MUNICIPALITY OF MORRIS-TURNBERRY
Bluevale Hall
32 Clyde Street, Bluevale, Ontario.

Monday March 18th, 2018 - 7:00 pm

Minutes for the Special Council Meeting
‘Public Meeting’

1. Open House

Presentation boards describing the Class EA process and the options for the Blind Lind Bridge were available for review by the public at 7:00 pm

2. Call to order: Mayor Jamie Heffer
Mayor Jamie Heffer called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm and welcomed those in attendance.

Council in Attendance:
Jamie Heffer
Kevin Freiburger
Sharen Zinn
Jim Nelemans

Jamie McCallum Absent

Staff in Attendance:
Nancy Michie Administrator Clerk –Treasurer
Mike Alcock Director of Public Works
Trevor Hallam

Others in Attendance
Kelly Vader B.M. Ross and Associates
Ryan Munn B.M. Ross and Associates
Neil Warwick
Murray Johnston
John Smuck
Marilyn Freiburger
Gerald Freiburger
Doug Garniss
2.1 Purpose: Special meeting authorized by Motion No. 83-2019:

Motion: 83-2019
Moved by Jim Nelemans
Seconded by Sharen Zinn
“That due to financial restraints, the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry recommend the Repair/Rehab option for the Blind Line Bridge on Abraham Line, with a new Low level crossing; and the Council is open for comments from the landowners at the Public meeting, to review options, which will be held on Monday March 18, 2019 at 7 pm at the Bluevale Community Hall.”
Carried

The purpose of this meeting is to update residents and project stakeholders on the status of study investigations and to receive input from interested parties on the Preliminary Preferred Alternative selected to address deterioration present at the Blind Line Bridge.

3. Agenda:

3.1 Adoption of Agenda:

Motion 124-2019
Moved by Jim Nelemans
Seconded by Sharen Zinn
“That the agenda for the meeting of March 18th 2018 be adopted as circulated.”
Disposition Carried

4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:
None declared at this time.

5. Public Meeting:

Motion 125-2019
Moved by Kevin Freiburger
Seconded by Jim Nelemans
“That the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry move into a Public Meeting pursuant to the Class EA process for the Blind Line Bridge of Abraham Line.”
Disposition Carried

6. Presentation
Kelly Vader, Environmental Planner – B.M. Ross and Associates
Ryan Munn, P.Eng – B.M. Ross and Associates

Ms. Vader and Mr. Munn presented materials to those present on the bridge’s deficiencies, the Class EA process, bridge repair and replacement alternatives, bridge heritage assessments, consultation summary, the selection of a preliminary preferred alternative (repair and rehabilitation) and the next steps in the process.
1. **Written Comments Received**

Written comments in advance of the meeting were received from 5 individuals

Summary of Comments Received from the public
- Don’t want bridge to be closed
- A new wider bridge would be better for Agricultural Use
- Retain old bridge and improve low flow crossing rather than remove the bridge
- Bridge used on a daily basis by local residents
- A road is not preferred due to impact to agricultural lands that need to be crossed for construction and splitting of a farm
- Road route is too far from bridge, on major roads, and would require constructing the road through the wetland

**Agency comments were received from:**
- Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport
- Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry
- Maitland Valley Conservation Authority
- Ministry of the Environment & Climate Change

2. **Verbal Public comments**

- Concerns raised over the engineering costs associated with exploring options that landowners had expressed their opposition to from the beginning of the process, namely the option to build a new access road.
- Clarification sought regarding the lifespan of the repaired abutments if a new bridge was constructed.
- Concerns regarding the weight limits and the width that restrict the crossing of certain farm equipment.
- Are there federal or provincial monies available to fund the preservation or repair of culturally significant heritage bridges.
- Clarification sought regarding why the road option wouldn’t follow the existing road allowance.
- Clarification regarding life expectancy of the modular vs concrete truss bridge
- If the money is spent to repair and refurbish, no real improvement has been made and it is likely that more work will be needed in the near future, and that the cost over the lifespan would be substantial

3. **Council comments and questions**

- Councillor Nelemans
  - Whether the cost of the level crossing is included in the estimates for new bridge construction or just for the repair options.
  - confirmed that a new bridge would certainly be preferable but is cost prohibitive.
  - if the bridge is replaced, would there still be repairs required?
    - There would likely be repairs required depending on the timeline for replacement
Mayor Jamie Heffer
- clarified that improving the low level crossing would be the first step.
- asked for clarification on the timing of the repairs to the low level crossing
- asked for clarification regarding the timeline for construction

Deputy Mayor Zinn
- stressed the financial restraints of such a costly piece of infrastructure for a limited number of residents
- sought clarification on the timeline to build a new bridge

Councillor Freiburger
- suggested that the cost should not be looked at in terms of ratepayers who will be directly impacted, but rather as the cost of maintaining a piece of municipal infrastructure, which is the duty of Council.

4. **Explanation of the Process following the Public Meeting:**

Mayor Jamie Heffer

Following the meeting, input into the Class EA will be accepted until April 19, 2019. Comments collected in conjunction with this Class EA Schedule ‘B’ process will be maintained on file for use during the project and may be included in project documentation. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record. For further information on this project, or to review the MEA Class EA process, please contact the project engineers: B.M. Ross and Associates: 62 North Street, Goderich, Ontario, N7A 2T4. Telephone (Toll Free): (888) 524-2641. Fax: (519) 524-4403. Kelly Vader, Environmental Planner (e-mail: kvader@bmross.net).

5. **Adjournment:**

**Motion 126-2019**

Moved by Kevin Freiburger Seconded by Jim Nelemans
"That the public meeting be adjourned at 8:12 pm."
Disposition Carried

**Motion 127-2019**

Moved by Sharen Zinn Seconded by Kevin Freiburger
"That the meeting be adjourned at 8:12 pm."
Disposition Carried

Mayor, Jamie Heffer

Clerk, Nancy Michie