

Cramahe spends on roadworks

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The Victoria Street bridge work was planned for 2008, conditional on getting funding from the upper tier governments which was not approved. The budgeted cost will pay the full cost of replacement of the deck down to the rebar which will be repaired and repainted.

Mr. Thrasher warned council if the bridge work is left too long it will become a major project.

Councillor Ed Van Egmond suggested the work above Mutton Bridge be done in the summer when there are fewer runoff problems and less likelihood of the new surface being washed out.

The first year's work on Elgin Street from Alfred to the dead end will be taken care of at a price of \$135,000. The work there will include some yard drains on the west side of the road, disconnecting storm drains from the sanitary sewers and reconnecting them to the storm sewers. In 2010 the road will be paved and guttered.

Reconstruction of 100 metres of road base, and repaving Durham Street from the bridge to King Street is estimated to run \$30,000.

The repaving of Purdy Road from County Road 25 to Elgin Street is scheduled to be done next year, according to the township's five-year roads plan. Construction costing did not include a turn lane which now will be done at an estimated cost of \$30,000.

The township will look at paying for the remaining \$275,000 of the Purdy Road project at budget time late this winter.

Morganston Road from Tait to Mount Pleasant will be repaired and resurfaced for \$65,000.

Community Services will have money for two projects. The parking lot at the Castleton Town Hall will be paved (\$8,800) and \$50,000 will be set aside for the construction of a proposed 40x40 foot prefabricated storage building to be located on a concrete base on the west end of the Keeler Centre.

Council looked at a few other projects but left them off the list to be done using the provincial money.

Pinegrove Road was not included as there appears to be enough money left in this year's budget to pay for it.

A new overlay on the four-kilometer Tobacco Road was set aside, as were road works on Morganston Road from

Jakobi Road to Tait Road and an overlay on Dingman Road.

Council decided the Tobacco Road work could be done in stages with special attention given to the portion near the Meekes farm. The Morganston Road work was considered less critical than the section of the road which was chosen between Tait and Mount Pleasant.

The decision to spend the provincially-granted money did not affect the 2008 road works, most of which has been completed.

The replacement in 2009 of the Elgin Street bridge in Colborne is conditional on receipt of provincial funding. Mayor Marc Coombs pointed out at the meeting that the township allocates about \$400,000 in its annual budget to roads. In 2009, the projected roads cost without replacing the Elgin Street bridge is on target.

Council considered spending money on the parking lot at the Keeler Centre but decided to wait until lighting plans have been completed. Some drainage concerns are being relieved near the entrance by installing a catch basin and drainage pipe to take away up to eight inches of water which sometimes collects in front of the entrance.

Twindmills: new marketing concept

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Over 30 booths are now chock-a-block full of antiques and collectibles brought in by dealers from across eastern Ontario. Mr. Conrad says they have recognized the vision of what's happening at the corner of Purdy Rd. and Percy St.

In the spring, another 30 vendors have signed up for an outdoor market which will operate from Thursday to Sunday. To encourage vendors, Mr. Conrad says they are offering space on a daily, weekly or monthly basis. With the anticipated traffic, he sees the outdoor market as the perfect place for people to hold their yard sales.

During the summer months, he expects farm produce may join the list of available items.

And there will be more traffic. New signs have been made - one for the front

and another for the side of the building along Percy Street. Signs will point drivers on the 401 to the markets.

According to Mr. Conrad, Twindmills is the first market of its kind in Canada, using the energy created by the windmills to power the building.

The market will continue some of its already successful activities. Stained glass lessons, crafts and the glass itself will still be sold.

The Zye's Fryes chip truck will continue with chips and poutine.

Northumberland-Quinte West MPP Lou Rinaldi was impressed with the green, self-sustaining shop.

"In a harsh economy, things like this will help us get out of this mess," Mr. Rinaldi said at last Saturday's opening ceremony. "Every little bit helps."

Cramahe Councillor Ed Van Egmond spoke for the township in praising the

owners for bringing an economic boost to the area.

Twindmills is open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is open until 8 p.m. Friday. Shoppers get a late start on Sundays and holidays when it is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

It is closed Tuesdays.

The market offers vintage clothing and accessories, jewelry, fine furnishings, ceramics, crystal, carnival glass, silverware, toys, records, postcards, books, lamps, art, vintage tools and signs, and assorted other merchandise. Many items are one-of-a-kind.

To celebrate Christmas, there is also a "giving tree" where shoppers can select a stained glass icicle for themselves as our thanks for donating a Christmas gift to go under the tree for a local child in need.

Task force on penitentiary

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The Task Force has provided information to Quinte West, Belleville, Hastings and Peterborough and anticipates that they will be very supportive in helping save Warkworth Institution, she says.

MP Rick Norlock serves on the Task Force, and has committed to arranging a meeting for Task Force representatives with the new Federal Minister of Public Safety, the Honorable Peter Van Loan. The intent is to find out about the government's future plans regarding Warkworth Institution, and the Task Force wants assurances that the penitentiary will remain open, says Ms. Herrington.

Recently the Task Force advertised for a Request For Proposal for a study of the socio-economic impacts of Warkworth Institution, as such considerations were not part of the original Corrections Canada study. The Task Force has evaluated the proposals but prior to commencing a study, they want a face-to-face meeting with Minister Van Loan, she says.

"Given the economic climate, a possible federal deficit and the need to focus on essential priorities such as building infrastructure, I can't imagine that the government would consider closing Warkworth Institution," said Ms. Herrington.