



Minutes

Rural Access to Broadband Internet Technology (RABIT) Task Force

Meeting Date: October 6, 2022
Meeting Time: 1:00 p.m.
Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting
Prepared by Carrie Fairley, Executive Assistant Committees of Council

A. Call to Order

▪ Task Force Member Attendance

Mayor Soever called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. with Councillor Sampson present. Councillor Abbotts joined the meeting at 1:08 p.m.

Town staff present were Chief Administrative Officer Shawn Everitt, and Deputy Clerk Kyra Dunlop.

▪ Approval of the Agenda

Moved: Councillor Sampson Seconded: Mayor Soever

THAT the Agenda of October 6, 2022, be approved as circulated, including any additions to the agenda.

Yay (2) Councillor Sampson and Mayor Soever

Absent (1): Councillor Abbotts.

The motion is Carried (2 to 0, 1 absent)

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and general nature thereof

NOTE: In accordance with the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* and the Town Procedural By-law 2021-76, Rural Access to Broadband Internet Technology (RABIT) Task Force members must file a written statement of the interest and its general nature with the Clerk for inclusion on the Registry.

None

▪ Review of Minutes (June 28, 2022)

The Minutes of June 28, 2022, have been previously approved by email.

B. Staff Reports and Deputations

B.1 Deputations, if any

Note

B.2 Staff reports, if any

None

C. Matters for Discussion

C.1. Accelerated High Speed Internet Program (AHSIP) Update re Completion of Procurement Process.

Mayor Soever provided an overview of the update received and noted that Rogers was the successful proponent of government funding for this area.

The Task Force discussed the status of the upgrades currently being completed including upgrades being worked on by companies that aren't receiving Government funding.

The Task Force discussed ensuring that new developments in the area are installing the proper conduits so that these developments are equipped to receive fiber.

C.4. Action Item Tracking

- Installation guidelines for conduit in The Blue Mountains Road Allowance ("Variation Agreement") have now been included in the Draft Engineering Standard. Developments are supporting and including both Rogers and Bell. Older developments that had copper conduit previously installed may need further upgrading.
 - Engineering Standards update that contemplates appropriate conduit installation in full reconstruction projects and capital projects will be brought forward to Council for consideration in early 2023.
- Conduit Installation in Developments
 - Lora Bay phase 5 included conduit installation. Developers will be coming forward with phase 6 and the Town will ensure this will be a requirement for this phase.
- R2B2 and The Town of The Blue Mountains
 - No updates
- Infrastructure Ontario Broadband Guidelines Update
 - CAO Shawn Everitt advised that there were some changes to the Ontario One Call program and that Town staff were reviewing the potential of having their own certified dedicated locater employed through the Town.
- Optimum Tower Locations Request for Proposal Update
 - Request for Proposal has been stalled due to staff resourcing. Director Adam Smith is looking to add this to the heritage and culture study. IT department has been doing research to see if any Town-owned properties would be ideal locations, or if the alternative is renting land.

D. Correspondence

None.

E. New and Unfinished Business

F.1 Additions to the Agenda

None

F.2 Items Identified for Discussion at Next Meeting

None.

F. Upcoming Meeting Dates

At the Call of the Chair
Town Hall, Council Chambers (virtually)

G. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 3:07 p.m.