

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

REPORT 2-2008

Minutes of a meeting of the Planning and Public Works Committee held in Council Chambers, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Wednesday, January 30, 2008 commencing at 1:05 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Regional Chair Partington, Councillors, Rigby, Co-Chair, Smeaton, Co-Chair; Augustyn, Badawey, Baty, Burroughs, Byslma, Casselman, D'Angela, Gabriel, Goulbourne, Henderson, Hodgson, Lepp, Marshall, McMullan, Puttick, Timms, Zimmerman.

Staff: Messrs. Trojan, CAO; Farley, Director, Planning Services; Brothers, Commissioner, Public Works; Cousins, Director Transportation Services, Friesen, Director, Waste Management Services, Ms. Matthews-Malone, Director, Water & Wastewater; McQueen, Director Administration, Pilon, Executive Assistant to the Regional Chair; Mr. Robson, Director of Community Integration; Ms. Gilroy, Regional Clerk; Ms. Ricci, Legislative Assistant.

Others: Mr. Ruedi Suter, Vice-Chairman, Niagara District Airport Commission; Mr. Kenn Moody, Airport Manager, Niagara District Airport; Rich Lancaster, Chairman of the Niagara District Airport Commission; Mr. Rajan Sawhney, Stantec Consultants; Nathan Sherwood, Stantec Consultants.

PRESENTATIONS

16. Phase 2 Raw Water for Agricultural Irrigation Study
Summary of Major Conclusions and Next Steps

Mr. Farley introduced Mr. Rajan Sawhney and Mr. Sherwood the representatives of Stantec Consultants, the firm retained by the Region to conduct a Raw Water for Irrigation Study.

Mr. Sawhney thanked Committee members for the opportunity to present and stated that the Stantec PowerPoint presentation would provide a summary of major conclusions and next steps.

Mr. Sawhney offered the following as an outline regarding his PowerPoint presentation:

- Project Scope
- Study Areas
- Preferred Servicing Alternatives
 - West District Zone A
 - East District (NOTL)
 - West District Zone B
 - South District
- Economic Benefits
- Regulatory Issues
- Implementation Strategy
- Management Set Up

In closing, Mr. Sawhney stated that the next steps would be to apply for funding, develop and enable a legal and legislative framework for an acceptable management and administrative model with input from stakeholders, supplementary studies and approvals, pre-design and detailed design, and construction and commissioning.

Moved by Councillor Burroughs
Seconded by Councillor Badawey

That the presentation entitled, Raw Water for Irrigation Study, be received for information;

That PWC 03-2008 / PD 02-2008, a Letter from the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake to Regional Chair and members of the Planning and Public Works Committee, dated January 24, 2008, with regard to their Council's motion concerning irrigation, be received for information; and

That Report DPD 5-2008, January 30, 2008, respecting Phase 2 Raw Water for Agricultural Irrigation Study Summary of Major Conclusions and Next Steps, be deferred for at least two weeks to provide the Regional Irrigation Committee an opportunity to meet with the Niagara-on-the-Lake Irrigation Committee.

Carried.

Councillor Timms requested that he be recorded as opposed to the aforementioned motion.

17. Niagara District Airport

Councillor Rigby introduced Mr. Ruedi Suter, Vice-Chairman of the Niagara District Airport Commission and invited him to proceed with his PowerPoint presentation entitled, Niagara District Airport Gateway to the Peninsula.

Mr. Suter thanked Committee members for the opportunity to present and introduced Mr. Kenn Moody and Mr. Rich Lancaster, stating that if necessary they were available to respond to questions from Committee members at the presentations completion.

Highlights of the PowerPoint presentation were, in part, as follows:

- Unique Features and Advantages
 - NAV-Canada operated Flight Service Station (FSS)
 - Instrument Approach Procedure
 - Runway to accommodate Regional Air Carriers and Business Jets
 - 24/7 Customs and Immigrations Service
 - significant economic benefits for the entire Niagara Region
 - potential to becoming a Regional Airport with organized / scheduled Air Service
 - close proximity to major tourist attractions and the new Convention Centre
- Current Economic Impact 2007
 - \$18,000,000 (per year)
 - Total number of employees – 85
- Projected Economic Impact 2012
 - \$30,750,000 (per year)
 - Total number of employees - 170
- Airport Budget 2008
- Capital Improvements 2008 – 2012
 - a) Before scheduled Air Services
 - Total minimum upgrades necessary \$7,250,000
 - b) To develop commercial Air Services
 - Total development proposal \$15,250,000

Mr. Ruter provided Committee members with a booklet entitled, Projection of Economic Impact 2012

In closing he stated that the future role of the Airport was to play an integral part of Niagara's transportation system, facilitate economic growth of Airport businesses, support Niagara's destination marketing, attract commercial and scheduled air services and increase economic benefits for the Niagara Region.

Following a lengthy discussion it was:

Moved by Councillor Badawey
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That the Niagara District Airport presentation be received for information;

That the matter of the Niagara District Airport be referred back to staff for a full review and further report to the Transportation Strategy Steering Committee, subject to Committee's approval of the terms of reference outlining the scope of the report, including funding, clarity of grants, governance, marketing plan, global transportation issues, a comparative analysis of the airport entities and a proposed timeline for completion of the report; and

That the report be developed in consultation with staff of current funding municipalities.

Carried.

Councillor Puttick and Zimmerman requested that they be recorded as opposed to the aforementioned motion.

(Refer to Councillor Information Requests)

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

18. **Minutes - Transportation Strategy Steering Committee**
January 8, 2008

Moved by Councillor Zimmerman
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That the minutes of the Transportation Strategy Steering Committee, January 8, 2008, be received, as ***amended***;

That the recommendations contained therein be approved save and except Minute Item 3 respecting the Niagara District Airport;

That the matter of the Niagara District Airport be referred to staff for a comprehensive review and further report to Committee;

That this Committee support the Binational Tourism Alliance's Priority #1 respecting the Binational Transportation Symposium and;

That Jim Handley be recorded in the attendance as from the City of Thorold.

Carried.

19. Moved by Councillor Badawey
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That the following reports be received and the recommendations contained therein approved.

PWA 04-2008 Extension of Contract #2002-T-46,
Collection of Solid Waste Recyclables
and Organic Waste and White Goods

PWA 05-2008 Elm Street Landfill and Compost Facility Closure Dates

Carried.

20. Niagara Specialized Transit – Operating Results to
October 31, 2007 and 2007 Year-End Actual Projections
PWA 06-2008

Moved by Councillor Zimmerman
Seconded by Councillor Hodgson

That Report PWA 06-2008, January 30, 2008 respecting Niagara Specialized Transit – Operating Results to October 31, 2007 and 2007 Year-End Actual Projections, be received ***as amended***;

That this report be circulated to the local municipalities for their information;

That the Ridership-by-Municipality calculation as outlined in the report (Exhibit 1) be used to determine each municipality's share of the Niagara Specialized Transit (NST) net operating costs for 2008 and;

That this report be referred to the Transportation Strategy Steering Committee for their information.

Carried.

21. Requests for Assumption of Local Roads
From the City of Port Colborne
And the Town of Niagara on the Lake
PWA 07-2008

Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That the recommendations in Report PWA 06-2008 be divided to separate references to Port Colborne and Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Badawey
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That Report PWA 07-2008, January 30, 2008 respecting Requests for Assumption of Local Roads From the City of Port Colborne And the Town of Niagara on the Lake, be received; and

That in accordance with Section 52 (1) of the Ontario Municipal Act, the Region assume jurisdiction for the following lower-tier highway in the City of Port Colborne:

Killaly Street West from Regional Road 3A (Mellanby Avenue) to Regional Road 3 (Main Street West);

That the Regional Clerk be instructed to ensure that the appropriate bylaw is prepared and presented to Regional Council to affect the change.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake be advised that Read Road between Lakeshore Road and Carlton Street does not satisfy any of the criteria for a Regional Road.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Marshall
Seconded by Councillor Badawey

That any further requests for the Region to assume local roads be deferred until Committee reviews the recommendations of the Transportation Services Sustainability Review.

Carried.

Councillor Timms requested that he be recorded as opposed to the aforementioned motion.

(Refer to Councillor Information Requests)

22. Official Plan Amendment No. 74
Updated Heritage Policies
City of Niagara Falls
DPD 6-2008

Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Regional Chair Partington

That DPD 6-2008, January 30, 2008, respecting Official Plan Amendment No. 74 Updated Heritage Policies City of Niagara Falls, be received;

That Amendment No. 74 to the City of Niagara Falls Official Plan be approved;

That all parties be notified of Regional Council's decision on this application in accordance with Provincial regulations; and

That staff issue a notice of final decision for the Amendment 20 days after notice of Council's decision has been given provided that no appeals have been lodged against the decision.

Carried.

23. Housing Capacity and Development Performance
Niagara Region as of December 31, 2006
DPD 7-2008

Moved by Councillor Marshall
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That DPD 7-2008, January 30, 2008, respecting Housing Capacity and Development Performance Niagara Region as of December 31, 2006, be received for information;

That this report be circulated to local municipalities and other interested parties;
and

That this report be provided to the consultants preparing the Regional Growth Management Strategy.

Carried.

Quorum

There being a lack of ordinary quorum at the meeting, the Committee Co-Chairs determined that the ordinary quorum for the meeting be reduced to eleven members, pursuant to Section 22.10 of the Procedural By-law 96-2007.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

24. Moved by Councillor Marshall
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That the following reports and items of correspondence be received, and the recommendations contained therein be approved, save and except Minute Item 4 within the Chair's Agricultural Task Force minutes respecting Raw Water for Agriculture:

PWP 02-2008	2007 Social Marketing, Public Outreach and Communication Initiatives
PWP 03-2008	2007 Special Events Recycling Program, be received for information
PWP 04-2008	Water & Wastewater Learning Calendar – January to July, 2008
Minutes	Smarter Niagara Steering Committee January 2, 2008

Minutes Ecological and Environmental Advisory Committee
November 29, 2007

Minutes Chair's Agricultural Task Force
January 11, 2008

Carried.

25. Memo re artsVest Program in Niagara and the
artsVest Niagara Public Art Program
PD 1-2008

Moved by Regional Chair Partington
Seconded by Councillor Goulbourne

That PD 1–2008, Memorandum respecting artsVest Program in Niagara and the artsVest Niagara Public Art Program, be received for information.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

26. Henley Bridge Sewer Project

Mr. Brothers, Commissioner Public Works, provided Committee members with a brief overview respecting the Henley Bridge Sewer Project contract. He stated that a report will be included in the Friday, February 1, 2008 release of the Blue Book, seeking approval for a commencement date of March 1, 2008.

27. Municipal Infrastructure Investment Initiative

Mr. Brothers, Commissioner Public Works, informed Committee members that the Region had to submit their project choice for consideration of the Municipal Infrastructure Investment Initiative, to the Province by February 15, 2008. He further stated that the Province was limiting submissions to one project submission per municipality, that currently staff was reviewing the submission and finalizing details.

In closing Mr. Brothers stated that a complete background and assessment would be included in the Friday, February 1, 2008 release of the Blue Book.

Councillor Goulbourne suggested that, due to the Provincial limit of project per municipality, staff advise cities and towns of our project submission in an effort to increase the projects leverage.

28. Cash-Strapped Municipal Airports Struggle to Survive

Councillor Zimmerman provided Committee members with copies of an article entitled, "Cash-Strapped Municipal Airports Struggle to Survive".

29. Wind Project Update

Councillor Henderson requested an update with respect to her previous inquiry respecting the Wind Energy Implementation – Wainfleet.

Mr. Trojan, CAO, stated that a full update would be provided in a report, from Corporate Services, during the next round of meetings.

30. Procedural Issues

Councillor Marshall requested that the Regional Clerk call him to discuss procedural issues surrounding receiving minutes.

COUNCILLOR INFORMATION REQUESTS

Staff was requested to:

- Investigate further in to current municipal support towards airports and anticipated support (Refer to Minute Item #17) (Marshall)
- Investigate the increase of prior municipal contributions to airports from 1994 to current (Refer to Minute Item #17) (Casselman)
- Review whether boundary roads should be included in the eligibility criteria for Regional assumption of municipal roads as part of the Transportation Services Sustainability Review. (Refer to Minute Item #21) (Timms)

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 4:10 p.m., to meet again on Wednesday, February 20, 2008 in Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters.

Bill Smeaton
Co-Chair

Tim Rigby
Co-Chair

Pam Gilroy
Regional Clerk

Lisa Ricci
Legislative Assistant