

WINDROW PLOWING SERVICE TASK FORCE

**April 18, 2011
Council Chamber**

Attendance:

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath
Regional Councillor Jim Jones
Regional Councillor Gord Landon
Regional Councillor Joe Li
Councillor. Howard Shore
Councillor Don Hamilton
Councillor Carolina Moretti
Councillor Colin Campbell
Councillor Alan Ho
Councillor Logan Kanapathi
Councillor Alex Chiu

Staff

John Livey, Chief Administrative Officer
Brenda Librecz, Commissioner of Community & Fire Services
Andy Taylor, Commissioner of Corporate Services
Rhonda Bosch, Manager, Contact Centre
Nadine Daley, Manager, Human Resources
Dennis Flaherty, Director, Communications & Community
Relations Paul Ingham, General Manager, Operations
Morgan Jones, District Manager (East), Operations
Peter Loukes, Director of Operations
Joel Lustig, Town Treasurer
Alex Moore, Manager of Purchasing
Raj Raman, Manager, Accounting & Expenditure Control
Warren Rupnarain, Accessibility Coordinator
Andrea Tang, Manager Financial Planning
Bob Walter, Team Lead, Service Planning
Kitty Bavington, Council/Committee Coordinator

Guest

Joseph Petrungaro, Manager Roads Maintenance, York Region

The first meeting of Windrow Plowing Service Task Force convened at 10:20 a.m., with Regional Councillor Gord Landon in the Chair.

1. WINDROW PLOWING SERVICES

Brenda Librecz, Commissioner of Community Services gave a brief introduction to the Windrow Plowing Services provided by the Town of Markham. The Committee was provided with a binder of background information including the Terms of Reference for the Windrow Plowing Service Task Force, and previous Council reports from 2005 and 2007.

Peter Loukes, Director of Operations, delivered a PowerPoint presentation regarding the current level of service being provided, and strengths, issues, and opportunities.

Discussions included the difference between the cost of the current service for approximately 2000 driveways and the cost of providing improved services, and the cost implications of providing the service to all households. The cost is currently \$132,000 per season for 2,000+ driveways. Staff will research the cost to the entire town, (800,000 driveways) but it was estimated to be over \$2 million.

The Committee discussed the aging demographics, the use of AVL's in non-town vehicles, increased volume of snow at corner lots, rear lanes treatments, and the minimum snowfall criteria particularly for school areas and streets without sidewalks. A suggestion was made that the service be provided on a user charge basis. Staff clarified the disability qualifications and ongoing customer satisfaction measurements.

Next steps involve staff researching the best practices of other municipalities, identifying benchmarks and preparing a work plan. A technical staff review will evaluate the needs and options to improve services.

Moved by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

Seconded by Councillor Alan Ho

That the presentation by Peter Loukes, Director of Operations regarding Windrow Plowing Services be received.

ADJOURNMENT

The Windrow Plowing Service Task Force meeting adjourned at 11:25 am.