SUBJECT: Snow Removal – Cenotaph, Tobermory

FROM: Bill Rydall, Public Works Manager

DATE: May 13, 2013

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council receives Public Works Report PW 13-20 as information as it relates to snow removal at the Cenotaph on Bay Street South, Tobermory.

BACKGROUND:

The Chief Administrative Officer, Council and Public Works Department Staff have received much correspondence with regards to the snow removal operations conducted on Bay Street South and more specifically along the section where the Tobermory Cenotaph is located.

Many residents have voiced their concerns over the placement of snow and sand on the Cenotaph, during snow removal operations.

Furthermore, correspondence has been received regarding the placement of snow and debris at Little Tub Harbour, which has caused sand debris to be placed in the vicinity of stored boats.

COMMENTS:

The Public Works Department is currently in the process of preparing its tender for snowplow and snowblower operators for the upcoming winter seasons. As such, a formal review of current operations will be conducted and necessary changes made to provide a better service. The snowblowing operators will be instructed to ensure that their discharge chute is not directed towards the Cenotaph or the boats. Staff will also closely monitor winter operations to make sure winter impacts on the Cenotaph are kept to a minimum.

Public Works Staff were able to use the hand powered sweeper to remove the sand from the grass and paved area at the Cenotaph.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Tobermory Yacht Club letter dated April 16, 2013
2. St. Edmunds Property Owner’s Association
BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

It is difficult to estimate the additional time involved to carry the snow further down the road prior to disposal on the road shoulder or grassed area.

MUNICIPAL STRATEGIC COMMITMENT:

By evaluating strategic objectives, it can be assured that the actions taken by the Municipality create value across all strategic priorities identified in the Strategic Plan. In doing so, the Municipality moves closer to its vision of providing a safe, progressive municipality that is committed to managing growth and providing a welcoming, diverse and environmentally sustainable community that enhances the quality of life for all residents and visitors.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Priority</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Well managed and fiscally responsible municipal government is enhanced</td>
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<td>Conservation and protection of unique natural environment including the</td>
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<td>encouragement of well managed growth is enhanced</td>
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<td>Health, safety and education of the community are enhanced.</td>
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<td>Development/promotion of cultural and recreational opportunities is enhanced</td>
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<td>Citizen involvement is enhanced.</td>
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<td>Economic development strategies are enhanced.</td>
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<td>Does the option(s) recommended create value across all strategic priorities?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does the option(s) recommended make Northern Bruce Peninsula a municipality of choice for high performance public servants?</td>
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Respectfully submitted: William Rydall, O.E.T. Public Works Manager

Approved by: Bill Jones, Chief Administrative Officer
April 16, 2013

Bill Jones  
Chief Administrative Officer  
The Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula,  
56 Lindsay Rd 5,  
R R. #2  
Lion's Head, ON  
N0H1W0

Dear Sir,

Members of the Tobermory Yacht Club who store their boats on the north side of Little Tub have asked me to send you a note regarding the debris thrown on their boats by the snow blower during the winter months. The dirty snow contains substances, grit, sand and pebbles that can chip the gelcoat of fibreglass boats, is abrasive and leaves stains on the surface which are hard to remove. The salt in the snow also etches the surface and causes pitting of the metal surfaces and steel rigging.

Bay street is not busy in the winter and it may not be necessary to use a snow blower to remove the snow. However, if blowing the snow is the only practical alternative, I would suggest that the snow can be blown forward until an area free of boats is reached.

This is the third season that our members have raised this issue but I don't think the municipality was made aware of the problem before. I trust we can count on your assistance, to address this issue for next season.

Thank you for your attention,

[Signature]

Marcel Bélanger  
Tobermory Yacht Club
DATE

Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula
56 Lindsay Road 5
RR#2
Lions Head, Ontario N0H 1W0

Att: The Mayor and Council

Dear Mr. Mayor and Councillors,

Re: Tobermory cenotaph and fisherman’s memorial

Many people have expressed their disappointment with the way that the Municipality piled snow, cleared from the roads, on the site of the cenotaph and the adjoining fisherman’s memorial. We wish to add the voice of SEPO to this expression of community dismay.

As you are aware the cenotaph was moved last year because of the damage caused to it by the municipality’s snow-clearing equipment. In addition, a considerable amount of money was spent by the Tobermory Legion to landscape the site. Since then volunteers have cared for the site until the snow came. Much of their work is now in vain as a result of the municipality’s lack of consideration.

A war memorial is focus for much of a community’s pride in its history and past citizens. It is little short of an insult to the community to use the war memorial as a dump for snow cleared from the roads, particularly given the sand and other debris mixed in with it. It astonished us that, given all the empty parking lots in the area, the municipality did not bother to use them as a place to dump the snow.

We would like to ask that in future Council ensures that its employees treat the memorial with respect and find somewhere else to dump the snow.

Yours truly,

For the Executive of St. Edmunds Property Owners

cc. The Bruce Peninsula Press