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THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

REPORT 8-2002

Minutes of a meeting of the Public Works and Utilities Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Tuesday, March 12, 2002 commencing at 1:35 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Councillors Badawey, Chair; Burroughs, Davidson, Eke, Forster, Harry, Rigby, Trombetta.

Staff: Messrs. Hollick, Regional Clerk; Neville, Commissioner of Public Works; Cousins, Director, Transportation Services Division; Payne, Director, Waste Management Services Division; Brcic, Director, Water & Wastewater Services Division; Sidawi, Director, Operation Support Services Division; Ms. Pilon, Legislative Assistant.

Staff (Part-time): Mr. Bis, Supervisor, Environmental Enforcement & Lab Services.

CLOSED SESSION

103. Moved by Councillor Harry
Seconded by Councillor Davidson

That this Committee do now meet in Closed Session for the purpose of receiving information of a confidential nature relating to property matters.

Carried.

104. Lease to Butler Trucking Co.
Site of High Rate Treatment Facility
Buttery Street
City of Niagara Falls
PWA 44-2002

Moved by Councillor Harry
Seconded by Councillor Burroughs

That Report PWA 44-2002, March 12, 2002, respecting the Lease to Butler Trucking Co., Site of High Rate Treatment Facility, Buttery Street in the City of Niagara Falls, be received and the recommendations therein approved.

Carried.

105. Moved by Councillor Burroughs
Seconded by Councillor Trombetta

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

RECOGNITION PRESENTATION

106. CAEAL Accreditation of Regional Laboratory

The Committee was advised that the Regional Niagara Environmental Laboratory received the accreditation based on the results of an assessment conducted by the Canadian Association for Environmental Analytical Laboratories (CAEAL) on April 30, 2001. The accreditation designates the Regional Niagara Environmental Laboratory to be ISO 17025 compliant.

Committee Chair Badawey congratulated Mr. George Bis, Supervisor, Environmental Enforcement & Lab Services and his staff for the quality of work being performed on a daily basis and the work that was involved in attaining the accreditation of the Regional Niagara Environmental Laboratory as a testing laboratory.

Mr. Bis, Supervisor, Environmental Enforcement & Lab Services on behalf of himself and his staff thanked Regional Council for their support.

Committee members extended congratulations to Mr. Bis and his staff for their achievements.

PRESENTATION

107. Moved by Councillor Eke
Seconded by Councillor Trombetta

That Report PWA 53-2002, March 12, 2002, respecting Environmental Study Report for the Widening and Reconstruction of Regional Road 102 (Stanley Avenue) between Marineland Parkway and Kitchener Street in the City of Niagara Falls, be lifted from PWA Summary - March 12, 2002 and dealt with separately at this time.

Carried.

108. Environmental Study Report for the
Widening and Reconstruction of
Regional Road 102 (Stanley Avenue)
Between Marineland Parkway and Kitchener Street
In the City of Niagara Falls
PWA 53-2002

Mr. John Hemingway, Totten Sims Hubicki provided the Committee with details of the reconstruction and widening of Stanley Avenue in the City of Niagara Falls.

Mr. Hemingway advised the Committee that Totten Sims Hubicki was retained to undertake the preliminary design including the remaining phases of the environmental assessment process. The Municipal Class EA Study for this project is intended to address a capacity deficiency in the existing network, and to address traffic operational problems associated with increases in traffic in the Stanley Avenue corridor that are projected to occur as a result of proposed development in the southern part of the City of Niagara Falls.

The preferred design presented to the Committee will address the current traffic deficiencies that were identified in the Niagara Falls Master Transportation Plan.

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Report PWA 53-2002, March 12, 2002, respecting the Environmental Study Report for the Widening and Reconstruction of Regional Road 102 (Stanley Avenue) between Marineland Parkway and Kitchener Street in the City of Niagara Falls, be received.

That the Commissioner of Public Works be authorized to proceed with the publication of a notice of filing of the Environmental Study Report in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment;

That the Regional Clerk be directed to ensure that the appropriate by-laws are prepared for presentation to Regional Council. (Transportation Services)

Carried.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

109. West Nile Virus Activity 2001
PHD 4-2002

Moved by Councillor Burroughs
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PHD 4-2002, January 28, 2002, respecting the West Nile Virus Activity 2001, be received for information.

Carried.

ADMINISTRATION

110. Moved by Councillor Harry
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Report PWA 52-2002, March 12, 2002, respecting Vehicle and Equipment Replacement Program 2002, Phase 1, be lifted from PWA Summary - March 12, 2002 and dealt with separately at this time.

Carried.

111. Vehicle and Equipment Replacement
Program 2002, Phase I
PWA 52-2002

Mr. Cousins advised the Committee that the Joint Committee on Municipal Services is currently reviewing the issue of Regional Road jurisdiction and inter-municipal agreements for road maintenance. As a result, Council recently approved a staff recommendation (PWA 26-2002) that reads as follows:

“That until the technical review team reviewing inter-municipal agreements for road maintenance has made their final recommendations, the Public Works and Utilities Committee review each request for the acquisition of major roads maintenance equipment on an individual basis to ensure that it will not conflict with future initiatives for transfer of roads or maintenance agreements.”

Staff are assuming that the maximum reduction in Regional Road maintenance operations responsibility due to jurisdictional transfers or maintenance agreements will be 25% of the existing system, or approximately 190 kilometres. Mr. Cousins stressed that it is important to proceed with the replacement of the equipment listed in Schedule A of PWA 52-2002 at this time as there is a minimum of 4 to 8 months lead time required to put this equipment in service. The 8 tandem axle dump trucks with plow and spreading units being replaced are 11 years old at this point and have become unreliable and expensive to operate. Any further delay in their replacement will result in additional costs to the taxpayer and will inhibit staff’s ability to meet approved levels of service for road maintenance.

Mr. Cousins provided the Committee with information regarding the current replacement value of the entire Public Works fleet, a 10-year analysis of scheduled replacement and an age analysis of the current heavy trucks in the fleet. He also outlined the current complement of 52 units which are utilized for winter control activities and described the proposed plan for new winter control equipment over the next 5 year of winter equipment, this acquisition should not conflict with initiatives for transfer of roads or possible inter-municipal maintenance agreements.

Committee was also provided with a description of the new "Epoke" style spreading equipment and the many benefits it provides to winter road maintenance activities:

- the ability to apply both dry and liquid material to reduce the amount of salt utilized and lost
- a feed system that can break up clumps of material that can clog the delivery system
- a material metering system that more accurately delivers material and provides better record keeping capabilities
- a global positioning system that allows tracking of equipment and correlates material use data to exact locations
- A rear-mounted spinner that is capable of accurately placing material either left or right over four lanes, eliminating the need for dual spinners
- Slide in mounting of the spreader which provides a greater degree of flexibility between winter and summer operations.

Mr. Cousins then provided detailed information for the Committee regarding the current age, condition and mileage for each piece of equipment in Schedule A, which is being recommended for replacement.

Moved by Councillor Harry
Seconded by Councillor Davidson

That Report PWA 52-2002, March 12, 2002, respecting the Vehicle and Equipment Replacement Program 2002, Phase I, be received.

That the Public Works Department be authorized to advertise forthwith for equipment recommended for replacement on Schedule "A" attached to report PWA 52-2002. (Transportation Services)

Carried.

Staff Recommendations
For Committee Consideration

The Committee considered the following staff recommendations contained in PWA Summary, March 12, 2002:

112. Tender Award for Contract RN 02-02
Environmental Centre Addition
3501 Schmon Parkway
City of Thorold

PWA 45-2002

That Report PWA 45-2002, March 12, 2002, respecting the Tender Award for Contract RN 02-02, Environmental Centre Addition, 3501 Schmon Parkway in the City of Thorold, be received.

That Contract RN.02-02, Addition to the Environmental Centre in the City of Thorold, be awarded to the low tenderer, Brouwer Construction Ltd., at its bid price of \$412,000.00, excluding GST.

That a contingency allowance in the amount of \$40,000.00 be provided for this contract.

That the engineering agreement with the consulting firm of Quartek Group Inc. be extended to include contract administration, with the engineering fees being calculated on a time plus disbursements basis, estimated at \$8,000.00, plus GST.

That the Regional Clerk be directed to ensure that the necessary by-laws authorizing the Regional Chair and Clerk to execute the contract on behalf of the Regional Municipality of Niagara are presented to Regional Council on March 7, 2002.

That all project costs be charged against Wastewater Capital Program ZSW0116. (Operational Support/Water & Wastewater Services)

113. Retention of Engineering Consultants
Class Environmental Assessment Study for
Central Corridor Escarpment Crossing

PWA 46-2002 (CSD 28-2002)

That Report PWA 46-2002 (CSD 28-2002), March 12, 2002, respecting the Retention of Engineering Consultants, Class Environmental Assessment Study for Central Corridor Escarpment Crossing, be received.

That the engineering firm of McCormick Rankin Corporation be retained to provide the necessary engineering services to complete the required Class Environmental Assessment Study for a Central Corridor Escarpment Crossing;

That the engineering fees be calculated on a time and disbursements basis with a study fee estimated at \$218,500.00 exclusive of GST;

That surplus funds in the amount of \$100,000.00 be transferred from Project ZRC0016, Structures Rehabilitation Program to Project ZRC0241, Engineering Studies for Road Reconstruction, which has an approved 2002 Capital Budget of \$200,000;

That this study be charged against ZRC0241 Engineering Studies for Road Reconstruction identified in the approved 2002 Roads Capital Budget. (Transportation Services)

114. Capital Budget Allocation Bylaw
2002 Buildings and Equipment
Capital Budget Program

PWA 47-2002 (CSD 27-2002)

That Report PWA 47-2002 (CSD 27-2002), March 12, 2002, respecting the Capital Budget Allocation Bylaw, 2002 Buildings and Equipment Capital Budget Program, be received.

That financing be approved for the 2002 Buildings and Equipment Capital Program for \$2,275,000 gross and net amounts and allocated to the individual programs as summarized in Appendix A.

That financing for these projects, including the debenture financing (1-5 years) be approved for each individual project

That the Regional Clerk be directed to ensure that the appropriate bylaw(s) are prepared for presentation to Regional Council on March 21, 2002.
(Operational Support Services)

115. Capital Budget Allocation Bylaw
Roads Capital Program

PWA 48-2002 (CSD 29-2002)

That Report PWA 48-2002 (CSD 29-2002), March 12, 2002, respecting the Capital Budget Allocation Bylaw Roads Capital Program, be received.

That budget allocations from the approved 2002 Capital Budget for the Roads Capital Program in the amount of \$22,890,138 gross and \$21,800,138 net be approved for the projects listed in Appendix A attached.

That financing for the projects, including debenture financing (1-10) years of \$18,805,651 be approved for each individual project as listed.

That the Regional Clerk be directed to ensure that the appropriate bylaw(s) are prepared for presentation to Regional Council on March 21, 2002.
(Operational Support Services/Transportation)

116. Roberts Street Connecting Link Agreement
City of Niagara Falls

PWA 49-2002

That Report PWA 49-2002, March 12, 2002, respecting the Roberts Street Connecting Link Agreement in the City of Niagara Falls, be received.

That the Regional Chair and Clerk be authorized to sign a Connecting Link Agreement with the Minister of Transportation for the Province of Ontario with respect to Regional Road 420 (Roberts Street) from Stanley Avenue to the Rainbow Bridge, City of Niagara Falls. (Transportation Services)

117. Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That PWA Summary, March 12, 2002, and the foregoing recommendations of Reports PWA 45-2002 to PWA 49-2002 inclusive, be received and accepted.

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

118. Communications listed in Report PWC Summary, March 12, 2002, and PWC 19-2002 were received and dealt with as follows:

PWC 14-2002 - (February 18, 2002) – **D. W. Wilson**, Director, Standards Council of Canada, to George Bis, confirming approval for the accreditation of the Regional Niagara Environmental Laboratory.

-- Received and referred to the Recognition Presentation and PWA 45-2002.

PWC 15-2002 – (February 15, 2002) – **Kevin Christenson**, Clerk, City of Hamilton, being a resolution, Bill 90, The Waste Diversion Act, and requesting support for this Bill by other municipalities.

-- Received.

PWC 16-2002 – (February 13, 2002) – **Damian Bassett**, President and CEO of CSR, on Bill 90, Waste Diversion Act, requesting municipalities to forward a copy of their resolution to each PC leadership candidate.

-- Received.

PWC 17-2002 – (February 21, 2002) – **Craig Stirtzinger**, Clerk, City of Welland, to Regional Clerk Rod Hollick, being a resolution supporting the undertaking of the EA Level Review of Regional Mid-Term Waste Disposal Options, but not supporting the resolution of Town of Pelham Council passed on December 3, 2001.

-- Received.

PWC 18-2002 – (March 5, 2002) – **Joe Cousins**, Director, Transportation Services Division, to Mayor Redekop, Town of Fort Erie, being a response to questions raised at the Public Works Committee meeting of February 12th on Regional roads in Fort Erie.

-- Received.

PWC 19-2002 – (March 6, 2002) – **Nick Palomba**, Community Liaison Person, Delcan Corporation, respecting the lane and ramp closures schedule for stages 3 and 4 Construction of the Garden City Skyway Rehabilitation.

-- Received.

119. Moved by Councillor Davidson
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That the PWC Summary, March 12, 2002, and PWC 19-2002 be received and dealt with as directed by this Committee and as noted in these minutes.

Carried.

PROGRESS REPORTS

120. 2001 Reserve Wastewater Treatment Capacity

Moved by Councillor Eke
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report PWP 19-2002, March 12, 2002, respecting the 2001 Reserve Wastewater Treatment Capacity, be received and circulated to the Ministry of the Environment and area municipalities for their information.

Carried.

121. 2001 Reserve Water Treatment Capacities

Moved by Councillor Eke
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report PWP 20-2002, March 12, 2002, respecting the 2001 Reserve Water Treatment Capacities, be received and circulated to the Ministry of the Environment and area municipalities for their information.

Carried.

122. Public Works Staff Comments on
Development and Related Proposals

Moved by Councillor Eke
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report PWP 21-2002, March 12, 2002, respecting the Public Works Staff Comments on Development and Related Proposals, be received for information.

Carried.

123. Public Works Staff Comments on
Municipal Servicing Applications

Moved by Councillor Eke
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report PWP 22-2002, March 12, 2002, respecting the Public Works Staff Comments on Municipal Servicing Applications, be received for information.

Carried.

124. Extension of the Various Waste and
Recycling Collection Contracts

Moved by Councillor Eke
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report PWP 23-2002, March 12, 2002, respecting the Extension of the Various Waste and Recycling Collection Contract, be received for information.

Carried.

125. Transportation Division's
Adopt-a-Road Program

Moved by Councillor Eke
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That Report PWP 24-2002, March 12, 2002, respecting the Transportation Division's, Adopt-a-Road Program, be received for information.

Carried.

MINUTES

126. Minutes of the Transportation Strategy Steering Committee
Meeting of Tuesday, February 12, 2001

Moved by Councillor Rigby
Seconded by Councillor Trombetta

That the minutes of the Transportation Strategy Steering Committee meeting held Tuesday, February 12, 2001, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

Carried.

127. Minutes of the Accommodation Review Committee Meetings

Moved by Councillor Forster
Seconded by Councillor Rigby

That the minutes of the Accommodation Review Committee meetings held December 3, 2001, December 18, 2001, January 7, 2002, January 21, 2002, February 4, 2002 and February 21, 2002 be received for information.

Carried.

ACCOUNTS

128. Moved by Councillor Harry
Seconded by Councillor Trombetta

That the following accounts be approved for payment:

for the period ending February 28, 2002	\$3,616,192.96
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Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

129. Speed Limit Adjustments
Regional Road 55 (Niagara Stone Road)
Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake

Councillor Eke advised the Committee that at the February 21, 2002 Regional Council meeting the by-law approving the speed limit adjustments on Regional Road 55 (Niagara Stone Road) was withdrawn. The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake completed the public notification process on March 4, 2002, which has resulted in a minor adjustment, by removing "100 metres southwest of" from the resolution:

"from 800 metres southwest of Regional Road 100 (Four Mile Creek Road) to Concession 6 Road be reduced from 80 km/h to 50 km/h the default speed for a Town under the Highway Traffic Act."

Mr. Cousins advised the Committee that staff has no objection to the minor adjustment and the by-law will be brought back to Regional Council on March 21, 2002.

130. Niagara Water Quality Protection Strategy
Steering Committee Membership

Moved by Councillor Burroughs
Seconded by Councillor Trombetta

That Councillor Harry be appointed as a member of the Niagara Water Quality Protection Strategy Steering Committee.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 2:55 p.m., to meet again in Committee Room 4 on March 26, 2002 at 1:30 p.m.

Vance Badawey
Chair

Janet Pilon
Legislative Assistant

Thomas R. Hollick
Regional Clerk