

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HORTON

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

JANUARY 26, 2006

There was a Meeting of the Public Works Committee held in the Municipal Council Chamber on Thursday January 26, 2006. Present were Chair Dave Bennett, Councillor Don Eady, Reeve Robert A. Johnston, Rod Eady Public Works Superintendent, Linda Novossiltzeff Treasurer/Deputy Clerk, Peter Tippins, Jim Bovair, Peter Renaud and Peter Storie Public Work Department Employees.

1. Call to Order

Chair Bennett called the Meeting to Order at 8:35 a.m.

2. 2006 Committee Budget

CAPITAL BUDGET

The Committee reviewed the Capital Budget and made the following recommendations:

Equipment

Tandem Snow Plough Truck

Rod Eady presented costs on a tandem snow plough truck which range from \$190,000 to \$193,443. The Committee agreed to include **\$195,000** in this budget. Chair Bennett suggested if we waited until after this snow season, we could get a good used plough truck at around \$100,000.

¾ Ton truck with snow plough and sander unit

Rod Eady presented costs which ranged from \$23,000 to \$25,000 for a used 2003 to 2004 ¾ ton truck plus \$5,800 for the plough and \$4,000 for sander. The Committee agreed to include **\$35,000** in the budget.

Laser Transit

Rod presented information on various laser packages, and suggested that we would need \$1,500 for the laser and \$1,500 for the laser receiver. The Committee agreed to include **\$3,000** in the budget.

Mig Welder

Chair Bennett noted that this was in the 2005 Capital Budget and not purchased as a result of our need for extra funds to cover the emergency culvert replacement on Thomson Road. He recommended we purchase one this year. The Committee agreed to include **\$3,000** in the budget.

De-bermer

Rod Eady said he was not able to get any information from the County on the de-bermer they use. He noted that the County rep he spoke with said it did not work well and questioned how it would work on a dirt road rather than on an asphalt road. Chair Bennett informed the Committee that he has made contact by e-mail with two counties in the U.S.

Peter Renaud suggested adding a section to the end of the grader blade to dig out the berm and use the delineator at the back of the grader to spread the gravel back level. The Committee agreed to add **\$30,000** to the draft budget.

Total Capital Budget for Equipment is **\$246,000**

Road Construction

Goshen Road

Rod Eady provided extensive costing on the remaining work to complete the ditching and gravel surface on Goshen Road. The bottom line cost was 4 weeks work at an estimate of \$77,400.00. Rod noted that the cost of 12 culverts in the amount of \$1,545.60 would be extra but would come out of the Road Side Maintenance Account. Chair Bennett suggested that as they are part of the Goshen Road work, they should be paid for by the Capital Account. The Committee agreed to add **\$80,000** to the draft budget.

Total Capital Budget for Road Work is **\$80,000**

TOTAL CAPITAL BUDGET \$326,000

Councillor Eady suggested that he and the CAO/Clerk carry out a review of the Reserve Accounts. He noted that the reserve accounts were only set up for the large equipment items and items like the mig welder would not normally be covered under the reserve.

OPERATING BUDGET

The Committee Members reviewed the budget amounts already discussed in the draft budget at an earlier meeting. They agreed to make minor account line adjustments.

3. Whitton Road – arrange with Renfrew to snowplough their portion for a fee

Councillor Eady noted that Horton's snow plough now comes down our portion of Whitton to the railway tracks, stops and lifts the ploughs and proceeds to Irvin Jamieson's lane to turn around to come back. As they are travelling most of Renfrew's share of the road, he suggested that we offer to snowplough Renfrew's portion of the road for a fee. Chair Bennett expressed concern that this lets Renfrew off the hook from making improvements to their section of Whitton Road. The CAO/Clerk was to check on Horton's liability if we make this arrangement.

4. Thomson Road – snowplough route

Chair Bennett informed the Committee that he has received 4 calls (2 from one ratepayer) about the township ploughing one lane of Thomson Road, then leaving to plough other roads and coming back to complete Thomson Road later. He noted that there has been a change to the traffic patterns on Thomson Road with more houses constructed on it and along the River. This road is used more now to connect with Highway 17. Rod Eady noted that in the large snowfall storms, his operator ploughs the road both ways then moves on to Thompsonville Village streets. Chair Bennett suggested that this is an issue we can look at in the future. Peter Tippins suggested that when we get the ¾ ton truck with sander and plough, that truck could do Thompsonville which lets the big truck do the whole area along Thomson Road including Lavallee and Early Roads at the same time.

5. Snow Placed on Roadways by Residents

Chair Bennett reported that he has noticed that a few people are pushing snow across our Township Roads and most of them leave windrows of snow from their tractor or truck. He noted that this is against the Highway Traffic Act and our by-law. He suggested that we draw up a notice and put it the mailboxes of the offenders and place an ad in the newspaper. The Committee agreed.

6. Website map of Snowplough Routes during Winter Storm Event

Chair Bennett informed the Committee that the Town of Renfrew is placing a map or list of their snow plough routes on the Town's website to inform their ratepayers of the priority roads. He suggested that we do something similar to inform our ratepayers. The Committee Members agreed this be in place this coming fall.

7. Other Business

Rod Eady reviewed the joint County tender package. He asked if the Township should participate in the usual areas. The Committee supported participating in the joint tender as we have done in past years.

Peter Tippins suggested that it could be cheaper to purchase large bags of flaked calcium rather than purchasing Tembind. The Committee briefly discussed this and it was agreed that this suggestion be brought back for discussion at the next meeting after Rod Eady has an opportunity to investigate prices. Councillor Eady suggested that Gordon Huckabone, the supplier of Tembind, be invited to the next Committee Meeting.

Peter Tippins suggested that we purchase the laser level as early as possible in the spring to check the elevations on the Limekiln Road when the water is backed up. We will be able to see how much of the ditch has to be deepened to drain the water. Chair Bennett said that the budget would be reviewed by the Finance Committee and preliminary approval will be made in the early spring.

Rod Eady asked when the next Committee Meeting would be held. The Committee agreed to meet Monday February 27th at 8:30 a.m.

8. Confirming Resolution

Moved by Don Eady
Seconded by Robert A. Johnston

That the Committee pass this confirming resolution to validate any actions or direction given during the open portion of this Committee Meeting which are minor in nature and which will not be set out in By-law of Resolution.

Carried.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Don Eady
Seconded by Robert A. Johnston

That the Public Works Committee adjourns at 10:40 a.m.

Carried.

CHAIR

CAO/Clerk