

Assuming Roads for Municipal Maintenance Purposes

2010-32 Moved by Councillor Morley Moore
 Seconded by Councillor Joe Lamb

WHEREAS the Municipality of Whitestone is aware of a number of unassumed roads within its jurisdiction that are public highways as defined by the Municipal Act;

AND WHEREAS these roads are presently used by a large number of ratepayers;

AND WHEREAS these roads do not meet current municipal road standards so that they are not assumed for municipal road maintenance purposes;

AND WHEREAS it is the policy of the Municipality to provide, over the long term, a uniform and equitable standard of road services to all ratepayers;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Whitestone believes that it is appropriate and responsible to establish a process where unassumed roads may be incorporated into the Municipality's road maintenance system;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Corporation of the Municipality of Whitestone adopt the following procedures for extending services to unassumed roads:

STEP 1 – ROAD STANDARDS

1. Roads that are to be assumed by the Municipality must be brought up to the required standards as set out in the Official Plan.
2. These standards may vary depending upon the individual circumstances relating to a particular road including the length of the road, the nature and the amount of use, the quality of the road base and the associated maintenance program.
3. To consider a standard less than that prescribed in the Official Plan, any proponents interested in pursuing the assumption of an existing road must provide a report by a qualified engineer at the expense of the proponents to confirm that the standard is appropriate. The municipality may approve the lesser standard subject to a peer review by its engineers if required. Any peer review would be the proponents cost

STEP 2 – UPGRADING ROAD

4. Once a road standard has been established by any proponents seeking to upgrade a road to be assumed for maintenance purposes, the Municipality may take on the role of facilitator to assist in achieving the road improvements for assumption.
5. At least two thirds of the ratepayers that are accessed by the road must be on record of supporting the program to upgrade the road.
6. The Municipality will seek funding assistance from senior levels of government to offset the costs of upgrading roads when these funds are available.
7. The Municipality may initiate funding programs for financing road upgrades including cost sharing arrangements under the Local Improvement Act or the Municipal Act.

STEP 3 – ROAD MAINTENANCE

8. In accordance with Section 9.05.2 of the Official Plan, any road that is brought up to the required municipal standard as set out in paragraph 3 above, may be assumed for maintenance purposes.
9. Where upgraded roads are assumed for maintenance purposes road maintenance may be undertaken by Municipal staff or contracted to a qualified business that is determined to be capable of undertaking the maintenance program.