

**The Corporation of the City of Kawartha Lakes**  
**Minutes**  
**Roads Task Force Meeting**

**RT2025-03**  
**Tuesday, March 11, 2025**  
**1:00 P.M.**  
**Council Chambers**  
**City Hall**  
**26 Francis Street, Lindsay, Ontario K9V 5R8**

**Members:**  
**Councillor Mike Perry**  
**Councillor Pat Warren**  
**Mayor Doug Elmslie**

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**1. Call to Order**

Chair M. Perry called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m. Roads Task Force members P. Warren and D. Elmslie were in attendance. Director of Public Works B. Robinson, Director of Engineering J. Rojas, and Executive Assistant to Mayor and Council C. Ellison were also in attendance in Council Chambers.

Absent: R. Ashmore

**2. Administrative Business**

**2.1 Adoption of Agenda**

Mayor Elmslie brought up some concerns that topics may be straying from the Terms of Reference for the Task Force. Specific problems should be addressed through the Case system and decisions about any work on roads would not be made by this group, as it is advisory in nature in order to make recommendations about processes not Levels of Service.

Councillor Perry clarified that Task Force members added Case Studies to the agendas as learning opportunities to discuss procedures and processes, not to address concerns or servicing of specific roads. The Mayor indicated his acceptance of this approach.

**RT2025-09**

**Moved By** Councillor Warren

**Seconded By** Mayor Elmslie

**That** the Agenda for the Roads Task Force Meeting of March 11, 2025 be adopted as circulated with the following additions:

6.1 Pothole Protocol

6.2 Public Tour

**Carried**

**2.2 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest**

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest disclosed.

**2.3 Adoption of Minutes from Previous Meeting**

Councillor Warren raised a question about the Salt Management Plan referenced in the Minutes - can trucks have different pre-set levels of salt? Director Robinson clarified that while it is possible, it would not be recommended as it would lead to different levels of service depending on the amounts provided and potentially different interpretations of what is needed. The Level of Service is standardized and adheres to the minimum maintenance standards and environmental regulations. Mayor Elmslie also raised the possibility of using brine, but the Director indicated the cost of the equipment to make that transition is too prohibitive and does not make financial sense at this time.

**RT2025-10**

**Moved By** Mayor Elmslie

**Seconded By** Councillor Warren

**That** the Minutes of the Roads Task Force Meeting of Tuesday, February 11, 2025, be received and adopted.

**Carried**

**3. Deputations**

There were no deputations.

**4. New Business**

**4.1 RT2025-03.4.1**

**Current Processes for Requests by the Public for Additional/Expedited Road Maintenance**

Councillor Perry

Councillor Perry opened the discussion noting that standard requests from the public for maintenance activities go through the Case system, but wanted to know more about situations that go beyond regular maintenance requests, for example washouts or requests through petitions for roads not on the 5-year Roads Plan.

Director Robinson noted that requests for service beyond regular maintenance are noted by Public Works staff and a list is provided to Engineering every year for consideration. Director Rojas added that Engineering staff will provide an update on this list to the Roads Task Force at the next meeting. On the question of receiving public input, Public Works staff receive this through the Case system

and address and repair as necessary until it is no longer cost-effective, at which time more extensive repair work is facilitated through Engineering.

Director Rojas explained the two types of road work categories: this first are those identified through the Roads Needs Study. This is a report compiled by a third-party and is a strategy that classifies roads needs as 'now', in '1-5 years', and '6 to 10 years'. It is presented to Council with a financial lens and organizes the information into three programs, Urban Arterial Reconstruction, Urban Resurfacing, and Rural Resurfacing. The second category are roads identified through the Lifecycle Extension program. These are roads whose maintenance costs are prohibitive or where there is a case to keep a 'good road good' usually around the 7-8 year mark before they land on the 5 year needs study.

Councillor Perry reiterated that he would like to explore a formalized process for raising the concerns of residents through to staff at an appropriate opportunity, whether that is during the Spring Report from Engineering, through a memo to the Mayor with a roads list at Budget time, or at a meeting to review the 5 year plan prior to budget, as he noted it is easier to amend first, rather than wait until it is printed.

## **5. Case Studies**

### **5.1 RT2025-03.5.1**

#### **Martin's Road - Icing**

Councillor Perry

Councillor Perry raised Martin's Road as a case study example on the issue of cars getting stuck on roads and asked about the process of closing roads when necessary and the use of the after-hours non-emergency reporting system. Winter patrol staff monitor and determine when to close roads - every municipally assumed road is traveled every 30 days, but that does not help during a winter event. During these events there is an after-hours phone line to call in roads that are impassable. The challenge is that the staff who plow roads are the same staff who would close roads.

Mayor Elmslie noted that the City used to have a 'winter war room' where there would be 24hour supervisor coverage. A previous council perceived it as a waste of time and discontinued the practice. Currently that coverage is managed through the after-hours line, which also goes to supervisors. Director Robinson

noted that the line takes messages to send to staff for the next morning and that there is a procedure in place should an urgent matter be received. If needed, residents may also contact the OPP.

**6. Other Business**

6.1 RT2025-03.6.1

**Pothole Protocol**

Councillor Perry

Councillor Perry noted that the discussions that transpired over the course of the meeting thus far covered any questions related to potholes and nothing further needed to be addressed.

6.2 RT2025-03.6.2

**Public Tour**

Councillor Perry

Mayor Elmslie suggested that at the next meeting, members should come prepared with thoughts on how to organize the public tour and what to include.

**7. Adjournment**

**RT2025-11**

**Moved By** Mayor Elmslie

**Seconded By** Councillor Warren

**That** the Meeting adjourn at 2:19 p.m.

**Carried**