

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

REPORT 6-2010

Minutes of a meeting of the Public Works Committee held in Council Chamber, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Tuesday, May 4, 2010 commencing at 9:35 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Councillors Rigby, Chair; Augustyn, Badawey, Baty, Burroughs, D'Angela, Henderson, Hodgson, Marshall, Puttick, Salci, Timms, Trombetta.

Staff: Messrs. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Brothers, Commissioner Public Works; Colosimo, Director, Development Services; Ritner, Associate Director Water and Wastewater Maintenance; Pollock, Director, Waste Management Services; Cousins, Transportation Services; Roach, Manager Public Works Financial Services; Moffat, Manager Property Management; Bain, Regional Clerk; Ms. McManus, Legislative Assistant.

Other: Ms. Swigger, Co-op Student Clerks Division and Brock University Political Science Student.

PRESENTATIONS

110. Centracs; Niagara's Advanced Traffic Management System

Mr. Nick Rosati, Supervisor Traffic Systems along with Mike Davies, Traffic Operations Technician, presented Committee members with a presentation respecting Niagara's new Advanced Traffic Management System, Centracs.

Mr. Rosati stated that in the year 2009 the Region upgraded the dial-up Traffic Signal System to Centracs Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS). He further stated that the ATMS allows the Region to communicate remotely to traffic control devices in the field (traffic signal controllers, changeable message signs, traffic cameras etc.) using a high speed fiber-optic network which is completely Region owned.

Further highlights of the presentation were, in part, as follows:

- 13 traffic signals out of 120 have been updated and connected to the ATMS
- 3 different signal timing plans each day (7:00 a.m. until 10 p.m.) Monday to Saturday
- Live demonstration showed the traffic signal controller at Thorold Stone Road and Dorchester Road in the City of Niagara Falls; aerial photo showed the intersection, symbols for vehicle heads, pedestrian heads, detectors, pedestrian pushbuttons, timing of each phase and communication status all in real time. The demonstration also included live video feed from the 5 traffic cameras along Thorold Stone Road corridor.

In closing Mr. Rosati stated that future potential expansions include McLeod Road from Kalar to Stanley Avenue (Niagara Falls), St. David's Road from Merrittville to Highway 406 (north on Glenridge to the Brock entrance/ Thorold), Fourth Avenue from Highway 406 to the new hospital entrance, and downtown St. Catharines along St. Paul Street and King Street in the City of St. Catharines.

Moved by Councillor Burroughs
Seconded by Councillor Salci

That Mr. Rosati's Oral Presentation and Mr. Davies Live presentation respecting the Centrac's Niagara's Advanced Traffic Management System, be received for information.

Carried.

(A live demonstration of the Centrac's; Niagara Advanced Traffic Management System was provided therefore; a hard copy is not available)

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

111. Niagara Specialized Transit Amending Agreement with
The Canadian Red Cross – Niagara Branch

PWA 34-2010

Moved by Councillor Augustyn
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That Report PWA 34-2010, May 4, 2010 respecting Niagara Specialized Transit Amending Agreement with The Canadian Red Cross – Niagara Branch, be received;

That the Regional Chair and the Regional Clerk be authorized to execute the Niagara Specialized Transit (NST) Amending Agreement with the Canadian Red Cross in a form substantially similar to that attached as Appendix III; and

That the Regional Chair and the Regional Clerk be authorized to execute the extension of the contract with the Canadian Red Cross to provide NST services until December 31, 2011.

Carried.

112. Proposed Stopping Prohibition
Regional Road 57 (Thorold Stone Road) and
Regional Road 70 (Taylor Road)

City of Niagara Falls

PWA 35-2010

Moved by Councillor D'Angela
Seconded by Councillor Trombetta

That Report PWA 35-2010, May 4, 2010, respecting Proposed Stopping Prohibition Regional Road 57 (Thorold Stone Road) and Regional Road 70 (Taylor Road) City of Niagara Falls, be received;

That stopping be prohibited at anytime on Regional Road 57 (Thorold Stone Road) from Regional Road 70 (Thorold Townline Road) to Regional Road 98 (Montrose Road);

That stopping be prohibited at anytime on Regional Road 70 (Taylor Road) from Regional Road 57 (Thorold Stone Road) to Regional Road 101 (Mountain Road);
and

That the Regional Clerk be requested to ensure the necessary by-law amendment is presented to Council on May 13, 2010 to affect this change.

Carried.

113. Agreement for Road Works
Proposed Accesses to New Commercial Development
Owner: McLeod Square Inc.
Regional Road 98 (Montrose Road) at McLeod Road
In the City of Niagara Falls

PWA 36-2010(CSD 47-2010)

Moved by Councillor Salci
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That Report PWA 36-2010(CSD 47-2010), May 4, 2010, respecting Agreement for Road Works Proposed Accesses to New Commercial Development Owner: McLeod Square Inc. Regional Road 98 (Montrose Road) at McLeod Road In the City of Niagara Falls, be received;

That the Region enters into an Agreement with McLeod Square Inc. with respect to road works required to accommodate two (2) new accesses onto Regional Road 98 (Montrose Road) in the City of Niagara Falls;

That the Agreement outline responsibilities and secure financial commitments to cover the developer's share of costs associated with the construction of the required road improvements at this location;

That approval be given to increase the gross budget in the amount of \$140,746 to reflect the developer contribution for Project ZRC0933/RC0933 - Reconstruction of Regional Road 49 (McLeod Road) – Montrose Road to Stanley Avenue;

That the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk be authorized to execute this Agreement; and

That the City of Niagara Falls be circulated a copy of this report.

Carried.

(Please note that Report PWA 36-2010(CSD 47-2010) can be found behind the Joint Reports Blue Book Tab)

114. Transportation Demand Management (TDM)
Policy Framework Report
PWA 37-2010(ICP 25-2010)

Moved by Councillor Baty
Seconded by Councillor Henderson

That Report PWA 37-2010(ICP 25-2010), May 4, 2010, respecting Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Policy Framework Report, be received;

That the attached Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Policy Framework Report be approved;

That Regional staff be authorized to move forward with the development of policies for inclusion in the Regional Policy Plan through a formal Policy Plan Amendment process;

That this Report and the TDM Policy Framework be circulated to the Integrated Community Planning, Community Services, Public Health and Corporate Services departments for consideration in developing future work plans and projects that may support TDM objectives; and

That the TDM Policy Framework be circulated to local municipalities and other stakeholders for their information and consideration in the future development of TDM policies in collaboration with Niagara Region.

Carried.

(Please note that Report PWA 37-2010(ICP 25-2010) can be found behind the Joint Reports Blue Book Tab)

115. Approval for the Expropriation of Certain Lands at 1262 Fourth Avenue, 451 Vansickle Road, and 1290 Fourth Avenue, all in the City of St. Catharines
PWA 38-2010(CSD 51-2010)

Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor Salci

That Report PWA 38-2010(CSD 51-2010), May 4, 2010, respecting Approval for the Expropriation of Certain Lands at 1262 Fourth Avenue, 451 Vansickle Road, and 1290 Fourth Avenue, all in the City of St. Catharines, be received;

That Regional Council approve the expropriation of certain lands listed n Appendix 1; and

That Niagara Region staff be directed to complete the steps required to secure possession of the lands to be expropriated and that the Regional Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary documents.

Carried.

(Please note that Report PWA 38-2010(CSD 51-2010) can be found behind the Joint Reports Blue Book Tab)

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

116. Background Information Report
Proposed Regional Policy Plan Amendment 8-2009
To Permit a Proposed Switchgrass Pelletization and Pallet
Recycling Facility
4981 Regional Road 20, west of Silverdale Road
Township of West Lincoln
PWP 15-2010

Moved by Councillor Trombetta
Seconded by Councillor Augustyn

That Report PWP 15-2010, May 4, 2010, respecting Background Information Report Proposed Regional Policy Plan Amendment 8-2009 To Permit a Proposed Switchgrass Pelletization and Pallet Recycling Facility 4981 Regional Road 20, west of Silverdale Road Township of West Lincoln, be received for information.

Carried.

117. Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding
PWC 13-2010

Moved by Councillor Badawey
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That Report PWC 15-2010, May 4, 2010, respecting Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding, be received for information.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

118. Tree Planting

Councillor Puttick inquired as to whether the \$400,000 budget set aside for tree planting was still in place. He further asked for clarification regarding where the trees were being planted.

Mr. Cousins stated that funding was still available and that although initially it was requested that trees be replanted on a "2 for 1" basis (1 removed; 2 replanted) however; currently the Forestry group was replanting on a "1 for 1" basis. He further stated that he would get the Forestry group to follow up with an update report.

119. Beautification Committee

Councillor Puttick mentioned that in previous years a Beautification Committee was responsible for ensuring that areas where high volumes of litter were present; were monitored appropriately.

Councillor Puttick stated that the intersection at Highway 406 and St. David's Road was horribly littered and he further stated that the Region should post a sign stating the \$1,000 fine for littering quoting the Region's Bylaw.

120. Audible Street Signal Installation

Councillor D'Angela inquired as to whether staff had considered the installation of "Audible" Street Signals.

Mr. Cousins stated that staff currently works very closely with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) respecting areas in which there is a demand for Audible Street Signals. He further stated that they are installing approximately 2-3 locations per year. Mr. Cousins suggested that if Councilor D'Angela was aware of any areas that were in need of Audible Street Signals to please advise staff.

121. Niagara Bio-Solids Committee

Councillor Burroughs requested that Staff provide a report, together with Corporate Services staff, respecting the Walker contract. Specifically the 5,000 tonne/ year compliance, invoicing of 4 million dollars and municipalities sharing in the re-sale of the product collected.

122. Port Robinson Ferry Service

Councillor D'Angela updated Committee members on the Port Robinson Ferry Service. He stated that meetings had been held with the Seaway to address short term issues but that it was clear that the Region would have to play a role in maintaining the service in the future.

123. Council Meeting – April 22, 2010

Councilor Rigby thanked Committee members for their hard work and endurance during the Regional Council meeting on April 22, 2010 respecting Waste Management.

He stated that the Waste Management staff had expended significant extra hours of work in their effort to assist Council with their decision. He further stated that both he and Ken Brothers had the opportunity Monday, May 3rd to personally thank staff for their hard work and requested that if the opportunity presented itself, that Committee members do the same.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 10:30 p.m. to meet again at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 25, 2010 in Committee Room #4, Regional Headquarters.

Tim Rigby
Chair

Lisa McManus
Legislative Assistant

Kevin Bain
Regional Clerk