires

That this Committee Meeting be adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Carried.