



Staff Memo

Report To: South Huron Council

From: **Dan Best, Chief Administrative Officer/Deputy Clerk**

Date: November 2 2020

Report: CAO 18.02

Subject: Whalen Line Update #2

Recommendations:

That the memo from D. Best, Chief Administrative Officer dated November 2, 2020 regarding the Whalen Line Update be received; and

That the Boundary Agreement between the Municipality of South Huron and the County of Middlesex be approved; and

That the necessary by-law be forwarded to South Huron Council for the required three readings; and

That By-law 32-2001 "Being a By-law to authorize and adopt a boundary road agreement between the Municipality of South Huron and the Township of Lucan-Biddulph for Whalen Line be repealed

Purpose:

Approval

Background and Analysis:

In 2019/2020, the County of Middlesex undertook a roads and bridge assumption study which reviews lower tier roads/bridges and makes recommendations to County Council to assume the identified roads/bridges. The County of Middlesex does this every 5 years.

The review process was done by committee which establishes representation of elected officials and Public Works Managers. This committee met and

recommended roads for review. With the assistance of lower and upper tier staff, information was provided to the committee that in turn provides a recommendation for assumption. Included within this study, was Whalen Line as submitted by the Township of Lucan Biddulph.

A portion of Whalen Line is under a boundary agreement between Lucan-Biddulph and South Huron. The agreement covers the portion from Highway 4 to Old Line Road which is 9.6 kms. South Huron maintains the portion between Highway 4 and McTaggart Line while Lucan-Biddulph maintains the portion from McTaggart Line to Old Line Road. Lucan-Biddulph is solely responsible for winter maintenance of the entire portion of which South Huron is responsible for 50% of the cost. This agreement was adopted by By-law (32-2001).

On February 18, 2020, the County of Middlesex COW accepted the report from the Middlesex County Engineer which recommended the uploading of Whalen Line (all 9.6 kms) from the Township of Lucan-Biddulph.

"That the recommendations of the Technical Steering Committee as outlined in the County Road Assumption Study Report be accepted.

And;

That the County of Middlesex pass the appropriate by-law designating these roads as part of the County road system as of August 1, 2020 at the next meeting of Middlesex County Council.

And;

That the County of Middlesex proceed with a study to review the potential for conversion of bridge structures to culverts."

The motion was approved by Middlesex County Council on March 10th, 2020.

South Huron Staff received an email from the Manager of Public Works at Lucan-Biddulph on April 27, 2020. This email advised that a study was completed and that the Township of Lucan-Biddulph has uploaded the road to the County of Middlesex and that Middlesex County would work with South Huron to maintain the same agreement, however that the costs would go up and to expect contact from Middlesex County.

On May 25th, 2020 an email was sent from the Middlesex County Engineer to South Huron Staff and the Director of Operations, Huron County to advise of the change, and provide a draft agreement for South Huron to review and comment.

Subsequently, a request was made by South Huron Council requesting that the South Huron portion of Whalen Line be uploaded to the County of Huron. On October 21, 2020 the Director of Operations, Huron County advised that County Council chose to not upload our portion of Whalen Line.

As a result, a boundary agreement between the Municipality of South Huron and County of Middlesex is being presented to Council for consideration and approval.

Financial Impact:

For the provision of the terms and conditions of the Boundary Agreement, the cost to South Huron for 9.6 lane km of road is \$45,600. This figure is broken down as follows:

Maintenance Type	Cost/Lane Km/Month	Lane Km	Amount
Summer Maintenance	\$750.00	9.6	\$7200.00
Winter Maintenance	\$4000.00	9.6	\$38,400.00
Total	\$4750.00	9.6	\$45,600.00

This amount has been incorporated as part of the 2021 Transportation Budget.

Legal Impact:

There are no legal implications as a result of the actions outlined in this memo

Staffing Impact:

There are no staffing implications as a result of the actions outlined in this memo

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Best, Chief Administrative Officer/Deputy Clerk