



**TOWN OF HINTON**  
**Standing Committee of Council Meeting**  
**November 26, 2013**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Rob Mackin, Deputy Mayor Dale Currie  
Councillors Ryan Maguhn, Glen Barrow, Stuart Taylor, Marcel Michaels,  
Matthew Young

**ABSENT:** N/A

**SECETARY:** Lil Wallace - Executive Assistant

**ALSO PRESENT:** Bernie Kreiner - Town Manager  
Denise Parent - Director of Corporate Services

**ORDER**

Deputy Mayor Dale Currie called the Standing Committee Meeting to order. The time was 4:00 p.m. **A larger crowd than what the room has capacity for attended the meeting so there was consensus to move the meeting into the Council Chambers.** The Deputy Mayor then called a short recess at 4:02 pm and the meeting reconvened at 4:10 pm. in Council Chambers.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Bernie Kreiner advised that due to the length of the agenda, Item 9 will be postponed.

**There was consensus to accept the Standing Committee Meeting Agenda of November 26, 2013 with the amendment as noted.**

**ACTION ITEMS**

***Refer to the Standing Committee Meeting Agenda package for November 26, 2013 for detailed background information on these decisions.***

**Switzer Drive Project Plans and Update**

Council was told the primary reasons Switzer Drive was assessed and best advanced as four lanes at this time was as follows:

- traffic management and movement on that site during construction
- Roads to Resources grant of \$3M from province which was initially allocated for Robb Road; permission was obtained to re-allocate grant to Switzer Drive
- cross section of area and traffic flow ; complaints had been received from neighboring property owners to Switzer Drive and this would assist in minimizing those complaints
- fair bit of utility work needed to be done so go "in and out" only once

"Bursting" work has been done; still need to put in force main ; sewer flowing to East River Road and the Willow Road is greater than capacity and lift station in poor shape; need to improve force main and lift station at that location.

  
Initial

Base work has been done and street lights have been ordered; chose not to award road tender to see if we could find better value; scheduled to be done in January so we can proceed with that work; construction of storm ponds has already occurred to support the storm water.

Council had several questions respecting other possible alternatives, rather than proceeding with the four lane and other possible scenarios were discussed.

**There was consensus that Council direct Administration to come back to council with a plan for two lanes on the north side, the pedestrian walkway/multi-purpose trail on the south side; maximizing Roads to Resources grant; ensure future ultimate design standards are maintained; and minimize additional engineering costs.**

### **Green Square Winter Activities**

This item was brought to council looking for direction from council as to how far to pursue winter activities in Green Square. After discussion, Council felt having more events at Green Square would encourage tourists passing by on Highway 16 to stop, thus bringing economic benefits to the community.

**There was consensus that Council direct Administration to continue with organizing different winter events at Green Square to utilize it more, starting with a few this year, and adding more later after all liabilities and requirements to do so are reviewed (ie. start small and work up to more events).**

### **Access Options to P2 Lands (re Rona)**

Council was informed that the Town became aware that someone was using the land without authorized use. It was noted that some other property owners in the affected area have obtained prior permission. Administration suggested it be required the parties who want to have access to these lands enter into agreements with the Town.

**There was consensus that Council direct Administration to:**

- **enter into agreements with the five owners on one side;**
- **have Administration bring to next Standing Committee an understanding of the legalities of exactly what the site access clauses in the Rona development permit mean.**

### **Signage Hierarchy and Regulations**

Council was informed that the architectural design standards are a balancing act between communities business interests and general public interests (ie. don't want too many signs along the highway corridor). These design standards change over the years so what one business is currently required to do to have a sign may not be the same as the business next door.

Council was also informed that when the current architectural designs were put into place, there was, for some time, a financial savings offered if people upgraded their architectural frontage to the design standards.

**There was consensus that Council direct Administration to:**

- review signage
- remove stringent limitations on signage and guidelines
- refine the land use bylaw re signage lighting to not just back-lit
- accommodate brand signs better

**There was consensus that Council will come back to Administration within two weeks time with better prioritization of their strategic planning initiatives and bylaw reviews.**

The deputy mayor called a short recess at 6:04 pm and the meeting reconvened at 6:15 pm.

**Drinnan Way Traffic Planning Briefing (Verbal by Jean Anne Fraser)**

Further to the agenda attachment on this item, Council was provided with a few facts about Drinnan Way:

- this is a key collector road in our community
- has a railroad and highway close to each other
- as a result of Coalspur discussions, that area will face people parking there as a result of shuttling to mine; and coal train effects (30 to 45 per day) with an increase of 1 to 1.5 more trains daily increase due to Coalspur;
- transportation plan does not see much change to Drinnan Way;
- CN does not have trains that stop; depending on train length varies the amount of time traffic is stopped and waiting; CN number of long trains is growing over time; East access off highway will have new pressures and frustrations for customers as wait times increase;
- our plans do not call for closing both ends of Drinnan Way;
- issue is that traffic backs up on the road and onto Highway 16 until train intersection is cleared; that impact has been identified.

**Council enquired why a stacking lane on Drinnan Way was not included when we built Innovista access? Did Coalspur's study not suggest that? Administration is to check into this and report back.**

**There was consensus that this report be accepted for information.**

**Performing Arts Facility Update and Go-Forward Plan**

Council was provided an update and Administration is seeking direction to go forward. The Hinton Training Centre ("HTC") option is very costly to tie in with as the capital costs are high. Operating costs were not explored since the capital costs were too high. Council was asked if they agreed the HTC option is not viable or realistic.

**Council directed Administration to go back to BALT to enquire how much money has been raised to date from their fundraising efforts.**

**G. BARROW - That Council extend the time for the Standing Committee Meeting beyond 3 hours.**

**Carried**

The time was 6:58 pm.

  
Initial

**There was consensus that Council direct Administration to:**

- **advise the province that we will not be proceeding further with the Hinton Training Centre option as it is too costly for the Town's portion;**
- **as per Option "B. ii" of Administration's report - proceed with project plan, including meeting with interested business groups but remove project budget line until council reviews their business case; then come back to council.**

#### **234 Baker Street Project/Status Update**

Council was advised that despite the series of letters received from citizens, this is a subdivision decision; citizen feedback is only as to whether lot lines work; usage and density is not appealable anymore; town owns land and subdivision request has been signed therefore moving to create these lots. However, as the owner of the land council can direct to stop or pause this project and redirect; or proceed as previously directed.

**There was consensus that Council direct Administration to have subdivision authority engage owners in open house discussion on this project prior to subdivision approval rendered; and report back to council prior to rendering decision.**

#### **Thompson Lake Area Structure Plan Overview**

A large portion of Thompson Lake is owned by Plainsmen Developments who are challenging the requirement that Sawyer Drive needs to be 4 lanes throughout. Both the Area Structure Plan and the highway transportation plan indicate a 4-lane plan. Sawyer Drive is designed to take pressure off Highway 16 so the highway bypass does not get expedited. Council will discuss this further in camera later in the meeting.

**There was consensus that this report be accepted for information.**

#### **"Hinton In Focus" Go-Forward Plan**

This item will be heard at another time.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

##### **Urgent Matters from Council and Town Manager**

Mr. Kreiner reminded council if they hear any rumours on the street to submit these rumours to Emily Olsen, Communications Coordinator, for the "Hinton In Focus" newsletter which includes "Rumour Patrol".

##### **Executive Assistant Logistics Information**

Upcoming events logistics were discussed.

#### **IN CAMERA (if necessary)**

**R. MACKIN - That Standing Committee move in camera.**

**Carried**

The time was 7:31 p.m. The deputy mayor then called a short recess and the meeting reconvened at 7:44 pm.

  
Initial

**M. YOUNG - That Standing Committee revert to regular session.**

**Carried**

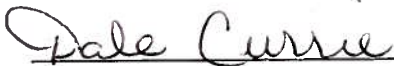
The time was 8:15 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**M. MICHAELS - That Standing Committee Meeting of Council adjourn.**

The time was 8:16 p.m.

**Carried**

  
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Deputy Mayor

  
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Director of Corporate Services

