

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HORTON

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

December 6, 2010

There was a Meeting of the Public Works Committee held in the Municipal Council Chambers on Monday December 6, 2010. Present were Chair Glen Campbell, Mayor Don Eady and Murray Humphries. Staff present was Jeff Schruder, Municipal Infrastructure Manager, Rod Eady Public Works Superintendent and Mackie McLaren CAO/Clerk. Also in attendance was Councillor Margaret Whyte.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Campbell called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There was no declaration of pecuniary interest by Members of the Committee.

Mayor Eady welcomed Councillor Campbell to the Chair of the Public Works. He expressed that he was glad to see Murray Humphries and Rick Lester had agreed to come back to the Committee as Public Members. He commented that the roads have improved a lot over the last six or seven years and he is glad to see that now when we start a job we finish the job. He will be attending this Committee Meeting mainly concerned about the finances of the Committee and said that the Committee has been well run.

Financially he wants to see the budget versus actual report in each Committee Meeting package. As of today the gas tax reserve is at \$269,000 and the Development Charge Reserve account is \$115,000. He would hope that we will be able to pay down some of the Township's borrowing debt with this money. He also reviewed the loans that we have for the Office Expansion, the Rink Change Room, Rink Cover and for the Garden of Eden Road. He noted that every Department has to have their own budget but that the funds belong to the Township. The Garden of Eden Road is set to have a pay back of five years using most of the gas tax money each year. He is concerned that there will be no more money coming from the Federal and Provincial Governments and that he has a concern that if we do not pay down this debt and the Federal Elections is called we could lose the gas tax money for the future.

The Infrastructure Money is based on two-thirds grant from the two senior levels of government; however we have had other monies cut back so that this money is not as great as it seems. His idea of road improvement is to improve roads if we can find a payback that would help us down the road, i.e. pave a hill so that we do not have to send a grader out after a major storm.

3. MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 1, 2010 MEETING

Chair Campbell reviewed the Minutes which have not yet been approved by Council.

Mayor Eady discussed a drainage concern in the Cotieville area. He noted that former Mayor Bob Johnston carried out elevations several years ago and there is a problem with drainage in the Highway 60 area, there was a suggestion at that time that MTO attend a meeting, which they did not do. Should we now contact and invite the MTO Engineer at Bancroft for a visit?

Rod Eady reviewed the past work which the Township crews had done after the investigation of former Mayor Bob Johnston. In the end the Committee agreed to discuss this in the Spring.

The Committee discussed two homes being constructed on McBride Road in the Highway 60 area. It is in a wet area. Murray Humphries suggested that in the future when someone builds in this area that they be required to do a drainage study first.

The Committee discussed the lack of a turning lane at the Cotieville Road intersection, which was not placed on Highway 60 during the improvements made this year.

Chair Campbell suggested a follow-up letter be sent to the Ministry, noting that in the future we require this left hand turning lane for traffic coming from Renfrew. The Committee also agreed that a letter be sent to the Pallens who own the building lots on McBride Road to say that ditch work will be investigated and carried out in the Spring.

Moved by Rod Eady, seconded by Murray Humphries

That Public Works Committee approves the Public Works Committee Meeting of November 1, 2010.

**Carried.**

## 4. BUSINESS ARISING

Rick Lester & Jeff Schruder Report on Maxwell's request on Fred's Lane

Jeff Schruder reported that Rick Lester attended on his own. In his own Site Inspection he noted that there was a large hill that Maxwell would hope to be cut down by lowering where the road crosses Fred's Lane. The terrain is rugged. Chair Campbell reported that he visited the property yesterday, and he agreed. He thought the road would be suspect for Fire Equipment to travel on, so any improvement would help.

Jeff Schruder said that there would be no issue if permission was given to cut down Fred's Lane across our unopened road allowance.

Moved by Rod Eady, seconded by Murray Humphries

That the Public Works Committee recommends to Council that they grant permission to Steve Maxwell to lower Fred's Lane as it crosses the Township's unopened eight concession road.

**Carried.**

Garden of Eden Road – Engineer's Report on Asphalt

Jeff Schruder presented a Report on the final costing of Garden of Eden Road now that the job is completed. He included notes on the differences from the Tendered price to the completed price.

Jeff Schruder also reported that at the last meeting Murray Humphries expressed concern that the centre line joint was not very well joined. The Engineer had travelled the road the day before the last Committee Meeting and nothing stood out. Murray Humphries noted that the surface is a little coarse. Paving Companies do not rake out the larger stones any more. Jeff noted that there is a one year warranty on this project.

Chair Campbell asked if this is something that should be reviewed again in the Spring. The Committee agreed. Mayor Eady asked if the Township's portion of one third at \$365,000 to borrow is still the amount needed due to these revised numbers. The CAO/Clerk said he would check.

Jeff Schruder reported that last week he was out with a property owner on Garden of Eden Road, concerned that his culvert was installed too high and he investigated and found the problem was not the culvert but that it was a ditching problem which was not part of the construction - it will be fixed next year. A small hump will have to be removed that is holding water back in front of this house.

Chair Campbell suggested a letter be sent to the property owner and the Committee agreed.

## 5. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations to appear before the Committee at this meeting.

## 6. INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGER REPORT

Jeff Schruder submitted the following Infrastructure Manager Report for November.

- Public Works Meeting
- Cunningham Site Plan Compliance
- Community Centre: Netting, Drainage, Generator, Accessibility, Score Board
- Building Inspection
- Council Meeting
- Invoices
- G.O.E. Report
- Humphries, McBride, GOE, drainage issues.
- O.B.O.A. Report
- Septage; sampling, monitor, spreading
- Waste Management Meeting
- Thomson Road and McBride Road - Roadside Trees
- Beach Road – R.A.P.
- Road Supervisors Meeting
- Landfill old trenches
- McBride Road clay tracked out from field.
- Health & Safety
- Fred's Lane – grade change on Road Allowance
- Reports
- G.O.E. final payment.

The Committee reviewed and offered several comments which Jeff responded to.

## 7. PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Rod Eady present the following Public Works Superintendent's Report for November.

**WINTER EVENTS**

- Friday Nov. 19- Light snow last night, stuck to pavement. We sanded all of the pavement.
- Monday Nov. 22 – Freezing Rain last night. Sanded pavement first at 7:00 A.M. Finished sanding at 11:00 A.M.
- Friday Nov. 26 – Freezing Rain started at 3:00 A.M. changed to snow at 4:00 A.M. Trucks went out to sand at 5:00 A.M.
- Saturday Nov. 27 – Light Snow last night 3 to 4 cm over the ice on the roads. Plowed and Sanded Township roads started at 6:00 A.M. finished at 1:00 P.M.
- Tuesday Nov. 30 – Started to rain at 10:00 A.M. and it covered the roads (gravel) with ice. Trucks went out to sand the gravel roads.

**WORK PROJECTS CARRIED OUT**

- Brushing on Whitton Road
- Replaced Road Signs and put up new Road Signs on Garden of Eden Road.
- Moved brush from Martin Cemetery on Whitton Road – hauled to the pit.
- Put Speed Limit Signs back up on the Garden of Eden Road as someone pulled out the signs and threw them into the ditch.
- Snow Fence
- Fixed the road to the Township Beach with the grader.
- Hauled crushed pavement from the Renfrew Pit to the Township Beach Road.
- Picked up litter and garbage off of Price Road.

**MISCELLANIOUS JOBS DONE**

- Changed summer tires to winter tires on all of the trucks – TR#2, TR#3, TR#4 Tandems and TR#1 ¾ Ton Truck
- Set up stage every Friday at the Community Centre.
- Worked on Spreader Tank for Septage – welded patches on.
- Picked up stone dust from Braeside Quarry for the Rink.
- Cold patching
- Put away lawnmowers and weed eaters for the winter.
- Picked up a new pressure washer and hooked it up.
- Fixed Stop Sign in Thompsonville.
- Open Beaver Dam on Orin Road
- Keep Garage Clean.
- Keep Tandems clean and greased.

**EQUIPMENT REPAIRS**

- Worked on Tooth Bucket- broke two teeth off – cut bottom plate right out and replaced.

**EQUIPMENT REPAIRS**

- Worked on Tooth Bucket- broke two teeth off – cut bottom plate right out and replaced.
- Installed new tarp cylinder on TR #2 Tandem.
- Worked on sand chain on TR #3, sand chain piled up on back sprockets.
- Worked on sand chain on TR#2- take a link out to shorten chain.

**ROADS GRADED**

- Wednesday Nov. 3 - All of Eady Road
- Monday Nov. 8 - Pinnacle Road  
McBride Road  
Sherwood Street  
The far end of Johnston Road
- Tuesday Nov. 9 - Lime Kiln Road  
McInnes Road  
Lavallee Road  
Early Road
- Friday Nov. 12- Dugald Road  
Collins Road  
Pallen Road  
Eady – Tinswood Road
- Monday Nov. 15- Ferguson Road

- Tuesday Nov. 16- Eady Road (Middle Section)  
Ruttan Road  
Bingham Drive
- Thursday Nov. 18- Mullin Road
- Friday Nov. 19 - Jim Barr Road  
Dugald Road  
Pot Holes on Ferguson Road

The Committee reviewed the Report and Rod responded to their questions.

#### 8. CORRESPONDENCE

##### Ontario Good Roads – Take key issue to Queens Park

The Committee reviewed a Report from the Ontario Good Roads Association about a blitz they carried out at Queens Park in November.

#### 9. OTHER BUSINESS

The following was discussed.

The CAO/Clerk asked if staff was available this week to put the plastic on the ice rink as the immediate future overnight temperatures are below freezing. Rod and Jeff said it would take one day to put the plastic down as they have not done this before, and then to call the Fire Department who will put the initial flood down.

The Committee asked Jeff to check the five day forecast for long terms trends on the temperature.

Mayor Eady discussed the poor sight lines at the intersection of Garden of Eden Road and Bruce Street, which had been reported to the Committee earlier this year. Jeff reported that he met with MTO on site, a day or so after the County had trimmed the grass and the shrubs so the view to highway 17 was good. There was some concern with the view from the Renfrew side. Mayor Eady agreed that at the intersection the visibility is not bad, however, people look before you approach the intersection and you cannot see. He requested permission to speak to the County Engineer about cutting more trees for a better sight line. The Committee agreed.

Murray Humphries pointed out that another intersection that is bad for visibility is Storyland and River Road. Even though it was improved several years ago the sight lines are still poor for traffic wanting to turn onto River Road.

Mayor Eady noted that he had concerns expressed to him about the intersection of Lochwinnoch Road and Early Road and has asked the OPP for accident statistics and possibly we will need to sit down with McNab/Braeside to see what can be done as this is a townline road. He asked staff to review the situation.

Jeff Schruder noted that the Garden of Eden Road Grant was \$1.9 million and there is approximately \$400,000 left unspent. Would we want to try to gain permission from the Federal and Provincial Governments to use this on another project? He noted that Bonnechere Valley was successful in expanding a project. Our share of \$400,000 would be \$133,000. There were two suggestions for the money. One was to pave the gravel section of Pinnacle Road or repave the area closer to Highway 60 that had the original asphalt that is now below standard.

Mayor Eady noted that Chair Campbell, Rod Eady and he would be attending the Good Roads Conference in February 2011 and the Committee could make an appointment with the Minister to discuss this funding.

Murray Humphries asked if we should wait that long – perhaps we should write a request now. After discussion the Committee authorized Jeff Schruder to prepare a Cost Estimate Report on both options, stressing that we stopped using the funds as we considered the amount of work we had lined up would cover all the money, but we still have money left over. Jeff was asked to prepare this costing by week's end. The Committee would then be contacted to see when they want to meet.

Rod Eady noted that there is a need to have a list of spare operators for snowplowing routes on hand. The CAO/Clerk reported that the Committee did grant staff this authority several months back but the advertisement has not been placed in the paper yet.

Margaret Whyte suggested that we advertise for casual operators stating the license and experience needed. She suggested that this could help lower overtime and save the Township money. The Committee agreed.

9. NEXT MEETING

The Committee noted that the next meeting would be January 3, 2011 which is the actual day off for New Year's Day. They agreed to move the meeting to the following Monday January 10, 2011 at 8:30 a.m.

Mayor Eady suggested at that meeting they will review the meeting time, so that the Minutes can be produced and get into the Council package for the next meeting. Having Public Works Meeting the day before Council Meeting this does not work.

10. CONFIRMING RESOLUTION

Moved by Rod Eady, seconded by Don Eady

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 of Resolution.

**Carried.**

11. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Murray Humphries, seconded by Rod Eady

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

**Carried.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
CAO/Clerk