

United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria  
Municipal Council

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	December 13, 2013				Report Date	December 10, 2013			
Decision Required		Yes	X	No	Priority		High	x	Low
Direction		Information Only		x	Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed

REPORT TITLE
Treasurer's Report – Information Only # 13/12/13/802-A

### **Treasurer's Report – 911/Civic Addressing Meeting**

On November 28, 2013, I attended a 911/Civic Addressing Meeting at County Council Chambers. We discussed the topics as follows:

#### **1. Remote Properties**

Discussion around remote properties (e.g. hunt camps, crown leased land, island properties). The discussion began with the memo from a 2000 meeting. This meeting in 2000 discussed remote properties but *“It was determined that there is no single addressing method that would be best for all circumstances”*

An example of how Nova Scotia handles remote properties was also discussed. Here is an excerpt from the Nova Scotia Civic Address Users Guide Version 4.1 – March 20, 2009 in regards to Addressing other Remote Buildings and Camps:

*Historically, remote buildings and camps were not included in the civic addressing system because they did not have telephones or road access for emergency vehicles. The common use of cell phones now permits calls to be made directly from many of these locations. At present, enhanced 911 service is not available for cell phone calls as the telephone number will not be associated with the location. Thus, the caller must be able to relay the civic address to the call taker.*

*A difficulty in addressing remote locations is that the civic addressing system was designed for assigning addresses along named roads. Without a named road, how can the location be found? Even if there is a network of trails that lead to the location, it is still a considerable task and expense to name all of these trails and manage these data. As well, it only has limited use if the roads are not accessible by emergency vehicles.*

#### **2. What would be the best option to go with when issuing a 911/Civic Address for remote properties?**

- ♦ One of the options was to issue a 911 address where the “the entrance to the property leaves an existing civic addressed road.

- ◆ Other municipalities had some concerns that issuing a civic address to a remote property could cause other problems, such as demanding a maintained road or better services, or giving them a false sense of security that by having a 911 number would mean that help would come directly to their door.
- ◆ From the EMS point of view: it is best to have someone come and meet the EMS and lead them to the location or bring the victim to a location where EMS can reach them. The paramedics will try to get to that person any way that they are able to. The paramedics rely heavily on directions that the caller is giving Central Ambulance Communications Centre (CACC) and on local knowledge of the area so, it is important to have clear directions from the caller to direct the EMS to the site location.
- ◆ At the meeting, it was agreed upon that a new section for remote properties will be added to the by-law. The by-law will include: 1) a definition for remote properties, 2) that a civic address will be issued on a known civic address road (i.e. placed where entrance to the property leaves the civic addressed road), and 3) a guideline/education section for remote property owners on what to convey to 911 when they call for help from their remote property. It will be at each municipality's discretion whether or not their committee/council would like to adopt this addition to their existing civic addressing by-law.

### **3. Review of Addresses**

- ◆ How to calculate a civic address was reviewed. The appendix with the description on how to calculate a civic address was reviewed.

### **4. Review of Blades and House Numbers**

- ◆ When to use blade and when to use house number? The policy the County have in their by-law is: If the building is within 30 feet (9 metres) of the road the numbers can go directly on the building. If the Building is not within 30 feet (9 metres) the property number should be posted on a post located beside the driveway at the road.

### **5. Subdivision – New Roads**

- ◆ A discussion around when County should receive notification that a new road in subdivision is constructed was discussed. This topic was discussed because there have been cases of the County not receiving this information. The County has received calls from Bell and CACC in regards to calls that they have received for roads that they do not have in their system, and when we check the County's database and GIS layer we also did not have those roads.

### **6. Reflectivity of 911 signs**

- ◆ The 10 year life span and replacement of the signs – how will the municipalities proceed?

### **7. MPAC – any updates to MPAC in regards to 911 addressing will be sent to MPAC through the municipalities**