



ACTION:

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Held Tuesday, February 21, 2006
(following Community Services Committee Meeting)
City Council Chambers
at 4:00 p.m.

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PRESENT: Vice Chair, Councillor Szajewski
Member, Councillor McMillan
B. Preisentanz, CAO
P. McLaughlin, Note Taker

REGRETS: Chair, Councillor Poirier
Councillor Wasacase
Councillor Compton
R. Perchuk, Operations Manager

**A. PUBLIC INFORMATION NOTICES AS PER
BY-LAW NUMBER 14-2003**

N/A

B. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None Declared

C. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved by R. McMillan, Seconded by T. Szajewski, and Carried:
THAT the Minutes of the Operations Standing Committee Meeting held
February 7, 2006, be confirmed as written.

D. DEPUTATIONS

S. Smith, L. & K. Bracken, Re: Snowmobile Trail

DEPUTATION:

Sharon Smith & Laurie & Ken Bracken

Ms. Smith requested the wording of the proposed resolution being brought forth regarding the temporary re-location of the Keewatin Trail "A" West snowmobile corridor be tightened up. Ms. Smith then read from a prepared address that outlined the following additional points for consideration. She suggested that if a snowmobile corridor trail, within City limits, is to be temporarily re-located a request should be submitted in writing by the Sunset Trail Rider's (STR) Snowmobile Club and the trail should not be established until full authorization is made by the City. Additional signage should be at the STR's expense and directed by the City to include, but not be limited to: "temporary due to conditions", "pedestrians on trail", "built-up area" and "single lane with pedestrian's right of way". Lastly, repair of any damages to city property, landscaping, etc., should be borne by STR

under the direction of the City.

She stressed that the proper approval process has to be followed to prevent decisions being made without public consultation and presumption of 'under the table' decision making. She stressed that permanent changes should be approved by an amendment to the appropriate by-law.

It was the City's intention to go back to status quo for the remainder of 2006 when ice conditions were deemed safe. Ms. Bracken commented that the decision to temporarily move the trail to City lands occurred at a meeting of the newly formed Snowmobile Friendly City Steering Committee in reaction to a hazard created by unsafe ice conditions. The Committee was so new, that the proper process had not been clearly defined. It is the desire of STR to pursue the permanent re-location of the trail to this site, but by way of proper process at the end of the year.

Ms. Smith commented that following due process would ensure that the tax payer would not be held responsible for damages to the trail. Ms. Bracken commented that their trails are used by an awful lot of non members and the Club does not want to be responsible for their actions. The Club is addressing this problem by lobbying government to lower trail permit fees to make it more affordable for families.

Ms. Smith questioned why the Planning Department was not handling this issue. It was clarified that the Operations and Property & Planning departments are linked internally and work together on issues involving both departments.

In closing Councillor McMillan summarized that the Bracken's quest is to promote and market Kenora as a winter tourist destination and Ms. Smith's quest is for appropriate adherence to the by-law and consultation process, and their desire to work together through the newly formed Snowmobile Friendly City Steering Committee would be to the benefit of all residents.

ROADS

1. Keewatin Snowmobile Corridor

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Council of the City of Kenora hereby approves the temporary re-location of the Keewatin Trail "A" West snowmobile corridor under the Channel Bridge to the City lands (Portage Bay/McDiamid Lumber area) as outlined in the attached map during such times as the ice conditions are deemed to be unsafe; and

THAT the Keewatin Trail "A" West snowmobile corridor be re-established as soon as ice conditions under the Keewatin Channel Bridge have been deemed safe; and further

THAT public meetings be established to consider any future or permanent changes to the approved snowmobile corridors within the City limits; and further

THAT three readings be given to a by-law to amend Schedule "C" of By-law 154-2001 to temporarily re-locate Keewatin Trail "A" West as set out above.

J. McMillin

Recommendation Approved (resolution & bylaw)

WATER & SEWER

2. Grinder Pump Maintenance

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the City of Kenora provide the option to homeowners a fee for service for maintenance of grinder pumps on private property.

TABLED – for further discussion when Chair and Operations Manager are in attendance.

HOLD

OTHER BUSINESS

3. Province Wide Walkout - OMERS

The City of Kenora was advised that a province wide walkout in protest of Bill 206 will begin Thurs., Feb. 23, 2006 at 12:01a.m. The City of Kenora locals only agreed to a one day protest. All City buildings will be open and all services will have coverage.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, March 7, 2006 at 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.