

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON THE ELEVENTH DAY OF MARCH 2010 AT THE MUNICIPAL OFFICE, 420 LESLIE AVENUE, THUNDER BAY, ONTARIO AT THE HOUR OF 3:00 P.M.**

**THOSE PRESENT:** Reeve Maria Harding  
Councillor Alana Bishop  
Councillor Donna Blunt  
Councillor Ab Covello

**ALSO PRESENT:** Wendy Hamlin, Clerk  
Eric Collingwood, CAO, Treasurer  
Craig Baumann, Manager of Operations  
Alan Cooke, Chief Building Official  
Rick Inman, Ministry of Transportation (MTO)  
Dennis Siczkar, Area Engineer, MTO  
Larry Joy, of Michael Gravelle's Office

**ABSENT:** Councillor Ron Giardetti, with regrets

The purpose of the Special Meeting was to hear a deputation from Rick Inman, Ministry of Transportation regarding the proposed intersection at Birch Beach and the proposed Hwy 11/17 and to go into closed session to discuss a legal matter.

**1. Call To Order - Declare meeting open to public**

<b>RESOLUTION NO: 1610/10</b>	
<b>Moved by:</b>	Donna Blunt
<b>Seconded by:</b>	Ab Covello
THAT the agenda be accepted as presented.	
<b>CARRIED</b>	

**2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

There was no disclosure of pecuniary interest by any member of Council on any item listed on the agenda.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

<b>RESOLUTION NO: 1611/10</b>	
<b>Moved by:</b>	Ab Covello
<b>Seconded by:</b>	Donna Blunt
THAT this Special Meeting of Council is open to the public and is hereby called to order at 3:00 pm.	
<b>CARRIED</b>	

**4. Items of Business**

4.1 Deputation: Rick Inman, Senior Project Manager, Ministry of Transportation

Mr. Inman spoke to the Municipality's resolution suggesting a T intersection at Birch Beach rather the proposed design.

Mr. Siczkar gave an overview of the proposed design as to how it would tie in with both the new and existing highway. It will be classed as a 7000 series highway which is a secondary highway with a different designation for design, speed and maintenance.

Council spoke to concerns of the proposed design compared to the suggested T design that the residents would prefer. Mr. Inman explained that the plan needs to be designed for all movements of all vehicles using the highway giving an example that a T intersection would require a three way stop whereas the proposed design would only have one stop. He undertook to provide Council with current traffic counts.

There was a discussion on the slope in height from the existing highway to the new portion; it was noted that the slope is fairly consistent all along this stretch of highway. With respect to the slope at the proposed Birch Beach connection; it will be cut back to meet the intersection.

Council noted that it was bringing forward the concerns of the residents and brought forward various scenarios and concerns with the proposed design of the Birch Beach connection.

There was a discussion on the possibility of the existing portion of highway being transferred to the Municipality. Mr. Siczkar stated there was no direction from the Ministry of this at this time; noting that there would be an agreement with the Municipality to maintain the realignment of the Mackenzie Heights and Mackenzie Station Roads.

Council spoke to the safety concerns of the existing intersections along Highway 11/17, and to its requests for delineator markers. Mr. Inman stated that the work on the intersections was revisited and there are no plans at present to work on these intersections. Mr. Siczkar will look into the resurfacing of the existing portion of highway and review the history of the intersections.

There was a discussion on the inconvenience the residents were concerned of with the proposed design with the possibility of increased traffic on Birch Beach Road with Crystal Beach being the community area.

Mr. Inman referred to a map and outlined 3 traffic routes in travelling along the current highway design compared to using the new proposed connection design:

- going from Crystal Beach to Birch Beach using the proposed connection would increase the time driving to 31 seconds;
- from Crystal Beach to Eldorado using the proposed connection would increase 38 seconds; and
- from Crystal Beach to the intersection of Birch Beach Road and Eldorado Road using the proposed connection would reduce the time approximately 2 minutes.

Council felt it would be an important comparison for the public. Mr. Inman will bring it to the April 8, 2010 public session the Ministry will be hosting at the MacGregor Recreation Centre.

He requested Council to forward a name for the portion of highway from Mackenzie to Birch Beach Road. The Clerk was directed to place this item on Council's next meeting agenda.

The Reeve stated that Council appreciates that the Minister has listened and would like to continue its discussions with the Ministry.

**5. Closed Session**

5.1 To discuss legal matters

<b>RESOLUTION NO: 1612/10</b>	
<b>Moved by:</b>	Ab Covello
<b>Seconded by:</b>	Donna Blunt
THAT, in accordance with Section 239(2) of the Municipal Act, we adjourn at the hour of 5:15 pm to meet in closed session to discuss legal matters.	
<b>CARRIED</b>	

<b>RESOLUTION NO: 1613/10</b>	
<b>Moved by:</b>	Donna Blunt
<b>Seconded by:</b>	Ab Covello
THAT at the hour of 5:45 pm, we resume meeting in open session.	
<b>CARRIED</b>	

<b>RESOLUTION NO: 1614/10</b>	
<b>Moved by:</b>	Ab Covello
<b>Seconded by:</b>	Donna Blunt
THAT Council hereby accepts the offer to settle as outlined in the correspondence received from Buset and Partners with respect to Court file No. CV-07-0063.	
<b>CARRIED</b>	

**6. Confirmatory By-law**

<b>RESOLUTION NO: 1615/10</b>	
<b>Moved by:</b>	Ab Covello
<b>Seconded by:</b>	Donna Blunt
THAT a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council be read a First, Second and Third time this Eleventh Day of March 2010 and Numbered 2460-10:	
AND THAT the said By-law be engrossed in the By-law Book.	
<b>CARRIED</b>	

