

Report to Council

Report Title: Saugeen Municipal Airport Road Maintenance Request

Prepared By: Gregory Furtney, Director of Operations

Department: Operations

Date: October 12, 2021

Report Number: PW2021-20 **File Number:** C11PW

Attachments:

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number PW2021-20 – Saugeen Municipal Airport Road Maintenance Request, prepared by Gregory Furtney, Director of Operations and in doing so directs staff to pursue Option _____:

Report:

Background:

On July 15, 2021, municipal staff received a request by the Airport Manager indicating that the Municipality will need to conduct winter road maintenance on the Saugeen Airport Road (main entrance into the Saugeen Municipal Airport Property), going forward, because they are no longer able to do so. Their insurer will not insure them to use airport equipment on the municipal road.

Saugeen Airport Road is a Class 6 Road. It does not fall under Ontario Regulation 239/02: Minimum Maintenance Standards for Municipal Highways/ Roads. As such, historically, the Municipality has not performed winter maintenance on this road. The Saugeen Municipal Airport staff and equipment has been performing winter maintenance on the road, including the fire lane.

Analysis:

Historically, the municipality has not maintained Saugeen Airport Road throughout the winter season. It has always been left to Staff and equipment of the Saugeen Municipal Airport to conduct the winter maintenance on this road. Saugeen Airport Road is a Class 6 Road. As such, this road has never needed to be winter maintained as outlined in Ontario Regulation 239/02: Minimum Maintenance Standards. Only Class 1 to Class 5 roads have winter maintenance standards under the Regulation. The Municipality's main road network has always taken priority. Brockton does have a few other Class 6 Roads within its Jurisdiction, including unopened road allowances.

Option 1: Add the Saugeen Airport Road to the Existing Snow Plow Route

Municipal Staff can alter the “Snow Plow Route” to include a single pass, in and out, down Saugeen Airport Road. That pass would take place sometime between 4am and 5am in the morning. That would only occur on the days that the Snow Plows are required to go out. They may only go out once a week. The Snow Plow would not be returning after that single pass as the operator needs to continue on his/her route to meet the needs of the rest of the municipal road system, as legislated by the Minimum Maintenance Standards. Each Snow Plow Route takes several hours to complete. Managing the driver hours is already a challenge in periods of frequent, daily, snow fall. In addition to this, the Snow Plow Truck is too wide to remove snow or sand/ salt the existing fire lane. Staff from the Saugeen Municipal Airport would have to do that work regardless.

Option 2: Work with the Saugeen Municipal Airport to Secure an Alternate Option

Municipal Staff can help Airport Staff secure an appropriate local contractor to remove snow from Saugeen Airport Road and Sand/ Salt when necessary. This would ensure a consistent service as a contractor can potentially clear the snow more than once a day, depending on the needs/ operations of the Airport and its Management. The contractor could also easily clear the narrow fire lane. The decision on this option, as to who would pay, would be up to the Airport Commission and the representation it has from the various funding partners. This would be considered an unexpected budgetary expense for Brockton.

Option 3: Respond to the Saugeen Municipal Airport to Continue to Seek Services on Behalf of the Corporation

Let the Staff of the Saugeen Municipal Airport and the Airport Commission examine their own options with regards to snow removal/ winter maintenance contractors and/ or have them seek out additional insurance options that would cover them doing the work as they always have.

Municipal Staff is seeking direction from Brockton Municipal Council on which option they wish Municipal Staff to pursue as this would be considered a new service and an unexpected budgetary operating expense to Brockton.

Sustainability Checklist:

What aspect of the Brockton Sustainable Strategic Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?

- | | |
|---|-----|
| • Do the recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision? | N/A |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Cultural Vibrancy? | N/A |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Prosperity? | N/A |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to Environmental Integrity? | N/A |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to the Social Equity? | N/A |

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective?
N/A

The financial implications (staff time, equipment costs, cost of sand and salt) of this report are unknown at this time as it will depend on the severity and length of the 2021/2022 winter season.

Reviewed By:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:



Gregg Furtney, Director of Operations

Reviewed By:



Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer