

The Corporation of the Township of Horton
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
September 10TH 2015

There was a meeting of the Public Works Committee held in the Municipal Council Chambers on Tuesday, July 14th, 2015. Present were Committee Members: Chair David Bennett;; Mayor Robert Kingsbury; Public Members Rick Lester and Murray Humphries. Staff: Janet Collins, Public Works Manager and Christina Mulcahey, Acting Administrative/Planning Assistant. Absent was Vice Chair Jamey Larone.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair David Bennett called the meeting to order at 9:55 a.m.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There was no declaration of pecuniary interest by committee members or staff.

3. MINUTES

3.1 Public Works Committee – July 14th 2015

The Committee reviewed the minutes of July 14th 2015.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Chair Bennett gave a verbal update on Humphries Road Extension Deficiencies. The culvert under the road is in now in reasonable shape. The road has been ditched on both sides where they thought it was needed. The lot Bob Johnston retained is a high point because the rock comes right up the road surface and so it will not need a culvert. He asked the Committee to look at the road and provide their own opinion as to whether the deficiencies have been addressed. The cul-de-sac was dug out and 12 inches of granular was placed which is what his working papers said was required. Murray noted the ditches look good. He asked that before final approval the entrance radius be provided.

5. DELEGATIONS

None

6. STAFF REPORTS / INFORMATION

6.1 Aggregate Pit Report

Janet Collins provided a report on the Aggregate Pit audit. Some work will need to be done before October 1st 2015. Chair Bennett said there are some 'scrap' items that we should retain.

6.2 Public Works Municipal Meeting Memo

Janet Collins noted that Horton Township is hosting a meeting of Municipal Road Superintendents from within the County on Thursday October 22nd 2015.

7. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

7.1 Peter Tippins- Drainage on Humphries Road MEMO

Janet Collins reviewed a sketch that was prepared by staff illustrating the grades of the existing culvert under Humphries Road and Big 'O' installed by Peter Tippins. Options include looking into the creation of a municipal drain, or getting confirmation that it is a water course.

A suggestion was to 'sit on it' and see what happens next spring. If this is recommended, it was further suggested that a letter be sent to Mr. Tippins informing him to ensure he realized that the Committee is not in agreement with what has been done to date.

Another suggestion would be to obtain an easement or property on the other side of the road (i.e. easterly side) and construct a drain down to the Bonnechere River. It is really up to the Committee how they wish to approach this issue.

Chair Bennett said this issue upsets him. The ditch has been like this for years and the Committee has had no input to the work done by Mr. Tippens. He believes there will be issues with in the spring. Chair Bennett asked for Committee comments but again noted his dissatisfaction.

Murray Humphries agreed with Chair Bennett that it has been a water course and it should be maintained like that. We should not sit on this any longer.

Mayor Kingsbury suggests that the lawyer write a letter saying that the Township is not satisfied with the action Mr. Tippins has taken.

Janet Collins said we have contacted MNR and Sid Vanderveen, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. She will follow up with Mackie McLaren on their responses.

Moved by Murray Humphries, Seconded by Rick Lester

THAT the Public Works Committee recommends to Council that they direct the CAO/Clerk to request the Township solicitor to write a letter to Mr. Peter Tippins indicating the Townships position that the work undertaken to fill in the watercourse is not to the Townships satisfaction and that he will be held responsible for any damage that occurs due to the filling of the ditch.

FURTHER that the Township will provide, at a future date, their requirements to correct the drainage issues.

Carried.

7.2 Coulas – Ditch on Cotieville Road

Chair Bennett said he has concern with the ditch that was filled in by the Coulas's at the intersection of Cotieville Road and Gerald Street. Cotieville drainage was engineered because we had major issues. Part of that engineered system has now disappeared. The

property owner took it upon himself to do this work. Murray agreed with Chair Bennett, stating that he was involved when the drainage was originally put in place. The ditches were put there for a reason and it should be put back to the way it was. Janet Collins indicated that Rod Eady had attended the site prior to the work being started. Chair Bennett said Rod was okay with changing the slope so that it was easier to cut as a verbal commitment, but then the work went a bit further than that. Mayor Kingsbury said that others will want to fill their ditches as well. Mayor Kingsbury agreed with Chair Bennett that there should be an engineering report saying that filling in the ditch will not cause any problems, and that if they cannot produce that then the ditch will have to be returned and the fill removed.

Moved by Rick Lester, Seconded by Murray Humphries

THAT the Public Works Committee directs staff to write a letter indicating:

- (a) The owner provide a letter from an engineer indicating that the ditch is sufficient for drainage on the Township road allowance and no damage will occur to Township or neighboring properties due to filling in the ditch, or
- (b) That the lands be returned to the engineered ditch originally installed, to the satisfaction of the Public Works Manager.

Carried.

7.3 Humphries Road & Lime Kiln Road

A memo was provided to the Committee due to the conversation that occurred while attending Thomson Road. Per previous approval of the Public Works Committee, work was to start on Humphries Road, however the PWC wished to review the work prior to starting. Additionally, Council directed staff to apply for an OCIF grant for Lime Kiln Road. At the recent Council meeting, staff were directed to 'hold off' on any work on Lime Kiln Road until the PWC had an opportunity to discuss if they still wanted Lime Kiln Road work completed as part of the 2015 Gravel Program. Between the discussions held on Thomson Road and this meeting, staff started working on Garden of Eden, waiting for PWC decision on Humphries Road and Lime Kiln Road.

Chair Bennett said the major break up on Humphries Road was from the Burgess driveway down 200-300 feet (towards River Road). Murray Humphries did not agree completely with Chair Bennett's statement.

Janet Collins said a lot of gravel was put on Humphries Road this spring. She suggesting that we concentrate our funds and efforts on Garden of Eden since various Committee Members have different views on what should take place on Humphries Road. Then based on the remaining funds, start on Humphries Road, commencing with the ditching. We could put geomat down in the worst areas, add pit run and granular 'A' until funds dry up. Janet noted her concern regarding both manpower and funding for manpower as some Public Works employees are off due to illness or injury for an undetermined time.

Chair Bennett said when we looked at these roads we knew that we put money away last spring. We have the manpower at this time to move forward to fix these roads. We can only repair at this time.

Mayor Kingsbury said when we look at the gravel program this year we picked the Lime Kiln and Humphries Roads. If we don't do anything on the Lime Kiln we would have to close the road off in the spring. Hope that we can do something to solve some of the problems that we had this year for next year on Humphries Road.

Chair Bennett said do what we can with Humphries with what we have allocated even if we just cover the bad areas to the edge of the existing ditch and put the 'B' base down and 'A' on top, and do what we can with Lime Kiln as well. Mayor Kingsbury and Committee agreed.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

- 8.1 Heads up Alert – New Rules of the Road
- 8.2 Heads up Alert – Winter Maintenance Recommendations
- 8.3 Heads up Alert – Intervener status in Latest MMS Challenge

Committee reviewed the correspondence.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

Murray Humphries asked if there will be work done on Thomson Road. Janet said yes, she is looking at getting a tender out for replacing the Culvert on Thomson Road at Keith Road. Janet asked if the Committee want to do several tenders, one for each culvert, or one tender that includes the ends we want to replace. Chair Bennett asked if Committee could review the tender after the joint meeting on September 28th 2015.

10. NEXT MEETING

The Public Works Committee agreed to meet on September 28th 2015 immediately following the Joint Public Works and Planning Committee which will be held at 8:30 a.m.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The Public Works Committee meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

CHAIR

SECRETARY