

A meeting of the Operations Committee was held this evening with Chairperson White presiding and all Committee members in attendance. Staff members in attendance were Terry Lapierre, Chief Administrative Officer and David Unrau, Manager-Works, Engineering & Utilities.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Lowe
Seconded by Councillor Henderson
THAT the minutes of the December 14, 2004 meeting be approved as circulated.
CARRIED.

GENERAL

1. Monthly Reports

Monthly reports were reviewed for all sections of the Works, Engineering & Utilities Department.

2. Club Richelieu Longpré Fundraiser

Club Richelieu Longpré has requested use of Riverside Park on June 18, 2005 from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. to hold an automobile rally fundraiser dedicated to the Pembroke General Hospital. There are no other events scheduled that would conflict.

In response to Deputy Mayor Scott's question, staff will review any possible fees that would be applicable for the use of the park. Councillor Levasseur reminded the Committee of the objective of the event and to not provide resistance forcing events to go outside the community.

MOTION: Moved by Deputy-Mayor Scott
Seconded by Councillor O'Neill
THAT the request of Club Richelieu Longpré to hold an automobile rally at Riverside Park on June 18, 2005 be approved in principal pending review of any fees related to the use of the park.

CARRIED.

PARKS & FACILITIES

3. Boat Ramp at Marina

Mr. Unrau apologized for providing only a verbal report but figures and time frames for repair to the boat ramp at the Marina are not yet available. Contact has been made with the Department of Fisheries & Oceans (DFO). There is a possibility that funding could be obtained from DFO for 50% of the repair work. The Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) will not provide anything in writing until a written proposal is provided by the City.

Emergency repairs were completed under a MNR work permit in 2004. Since that time

Jp2g Consultants Inc. was contacted to provide a proposal for complete and proper repair of the ramp. The project which would include design, tender, on-site supervision and liaison for MNR work permits would cost \$5,000 + GST. A verbal proposal for the actual repairs was received at between \$35,000.00 - \$40,000.00. This company would prefer to complete the work while the ice was still in the marina basin.

In discussions with MNR this work would require sedimentation control, and, depending on the time of year determines what amount of control required. It is also important to investigate possible DFO funding and the time sensitivity involved in relation to the start of the repairs.

This item has not been budgeted but will be brought forward during deliberations. Committee members felt it important to be prepared to complete this work at short notice and discussed the possibility of preparing the necessary documents and permits for the work.

Councillor O'Neill voiced his concern about the dangerous situation of the ramp and the number of damages that were experienced in 2004. Councillor Levasseur noted that it is obvious by the revenue experienced from the Marina that it is been well used and should provide the best possible access to the waterway. Mayor Jacyno indicated that the Ottawa River Waterway is becoming a large venue and improvements should be completed prior to the beginning of boating season.

Councillor Henderson questioned if some low cost measure could be used for now to help. Mr. Unrau responded that concrete was used in 2004 for patch work. While the water level is high the condition of the ramp may not be an issue but larger boats would be forced to launch from another location.

Mr. Lapierre reminded the Committee that there are no Capital Works projects scheduled for the Marina so the construction work could be incorporate in this way as the number one project. Capital Works completed at the Marina in 2004 included docking and pedestals.

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Henderson
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Scott
THAT Jp2g Consultants Inc. be awarded the contract to complete design and tender documents and acquire necessary MNR work permits at the contract amount of \$5,000 + GST.

CARRIED.

ROADS & FLEET

4. Winter Maintenance

Mr. Unrau noted that the final costs are not yet in for Winter Maintenance in 2004. The 2004 final budget numbers are not available, however, the last update indicated an overage of approximately \$25,000.00 and rising. There were a lot of calls, especially

with the events that took place in December which changed from snow to thawing to rain and back to snow within a very short period of time. The majority of calls are fielded by staff but in this case many calls were being handled by Management. Staff is commended for an excellent job in tackling the weather with the resources that we have.

Councillor Lafreniere questioned if temporary staff could be brought in to alleviate the situation. Mr. Unrau noted that casuals are hired to help in snow removal operations in the downtown area where sidewalks have to be hand-shovelled. Casuals cannot be used to operate the equipment or as wingman on the plow trucks. The other sections of the Department have been drawn from to assist with personnel shortages. At the same time the Department has experienced staff retirements without replacements to this point.

In response to Deputy Mayor Scott, Mr. Unrau stated that cross-training amongst staff and sections is being completed as much as possible. Time has been limited to provide the training with the resources and staff available but it is a recognized necessity being completed when possible.

Councillor Levasseur congratulated staff, especially under the circumstances of the weather we have had. Councillor O'Neill added that he hopes residents are aware we are doing what we can with the reduction in staff numbers and the limited equipment resources. City residents can have whatever service they would like as long as they are willing to pay for it.

With the Contingency Fund spent, Councillor White reminded Committee members to be aware of this situation during budget deliberations.

5. Sidewalk Maintenance Request – Isabella Street

Councillor Levasseur noted that concerns have been expressed by residents of Isabella Street about the dangerous curve of the road near Doran Street and that sidewalk plowing is only being completed on one side of the street. It is felt that this high traffic area should warrant both sides being done.

This sidewalk was designated in 1990 in the Sidewalk Plowing Policy for plowing only one side of the street. A review to reduce sidewalk maintenance even further was recently discussed by Committee because of cost, staffing and equipment.

Chairperson White expressed concern that, if approved, this would set a precedent for other requests.

Further to the suggestion of a report on sidewalk plowing, Deputy Mayor Scott suggested that, as we know that additions to the existing program are not possible, preparing a report would only be tying up staff time.

Councillor Henderson suggested change to policy that would regulate residents with sidewalks abutting their property would be required to shovel the sidewalk. A program could be incorporated to assist those residences that are elderly or unable to complete the

work. Programs similar to this are working well in both Toronto and Calgary. Requests to change the existing program will continue unless Council makes tough decisions to alter the existing program. Councillor Lafreniere agreed and noted that residence would become accustomed to shovelling the sidewalk similar to have to shovel their own driveways.

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Henderson
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Scott
THAT the request to plow the sidewalks on both sides of Isabella Street from Moffat Street to Doran Street be denied.

CARRIED.

UTILITIES

6. Pollution Control Plant Expansion

Mr. Unrau stated that the expansion program is proceeding as per schedule and on budget.

7. Water Purification Plant Generator

During the recent upgrade to the WPP Backwash project a new Diesel Generator was installed, which made the existing generator redundant.

The generator was offered internally first, then tendered externally. RGT Clouthier Ltd. was the highest bidder at \$28,876.00. Unfortunately the generator did not become available until late 2004 and RGT Clouthier's need diminished prompting them to submit a revised tender of \$15,000.00 in December 2004. Since there was a change in the terms and availability of the unit, the generator was re-tendered with Bee Line Wreckers submitting the only bid for \$12,900.00 + GST.

In response to Councillor Levasseur, there was no interest expressed internally for the generator. Examination to utilize at the Fire Station during an emergency was not feasible as it is not conducive to the environment and would require many retrofits. Councillor O'Neill added that the City would have to keep in mind its recently approved by-law pertaining to installation of generators.

MOTION: Moved by Councillor O'Neill
Seconded by Councillor Severin
THAT Bee Line Wreckers be awarded the tender for the Water Purification Plant Diesel Generator in the amount of \$12,900.00 + GST.

CARRIED.

8. Townline Pumping Station Tender

The Townline Pumping Station has been identified as a priority for rehabilitation for the past several years. Last year, Jp2g Consultants Inc. was commissioned to review the needs and requirements, develop plans and specifications and tender the appropriate

work. The work identified is substantial and will be carried out over the next few years. The first phase of three for this rehabilitation was tendered in December, 2004.

This pumping station manages a majority of the flow in the City. Although it is hard to determine the exact amount, the pumping station did sustain some damage during the heavy summer storms as the pumps had to work 24-7 for approximately 10 days straight.

MOTION: Moved by Deputy Mayor Scott
 Seconded by Councillor Levasseur
 THAT Harrington Mechanical Ltd. be awarded the first phase of three for
 the rehabilitation of the Townline Pumping Station in the amount of
 \$214,865.00 + GST.

On motion of Councillor O'Neill, seconded by Mayor Jacyno, the regular meeting of the Operations Committee adjourned.