



**CITY OF VAUGHAN
SPECIAL COUNCIL MINUTES
JANUARY 8, 2013**

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CITY OF VAUGHAN
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2013
MINUTES
2:00 P.M.

Council convened in the Municipal Council Chamber in Vaughan, Ontario, at 2:00 p.m.

The following members were present:

Hon. Maurizio Bevilacqua, Mayor
Regional Councillor Gino Rosati
Regional Councillor Michael Di Biase
Regional Councillor Deb Schulte
Councillor Rosanna DeFrancesca
Councillor Marilyn Iafrate
Councillor Alan Shefman

1. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

MOVED by Regional Councillor Di Biase
seconded by Councillor DeFrancesca

THAT the agenda be confirmed.

CARRIED

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

There was no disclosure of interest by any member.

3. MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT INITIATIVE (MIII) – CAPITAL PROGRAM FUND
(Item 6, Finance and Administration Committee, Report No. 15, December 10, 2012)

MOVED by Regional Councillor Di Biase
seconded by Regional Councillor Schulte

THAT the Finance and Administration Committee recommendation of December 10, 2012, be adopted without amendment:

That the recommendation contained in the following report of the Commissioner of Finance & City Treasurer and the Commissioner of Engineering & Public Works, dated December 10, 2012, be approved.

CARRIED

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Finance & City Treasurer and the Commissioner of Engineering & Public Works recommend:

1. That Council endorse the development and submission of an Expression of Interest for funding consideration regarding the Glen Shields Avenue Bridge Restoration project; and
2. That the Commissioner of Finance and City Treasurer be authorized to submit the necessary documentation in support of the Expression of Interest, including the completion of a declaration, Section 10, of the Expression of Interest (Attachment 2).

Contribution to Sustainability

The Province of Ontario has launched the MIII Capital program to help municipalities address necessary road, bridge, water and waste water top priority projects identified through asset management plans. This program is the second phase of the Province's recently released Municipal Infrastructure Strategy which aims to:

- Further strengthen municipal asset management practices;
- Support the most critical roads, bridges, water and waste water projects; and
- Provide funding to municipalities that are unable to undertake projects without provincial support.

The strategy relies heavily on the requirement for municipalities to demonstrate how proposed projects fit within an asset management plan, which is a key component to ensuring infrastructure sustainability. The overall intent is to ensure planning decisions are made over the long term and prioritized with the context of needs over wants to ensure the right investments are made at the right time.

Economic Impact

This report as written has no economic impact. However; should the City's Expression of Interest (EOI) result in an approved application for funding, the program will provide 90% of the eligible costs with the remaining 10% proposed to be funded through debenture financing. The proposed project's design component is currently included in the 2013 Capital Plan with the construction proposed to be completed in 2015, with a total combined cost of \$566,500. An MIII – Capital Program award would significantly reduce the City's burden to fund this project by 90%.

Communications Plan

All required communication protocol will be initiated in the event that the City receives MIII-Capital Program funding.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the information and requirements of the MIII-Capital Program and the rationale for proposing the Glen Shields Avenue Bridge Restoration Project.

Background - Analysis and Options

The Province announced its 'Building Together' long term infrastructure plan in June of 2011. The first phase was initiated in August 2012 that provided small, rural and northern municipalities with funding to complete Asset Management Plans. The City was not eligible for this funding.

The second phase was launched on November 15th of this year, with the announcement of the MIII – Capital Program (Attachment #1) for which the City is eligible to participate. Through this funding stream, \$51 million will be available to all municipalities to address critical infrastructure needs with respect to the renewal, rehabilitation or replacement of roads, bridges, water and wastewater projects.

The MIII-Capital Program will provide successful applicants with a grant for a single project for up to 90% of the total eligible project costs or two (2) million dollars, whichever is lower. Through this program the Province will target only those projects that would not otherwise be completed without MIII assistance; are identified as priorities under the municipality's Asset Management Plan; and

address a public health/safety issue.

To be eligible for this program, municipalities must:

- “Submit their 2011 Financial Information Return to Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) by January 9, 2013. This will be utilized to assess the municipality’s financial situation;
- Have a comprehensive Asset Management Plan (AMP) that meets the minimum criteria specified in the *Guide for Municipal Asset Management Plans* or committed to completing one, by December 31, 2013.”

Municipalities must comply with the above two preliminary requirements to be eligible to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) by January 9, 2013 to the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA).

The MIII process is comprised of two steps: Step (1): Pre-screening and Step (2): Application Process. Both steps will consider the proposed projects from three (3) angles as follows:

Step 1: Prescreening:

Asset Management Planning: Commitment to / progress toward asset management planning;

Criticality of the Project: Preliminary evidence of health and / or safety problem;

Fiscal Situation: Applicant’s general fiscal circumstances

To submit an Expression of Interest for pre-screening, eligible municipalities must:

1. Complete the Expression of Interest form (Attachment #2);
2. Make a declaration certifying that:
 - The information in the Expression of Interest is factually accurate; and
 - The municipality has a comprehensive asset management plan that includes all of the information and analysis described in *Building Together: Guide for Municipal Asset Management Plans*.

Further, an EOI submission must be limited to one (1) eligible project and each Municipality may only submit one (1) EOI. It should be noted that the Province has indicated that it will not consider submissions that bundle more than one capital asset into a single project unless a the City can “justify a significant linkage between the assets especially with respect to the health and safety criteria.” Only those projects with high alignment with the objectives of the MIII-Capital program will be invited to submit an application.

Projects approved through the prescreening process will be invited to submit an application that provides more details regarding the three (3) areas.

Step 2: Application Process

Asset Management Planning: Completeness of asset management plan (measured against Building Together: Guide for Municipal Asset Management Plans);

Criticality of the Project: Detailed technical information regarding urgency of the health and safety problem and the proposed problem;

Fiscal Situation: Municipality’s need for provincial assistance and efforts to make full use of all available local infrastructure financing tools.

Currently the City's Engineering Department has a 'Linear Asset Plan' that addresses the minimum requirements as noted in the *Guide for Municipal Asset Management Plans*. Specifically, the plan covers the required minimum asset categories of roads, bridges, water and wastewater. The City is also now engaged in the first stage of an Asset Management Strategic Initiative which will expand, refine, and consolidate this linear asset plan into a comprehensive City Master Asset Management Plan. This undertaking favorably positions the City to avail itself of this, and any future infrastructure funding initiatives.

Notification from the Province regarding the success of the EOI will be provided early in 2013. Successful Municipalities will be sent an application template and have 45 days in which to complete and return it.

It is recommended that the City submit an EOI with respect to the Glen Shields Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation project. Glen Shields was chosen as it meets the MIII eligibility criteria with respect to type of asset, addresses a critical health and safety issue and currently a funding source for the construction has not been secured.

The bridge was originally constructed approximately 34 years ago in 1979 and is located on Glen Shields Avenue, approximately 600m west of Dufferin Street (Attachment #3). The bridge continues to serve the daily commuter needs of the surrounding residential community via a roadway width of 15.2m and a single lane for 2-way vehicular traffic.

Regulations under the Highway Traffic Act (Section 123(2)) and the Bridges Act (Section 2) requires the City to ensure that the bridges are kept safe and in good repair. This requirement is completed through the performance of regular biennial structure inspections in accordance with the Ontario Structure Inspection Manual. Under these regulations, municipalities are still responsible for passing load limit by-laws. In place of the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario review, the engineering recommendations to support the load limit and the duration for which it is valid, must now be stamped by two professional engineers.

Based on the 2010 structural inspection, the following recommendations were made to ensure that the bridge is kept in a good state of repair.

Element Group	Required Maintenance	Priority (timing of repair)
Joints	Bridge deck joint repair/ replacement	Within 1 year
Barriers/Parapet Walls	Repair of bridge concrete	1 – 5 years
Approaches	Repair of bridge concrete (curb and gutters and Sidewalks)	1 – 5 years
Barriers	Bridge Handrail Maintenance	1 – 5 years
Embankment	Slope protection	1 – 5 years

As noted in the above chart, the timeframe to complete the repairs is one to five years which will be reached by 2015. It is critical that the City complete these repairs within this five year period or risk further, and more extensive, damage that would elevate the risk beyond the critical level. The costs to repair the damage at that point would result in an increased financial burden on the City. Further, this one to five year time frame ensures that the City remains in compliance with the Act/standards as well as maintains the health and safety of area residents. In accordance with the proposed four (4) year capital plan, it is anticipated that the design phase will take place in 2013 and the construction phase in 2015. A total of \$566,500 has been budgeted for the design and construction of the project from Debenture Financing. Completion of the repairs has not been completed to date due to budget constraints.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

- Enhance and ensure community safety, health and wellness;
- Maintain Assets and Infrastructure
- Ensure Financial Sustainability.

Regional Implications

No Implications

Conclusion

Developing a comprehensive Asset Management Plan (AMP) is a key component to ensuring the municipality's infrastructure is sustainable over the long term. AMPs enable municipalities to effectively plan, monitor and replace aging assets cost effectively and without significantly decreasing service levels to constituents.

The City's existing Linear Asset plan meets the requirements of the MIII program, thereby making the City eligible to submit an EOI. Success in securing funding from this program will be contingent, in part, on demonstrating financial need for the project. The review board's ranking of Vaughan's project may come in lower when compared to the fiscal situation of other Ontario municipalities. However; this does not preclude the City from submitting an EOI for consideration. Should the submission not result in funding at this time, the ability of the City to apply to future infrastructure grant programs will be possible due to the City's undertaking to compile a comprehensive City Master Asset Management Plan.

Attachments

Attachment # 1: MIII-Capital Program Manual

Attachment # 2: Expression of Interest (EOI) Template

Attachment # 3: Location Map

Report prepared by:

Bonnie-Lyn Gow, Grants Specialist, ext. 8425

Vince Musacchio, Manager Capital Planning and Infrastructure

(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing have been forwarded to each Member of Council and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the City Clerk.)

4. RESOLUTION TO RESOLVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

MOVED by Councillor Iafrate

seconded by Councillor DeFrancesca

That Council resolve into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing the following matters:

PERSONNEL MATTER – APPOINTMENT OF A DEPUTY CLERK

(personal matter about an identifiable individual)

CARRIED

Council recessed at 2:01 p.m.

MOVED by Councillor Iafrate

seconded by Councillor DeFrancesca

THAT Council reconvene at 2:09 p.m.

CARRIED

Council reconvened at 2:09 p.m. with all members present.

5. PERSONNEL MATTER – APPOINTMENT OF A DEPUTY CLERK

MOVED by Regional Councillor Di Biase
seconded by Councillor Shefman

That the confidential recommendation moved in Closed Session, be approved.

CARRIED

6. CONFIRMING BY-LAW

MOVED by Councillor Shefman
seconded by Councillor Iafrate

THAT By-law Number 001-2013, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting on January 8, 2013, be enacted.

CARRIED

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Regional Councillor Schulte
seconded by Regional Councillor Rosati

THAT the meeting adjourn at 2:11 p.m.

CARRIED

Hon. Maurizio Bevilacqua, Mayor

Jeffrey A. Abrams, City Clerk