

OBERON COUNCIL

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Present: The Mayor, Councillor K Sullivan (in the Chair), Councillors J McMahon, I Doney, N Francis, R O’Bernier, K Gibbons, C McCarthy and D Fitzpatrick.

The General Manager, Leanne Mash; Director of Engineering, Leigh Robins; the Director of Corporate Services, John Chapman; Works Manager, Ian Tucker and the Executive Assistant, Sharon Swannell

It was noted that Councillor Handelsmann left the meeting prior to commencement.

Apologies

Nil

01.01.01 Plant Replacement Program

Moved: O’Bernier
Second: Doney

That an allocation of \$480,000 for plant replacement for 2011/12 be referred for budget consideration.

Carried 01020511

01.01.02 Status Report on Items Raised at the Works Committee Meeting held on 2 February 2011

Moved: Doney
Second: McMahon

That the information be received and noted.

Carried 02020511

11.01.03 Abercrombie Road Discussion

The matters regarding works on Abercrombie Road tabled by Councillor Gibbons were discussed.

Councillor Gibbons asked if the use of pegs and string lines on jobs had been successful? The Director of Engineering advised that the works staff were happy to work with this method.

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During the last section of works completed on Abercrombie Road the introduction of string lines and pegs was not used on the sub-grade as a reasonable portion of the works had already commenced when the use of this method was discussed. The Director of Engineering advised that this method will be used for future works.

The Mayor asked if Council has a quality assurance program for the construction of roads, which includes bends and road edges and not staff are requested to put forward a quality assurance program in the future.

Councillor O’Bernier asked why we finished a section of upgrade works on a curve? This had recently been the case as the job had to marry in with previous works. This is not normal practice and would not be proposed for future works.

Discussion was then held regarding costing of roadworks. The Director of Engineering advised that on any job an estimate of plant usage, labour, time for construction, materials, land acquisition, survey and legal costs is detailed. On the last section of upgrade works on Abercrombie Road the job was finished very close to budget.

The cost and usefulness of escort vehicles was then discussed. The Director of Engineering outlined the advantages of having escort vehicles operating on jobs. The primary reason is for safety of staff on the job and the safety of road users. There are often situations where lights are used and not adhered to. An escort vehicle is also advantageous when moving material from one side of the road to the other, as this reduces the time required to pull down and reset traffic barriers.

Piping and drainage on works was discussed. The suitability of rock silt traps in table drains was also discussed.

Moved: O’Bernier
Second: McMahon

That the information be received and noted.

Carried 03020511

General Business

Councillor Gibbons asked about the recent installation of The Well at The Common. Councillor Gibbons is concerned that the concrete is not level. The Director of Engineering will investigate.

Councillor McCarthy asked about the possible relocation of the ramp at 1095 Abercrombie Road. The Director of Engineering advised that this had previously been requested and the owner has been advised this is not possible.

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Councillor McCarthy raised the recently completed installation of the barriers on The Mount and asked if the barriers could contribute to ice on the road during frosty conditions? The Works Manager advised that last summer The Mount was re-sealed with high skid resistance aggregate material. The barriers have been put in place as an additional safety feature. The project was funded from Road Safety funds. Drainage has also been put in place under the barriers to channel water off the road. These may need additional seal put in place to make them more effective.

Councillor O’Bernier congratulated staff for the recent work completed on Junction Road.

Gravel resheeting has been carried out on Schumachers Road.

Councillor McCarthy requested that a list major works their current status be included with the monthly business paper.

The next section of works to be completed on Abercrombie Road will be a 500 metre section in the Village of Black Springs.

Councillor McCarthy requested that when work is scheduled for the section of Abercrombie Road on the Western Side of the Sewell’s Creek Road intersection staff investigate the opportunity for including an overtaking lane. The Works Manager will investigate and come back with a cost to complete this project. This may require the length of work to be reduced to accommodate the additional costs.

Councillor McCarthy also asked if the road was to be lowered at the original entrance to “The Retreat” on Abercrombie Road. The Works Manager advised that he will investigate if this can be accommodated within the budget.

The Mayor asked staff to follow up on matters raised at the Burruga and District Community Association Meeting. Staff will provide a report to Council regarding options for the Black Springs and Burruga Waste Transfer Stations, including the collection of garbage from the Burruga Dam Camping Area.

A copy of the Council’s Code of Conduct and Code of Meeting Practice Policies were distributed to Councillors.

This meeting closed at 6.26pm

Confirmed this _____ day of _____ 2011.

General Manager

Mayor

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General Manager

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