



Minutes

Transportation Committee

Meeting Date: August 13, 2019
Meeting Time: 1:00 p.m.
Location: Council Chambers
Prepared by: Sarah Merrifield, Executive Assistant Committees of Council

A. Call to Order

Councillor Uram called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. with Committee members Deputy Mayor Bartnicki, Bill Abbotts and John Ardiel present. Committee member John White joined the meeting at 1:04 p.m.

Also in attendance was Chief Administrative Officer Shawn Everitt.

▪ Approval of Agenda

Moved by: John Ardiel

Seconded by: Odette Bartnicki

THAT the Agenda of August 13, 2019 be approved as circulated, including any additions to the Agenda, being Item E.1.1 Further Discussion regarding 80% Average Annual Daily Traffic ("AADT"), Carried.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and general nature thereof

NOTE: In accordance with the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* and the Town Procedural By-law 2018-20, Transportation Committee Members must file a written statement of the interest and its general nature with the Clerk for inclusion on the Registry.

None

▪ Previous Minutes (July 9, 2019)

Moved by: Odette Bartnicki

Seconded by: John White

THAT the Minutes of July 9, 2019 be approved as circulated, including any revisions to be made, Carried.

B. Staff Reports and Deputations

B.1 Deputations, if any

B.1.1 Robert Johnston

Re: Peel Street Reconstruction

Robert Johnston of 188 Cameron Street spoke regarding Peel Street Reconstruction. Mr. Johnston advised he has been a resident for 27 years, and during that time, Peel Street has been a safety concern due to the steep hill and the speed limit. Mr. Johnston noted also that Peel Street should be paved. Mr. Johnston confirmed area residents would approve of a speed limit reduction to 40 km/h.

Mr. Johnston advised he attended the Peel Street Reconstruction Public Information Centre and commended staff for a thorough exploration of alternatives. However, Mr. Johnston noted the preference by staff and the consultant appears to be Option 5 which includes full urbanization of the road, traffic lights and sidewalks. Mr. Johnston confirmed that although both Option 4 and Option 5 alleviate hill steepness and offer better sightlines, another option not considered could be Option 4.5 which includes: street widening, curbs, gutters and storm drain installation, a paved shoulder or walkable curbs, and a reduction in the speed limit to 40 km/h. Mr. Johnston noted a concern for Peel and Cameron area residents remains the installation of street lights. Mr. Johnston noted a street light should be installed at the intersection of Cameron Street and Peel Street, with a light standard style that is consistent with the light standards throughout Trailwoods and High Bluff Lane. However, no further lighting is needed; Mr. Johnston advised that once the hill trajectory is corrected, there will be no further sightline issues.

Deputy Mayor Bartnicki thanked Mr. Johnston and Peel/Cameron Streets residents for the work done to compile comments for staff and Council's consideration and questioned the next steps as they relate to Peel Street Reconstruction. Chief Administrative Officer Shawn Everitt noted the feedback from area residents should be brought to Committee of the Whole for Council's information, and further advised these conversations should be included in the re-development of the Town's Engineering Standards. Shawn further explained that perhaps there is a need for more road cross section options, beyond the traditional "rural" and "urban" models, provided that those design alternatives are tested against safety and traffic standards.

Councillor Uram noted that safety issues are evolving over time and staff and the consultants should receive Peel Street Reconstruction comments in the context of community evolution.

John White commented that residents in the Peel Street/Cameron Street area have expressed concerns over surface water drainage issues since adjacent development has been undertaken. Mr. Johnston clarified that engineering during the construction phase of adjacent development has contributed to surface water drainage issues. Councillor Uram advised the group that the *Planning Act* requires flooding studies prior to initiating development.

John White questioned if the Town's Official Plan ("OP"), or the Development Charge Background Study ("DCBS") contains information regarding whether Peel Street is classified as an urban or a rural road; Shawn advised that road information specific to the OP would need to be clarified by Planning and Development Services staff. Regarding DCBS, the Town collects Development Charges based on a full urban road standard. Deputy Mayor Bartnicki added a well-written Transportation Master Plan would assist in mapping out the roads designated for rural and urban standards.

John White requested additional information regarding a property on High Bluff Lane known as Block 29, Plan 16M-14. Shawn confirmed a report will be provided at the August 26, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting that provides a status update on the property, and act as a follow-up to the Public Meeting.

Moved by: Odette Bartnicki

Seconded by: Bill Abbotts

THAT the Transportation Committee suggest Council direct staff to consider inclusion of Option 4.5 as presented at the August 13, 2019 Transportation Committee meeting into the Peel Street Reconstruction project, and include additional urban and rural road cross section options into the Town Engineering Standards;

AND THAT the Transportation Committee request Council to direct staff to make additional outreach to the residents and stakeholders within the Cameron Street, Peel Street, High Bluff Lane, Timber Lane, and Pheasant Run catchment area, Carried.

Councillor Uram thanked Mr. Johnston for his presentation.

B.2 Public Comment Period (each speaker is allotted three minutes)

NOTE: In accordance with the Town Procedural By-law 2018-20 fifteen minutes is allotted at the Meeting to receive public comments regarding Transportation Committee matters included on the Agenda. The speaker shall provide their name and address, and shall address their comments to the Chair. Comments shall not refer to personnel, litigation or potential litigation matters.

None

B.3 Staff Reports, if any

None

C. Matters for Discussion

C.1 Consideration of Transportation Committee Priorities

Note: Included for information is staff report Joint Municipal Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee, FAF.19.148 as presented July 17, 2019.

Councillor Uram noted the Transportation Committee's Terms of Reference outlines the main priorities for the Committee, being: Transportation Master Plan, parking study, comprehensive speed limit review, and a parks and trails master plan. Bill Abbotts requested additional consideration of Active Transportation.

Shawn advised the reason for including staff report FAF.19.148, as presented at the July 17, 2019 Joint Municipal Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee meeting, is that it gave Committee members some structure to begin considering priorities. Shawn noted the Transportation Committee needs to consider what its 2019 focus will be, and identify key deliverables to the end of the Committee term.

Shawn advised the Committee that the Town has recently undergone restructuring, and noted the former Infrastructure and Public Works Department is now the Operations Department, and the position of Director of Infrastructure and Public Works has been replaced with a position titled Director of Operations. Shawn confirmed recruitment is currently underway for a Director of Operations. Shawn clarified that the restructuring confirms the Operations Department will manage owned Town infrastructure, while the Planning and Development Services Department will oversee infrastructure not yet assumed.

Councillor Uram requested that Operations and Planning and Development Services staff be available for Transportation Committee meetings in the future. Shawn agreed that staff will be available as required, including staff from Community Services when the Committee reviews matters related to active transportation, and Finance staff if the Committee has questions regarding a finance matter.

Regarding priorities, Shawn pointed out the Committee may wish to consider traffic flows in the "historic" and "new" areas of Town. Shawn noted the Committee should consider the difference between the area spanning from the Beaver River west to Lansdowne Street, versus Russell Street to the Bay. These two areas provide context for the historic and new parts of Town, and the traffic demands therein.

John White requested clarification regarding the type of work or matters that Shawn, as Chief Administrative Officer, felt the Committee should review. Shawn confirmed the Transportation Master Plan is a priority, and developing a work plan to achieve this mandate is critical. Shawn noted the Committee is a conduit to provide feedback to Council and noted members of the public can continue to direct concerns through Committee of the Whole and Council, until the procedural by-law for Committees is in place, and there is a clear method of relaying Committee information and matters to Council.

Deputy Mayor Bartnicki noted the Transportation Master Plan also relies on the Strategic Plan development, but further noted there may be several “hot topic” items that the Committee could recommend for inclusion into the 2020 Budget, such as parking needs. Deputy Mayor Bartnicki agreed the need to develop a framework for initiating work on the Transportation Master Plan.

The Committee also requested Finance staff to attend an upcoming Committee meeting to explain the funding source for the Transportation Master Plan, its opportunities and restrictions. Further to this, a report outlining revenue generated for the Town through the active gravel pits, with an explanation regarding how much money is available, and what the money can be spent on was requested. The Committee requested Finance staff to confirm the money collected through the DCBS with an explanation for how these funds are allocated.

Moved by: Odette Bartnicki

Seconded by: John White

THAT the Transportation Committee invites a facilitator(s) to a future Committee meeting to provide an overview of the key components and process to develop the Town’s Transportation Master Plan;

AND THAT the Transportation Committee request staff to provide relevant Transportation Master Plan guiding documents and resources, Carried.

C.2 Transportation Committee Background Information (verbal)

Note: staff are in the process of compiling the following resource documents for Committee members. Resources stricken from the list have been previously supplied.

- MTO Highway 26 Study;
- ~~The Blue Mountains Roads Needs Study;~~
- Provincial cycling information;
- ~~Grey County schedule of road projects;~~
- Grey County cycle and trails masterplan;
- ~~Information on busing agreement with Wasaga & Collingwood;~~
- ~~TBM engineering standards for urban & rural roads;~~
- TBM schedule of road rehabilitation;
- ~~Information on taxis and bus schedule in TBM;~~
- ~~Environmental Assessment – Grey Road 19 and Grey Road 21 Intersection;~~
- ~~Grey County Services in Town of The Blue Mountains (previously circulated by email);~~
- ~~Highway Traffic Act;~~
- Pertinent information regarding Speed limits, cross walks, and rideshare options;
- ~~Active Transportation Planning resources;~~
- ~~Provincial Transit Supportive Guideline;~~
- ~~MTO Book 18;~~
- ~~Peel Street Reconstruction Public Information Centre materials;~~
- ~~Level of Service Definitions – Signalized and Unsignalized Intersections;~~
- ~~Road Design Information – Level of Service for Traffic Speed and Intersection Operations.~~

The following additional resources were requested by the Committee:

- Town of Whitby Transportation Master Plan;
- Grey County Transportation Master Plan;
- Draft Grey County Cycling and Trails Master Plan;
- #CycleON: Ontario's Cycling Strategy.

Deputy Mayor Bartnicki advised that Grey County has recently received \$1.85 million in grant money for community transportation, which will include a twice-daily route from Owen Sound to The Blue Mountains, on Highway 26.

C.3 Consideration of Appointment of One (1) Transportation Committee member to the Economic Development Advisory Committee

Note: Included for the Committee's reference is the Terms of Reference for the Economic Development Advisory Committee which outlines membership composition.

Deputy Mayor Bartnicki noted that she sits already on the Economic Development Advisory Committee, and John Ardiel is also on the Economic Development Advisory Committee representing the Agricultural Advisory Committee. It was determined the Transportation Committee representation to Economic Development Advisory Committee is sufficient, but formally:

Moved by: Odette Bartnicki

Seconded by: John White

THAT the Transportation Committee appoints John Ardiel to act as Transportation Committee representative at the Economic Development Advisory Committee meetings for the 2018-2022 Term of Council, Carried.

C.4 Discussion regarding Committee Contacts (verbal)

Executive Assistant Committees of Council Sarah Merrifield requested Committee members to confirm their acceptance of sharing personal contact information, being email addresses and phone numbers, amongst the Committee members.

D. Correspondence

D.1 Peter Seligman

Re: Georgian Trail Crossing of Hwy 26

Moved by: Odette Bartnicki

Seconded by: John Ardiel

THAT the Transportation Committee receives Correspondence Item D.1 Peter Seligman Re: Georgian Trail Crossing of Hwy 26 and directs staff to provide a response to Mr. Seligman which includes relevant background information with copy to relevant parties at the Ministry of Transportation, Carried.

**D.2 Professor Anna Hudson
Re: Dangerous Driving on Grey Road 40**

Moved by: Odette Bartnicki

Seconded by: John White

THAT the Transportation Committee receives Correspondence Item D.2 Professor Anna Hudson Re: Dangerous Driving on Grey Road 40 and directs staff to provide a response of sympathy to Professor Anna Hudson regarding her lost pet;

AND THAT the Transportation Committee directs staff to copy Grey County Transportation staff on the response, which includes the original correspondence from Professor Anna Hudson Re: Dangerous Driving on Grey Road 40 for Grey County Transportation staff's information, Carried.

**D.3 Ms. Ponce and Mr. Urbshas
Re: Peel Street Reconstruction between Highway 26 and Georgian Bay**

Moved by: John White

Seconded by: Odette Bartnicki

THAT the Transportation Committee receives Correspondence Item D.3 Ms. Ponce and Mr. Urbshas Re: Peel Street Reconstruction between Highway 26 and Georgian Bay and directs staff to provide a response to Ms. Ponce and Mr. Urbshas which includes an overview of the Peel Street Reconstruction discussion from the August 13, 2019 Transportation Committee meeting, Carried.

E. New and Unfinished Business

E.1 Additions to the Agenda

E.1.1 Further Discussion regarding 80% Average Annual Daily Traffic ("AADT")

John White initially requested a revision to the Committee minutes of July 9, 2019 to clarify 80% AADT. The Committee determined the comments were better incorporated into the August 13, 2019 minutes as an addition to the Agenda.

The following statement has been included for reference:

The design of Town and Provincial transportation infrastructure is based on 80% of the AADT calculation which, at a minimum of 50 weekends per year plus other days, the local road infrastructure currently being designed is undersized which results in ongoing, high levels of traffic congestion. Given the expected lifetime of this infrastructure, congestion will only get worse as development continues. It is believed the County of Grey uses the same standard. AADT figures are compiled using limited data sets often compiled on weekdays.

E.2 Items Identified for Discussion at the Next Meeting

F. Notice of Meeting Dates

September 10, 2019
Town Hall, Council Chambers

G. Adjournment

Moved by: Odette Bartnicki

Seconded by: John Ardiel

THAT the Transportation Committee does now adjourn at 2:52 p.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair, Carried.