

COUNTY OF PERTH
FACILITIES REVIEW COMMITTEE

February 23, 2011
9:00 a.m.
Court House, Board Room

Present: Chairperson Wilhelm, Warden Behrns, Councillors McKenzie,
Councillor McMillan

Staff: CAO, Bill Arthur; Director of Public Works, Matt Ash; Facilities Supervisor,
Brian Priestap; Clerk, Kerri Ann O'Rourke

Other: Emergency Services Director, Linda Rockwood.

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Bob McMillan

Seconded by Walter McKenzie

THAT the agenda as presented be adopted;

CARRIED.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and general nature thereof

None noted

3. Minutes of January 20, 2011

Moved by Bob McMillan

Seconded by Julie Behrns

THAT the minutes of January 20, 2011 be adopted;

CARRIED.

4. EMS Base/Post

Emergency Services Director, Linda Rockwood attended the meeting to provide the Committee with a summary of past decisions of the Committee (and information provided at previous meetings) and to discuss the alternatives of building (or leasing) space in the east end of Stratford for an EMS base, post or headquarters.

Linda Rockwood circulated mapping which outlined response times from various locations, call distribution data (Code 4 calls), average drive times.

It was noted that in the future the Province of Ontario will require EMS to report the percentage of calls that took six minutes and eight minutes to respond.

Statistics and mapping provided to Committee members are based on twelve minute response time.

Fifteen minutes response time covers most of the County.

A map was presented which outlined those areas in Perth County that take longer than twelve minutes to respond.

EMS receives requests for a significant number of ambulance calls to New Hamburg and areas to the east. As a result EMS has decided to do Code 8 (standby) calls from the Stratford base rather than New Hamburg or Shakespeare and recommends that any future base or post be located west of Shakespeare. This increases the odds that the ambulance will be available for calls in Perth County rather than a neighbouring municipality.

Discussion occurred regarding the placement of a base/post at Amulree or Gadshill. Map 4 indicates the ten minute drive times from various locations in the County. Placing a base/post north of Stratford and to the east decreases the response time to calls on Highway 7/8 (Shakespeare area) and puts an ambulance too close to Waterloo.

Map 7 indicates the response times from various current and potential base/post locations throughout the county.

Staff were directed to provide the Committee with an additional map which overlays call distribution, response times with possible base/post locations.

The decision regarding the location of Emergency Services Headquarters hinges on renovations to the Court House building.

Linda Rockwood explained the difference between a Headquarters/Station, a Base only or a Post only.

Staff was directed to:

1. Move forward under the assumption that the Accessibility Grant for the County Court House renovations has been received;
2. Pursue a location in the east end of the City of Stratford (leased space) suitable for a post;
3. Pursue a location in the City of Stratford or West suitable for a base (so that EMS can maintain City of Stratford response times and still improve response times throughout Perth County);
4. Amend mapping/data based on these directions;
5. Acknowledge that the Headquarters location will hinge on the receipt of the Accessibility Grant for the Court House and maintain the Festival Hydro (leased) location for the time being.

Director of Public Works, Matt Ash noted that the 2011 budget includes funds for the design of buildings and purchase of land. The 2012 budget will include fund for the construction of a base and/or headquarters.

5. New Business

5.1 Stratford-Perth Archives Renovation

Matt Ash reported that preliminary drawings for the renovation to the Archives building has been received and forwarded to Corporate Services and Archives staff for comment.

After the 2011 budget has been passed, Matt Ash will give the Province of Ontario the required 3-months Notice (to vacate the basement) in accordance with the Lease Agreement.

Staff were directed to research the origins of the original cost sharing Agreement with the County, City of Stratford and Town of St. Marys and the impact of joining a Perth County building and a building with shared ownership.

5.2 Central High School

It has been confirmed that the Avon Maitland District School Board have no plans to vacate the Central High School building but are looking for community partners for facilities such as a library, community college etc.

6. Adjournment

Moved by Walter McKenzie

Seconded by Julie Behrns

THAT the Facilities Review Committee meeting be adjourned at 11:00 a.m.;

CARRIED.

Robert Wilhelm, Chair

Kerri Ann O'Rourke, Clerk