

**Minutes of
Committee of the Whole
Tuesday, April 16, 2013 – 1:40 p.m.**

Those in attendance were Mayor Donaldson, Councillors Bratty, Cairns, Colhoun, Donoghue, Jorgensen, King and Lorenz.

Councillor Watson had previously advised that he would be absent from the meeting.

Also in attendance were Chief Administrative Officer D. Weldon, Director of Development Services S. Lucas, Director of Infrastructure and Community Services G. Carleton, Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer K. Watson, Director of Economic Development and Communications R. Romanin, Director of Fire and Emergency Services L. Brassard, Senior Planner K. Kirton, Planner J. Rand, Downtown Revitalization Coordinator N. Brull and Director of Legislative Services/Clerk C. Thwaites.

I. Closed Session - Nil

II. Working Session – 1:30 – 2:45 p.m.

1. Rick Hunter & Sean Kelly re: Presentation of Community Improvement Plan

The Director of Development Services explained the process that had been undertaken and the various public input sessions that had been held throughout the process. He further advised that this meeting was the statutory meeting required prior to the passage of a by-law to designate a community improvement plan area. He advised that the adoption of the design guidelines would be deferred until May in order to develop a detailed implementation plan.

Mr. Hunter explained through a power point presentation the changes to the original Community Improvement Plan Area that had been established approximately ten (10) years earlier and the purpose of the changes. He outlined the categories of the various incentive programs being recommended and identified the four (4) priority areas and explained the process moving forward.

Mr. Kelly, from Stempski Kelly Associates, outlined the process undertaken for the streetscape façade, the challenges between public versus private needs and community versus individual needs. He advised that there were thirty (30) special projects identified in the report. Through his power point presentation, Mr. Kelly identified four (4) private properties in the Community Improvement Plan Area and possible façade improvements to those buildings.

Public Comments

Mrs. Denise Cooper inquired about the area that had been identified and whether the south end boundary should continue further to include the developments beyond the gateway.

Questions and comments from Members of Committee included a time limit being placed on the start and completion of applications, confirmation that the committee would not approve anything that didn't meet the recommended guidelines, whether the Province would have to approve the by-law, when heritage grants might be available and whether the priority areas applied to the public or private streetscape projects.

III. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Donoghue

Seconded by Councillor Bratty

Recommendation "A"

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda as presented to Committee of the Whole on April 16th, 2013 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

III. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

Councillor King declared a pecuniary interest with regard to Item #3 under New Business being the Community Improvement Plan, Streetscape and Façade Design Guidelines for business reasons.

V. Deputations

1. Rick McCann re: RC01-2013

Mr. McCann distributed a drawing that showed the properties in question and explained that he was looking for an indication as to whether Council would support the proposed land exchange and explained that his client had a very small window of opportunity to have an environmental impact study completed or they would have to wait for another year.

Questions and comments from Members of Committee included why the applicant was not looking to purchase the property rather than a land exchange, the quality of the properties in question and whether the public would use the property to gain access to the water.

2. Rebecca Willison, District of Muskoka re: Lake System Health

Ms. Willison provided her report for 2012 through a power point presentation explaining the total number of sites monitored, the number of lakes and sites in Gravenhurst being monitored, the number of workshops held and the schedule of monitoring for 2013.

3. Mike Dunphy, Muskoka Motorcycle Rally re: Request for Assistance

Mr. Dunphy provided an update on activities planned for his upcoming event and requested that the municipality waive the fees for the use of all municipal lots, the soccer/events field, all available picnic tables, four boat slips and Town staff to look after the removal of garbage and that the municipality provide a one-time grant in the amount of \$3,000 for marketing.

4. Neil Smellie, Core Broadband re: Update on Service to Riley Lake

Mr. Smellie advised that the Muldrew Lake tower has been installed and provided an update on the tower to be located on municipal road allowance for the Riley Lake area. Mr. Smellie explained that public consultation had occurred with the preferred location being the north side of Riley Lake Road.

Questions and comments from Members of Committee included the number of customers that could be serviced in the area and the number of people who had taken advantage of the service in the Muldrew Lake area.

5. Beth Ward, Penny Varney, Amy Koskinen, YWCA re: Women's Economic Development Plan

Ms. Ward distributed information to members and reviewed the information and challenges facing women in Muskoka including unemployment rates, pay rates, housing and lack of affordable daycare.

Ms. Varney advised that the next step in the plan is for a Gravenhurst Women's Resource Centre that would be separate from the YWCA, and explained what the purpose of the Centre would be. She further asked that the municipality assist in both finding and funding such a location including a phone and computer.

The Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer, Director of Human Resources and Events Coordinator and Marketing Assistant joined the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

Councillor Bratty assumed the Chair.

VI. Consent Agenda

A brief discussion ensued with regard to the items listed and it was requested that Items 3 and 4 be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Agenda.

Moved by Councillor Watson
Seconded by Councillor King

Recommendation "B"

BE IT RESOLVED THAT all items contained on the Consent Agenda as presented on March 19th, 2013 be approved:

1. Library Board Minutes – January 9, 17, February 13, March 13, 2013
2. SRC02-2013 – Lothian, John & Sandra
3. ~~Minutes of the Business Improvement Area – November 29th, 2012 & January 31st, 2013~~
4. ~~Correspondence from Ross Ashforth re: 2013 Operating Budget~~

CARRIED.

VII. Unfinished Business - Nil

VIII. New Business

1. Workwell Audit Results - 2013

The Director of Human Resources outlined the report and it was received with thanks and congratulations.

2. Library Board Vacancies

By-law to be heard at Council.

Having previously declared a pecuniary interest, Councillor King left the meeting at 4:40 p.m..

3. Community Improvement Plan, Streetscape and Façade Design Guidelines

A brief discussion ensued with regard to new buildings in the downtown and whether the owners were aware of the guidelines and whether there might be site plan control that would include façades in future developments.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen

Seconded by Councillor Lorenz

Recommendation “C”

WHEREAS the Town of Gravenhurst retained Stempski Kelly and Associates Inc. to prepare Streetscape and Façade Design Guidelines for the Downtown Area as part of the Downtown Revitalization Project;

AND WHEREAS an extensive public consultation process was undertaken to receive input from the community into the aesthetics and boundary of the Downtown Area;

AND WHEREAS the consultant also worked in consultation with the Downtown Revitalization Committee;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Town of Gravenhurst hereby endorses the Streetscape and Façade Design Guidelines, prepared by Stempski, Kelly and Associates Inc., and dated April 3, 2013.

CARRIED.

Councillor King returned to the meeting at 4:50 p.m.

4. Application No. RC01-2013 – CLINE, Mary Jean & John

A brief discussion ensued with regard to when a site inspection might be done, who would be responsible for any legal and other costs related to an exchange and whether there was any benefit in an exchange or whether the property should be sold.

5. Award of Tender Fire 2013-01 – Pumper-Tanker

A brief discussion ensued with regard to the benefits of purchasing a new vehicle rather than a used vehicle and the life span, warranties and insurance coverage and liability for a new vehicle.

Moved by Councillor Donoghue
Seconded by Councillor King

Recommendation “D”

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Tender “Fire 2013-01” be awarded to Dependable Emergency Vehicles at a cost of \$416,000.00 (plus HST);

AND THAT the Director of Fire and Emergency Services/Fire Chief be authorized to initiate the purchasing process;

AND FURTHER THAT the budget shortfall of \$24,000.00 be funded through increasing the contribution from the Community Reinvestment Fund and the requisite repayment.

CARRIED.

6. Muskoka Motorcycle Rally Request for Assistance

A brief discussion ensued with regard to the amount of the fee waiver, that first time events need assistance to get started and that the request for a one-time contribution of \$3,000.00 was included in the budget.

Moved by Mayor Donaldson
Seconded by Councillor Cairns

Recommendation “E”

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Committee agree to waive fees for the Muskoka Motorcycle Rally in the amount of \$3,420.00 plus HST for the 2013 event;

AND FURTHER THAT the organization be provided a one-time marketing grant in the amount of \$3,000.00 as budgeted for.

CARRIED.

7. BIA Minutes

A brief discussion ensued with regard to the status of the signage on Highway 11 and whether the Director of Infrastructure had been involved as well as the proposed expansion of the BIA and the process that would be involved prior to an expansion occurring.

8. Correspondence from Ross Ashforth re: 2013 Operating Budget

Members of Committee expressed concern as to the wording of the correspondence and advised that more public meetings had been held through the recent budget process than in the past and that the most common question received had been “how much are my taxes going up?” rather than what the percentage increase would be.

IX. Closed Session – Nil

X. Adjournment

On verbal motion by Councillors Donoghue and Jorgensen, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Mayor

Clerk