

Riverview to discuss Trites Road bylaw

HF-Development AUG 9/04

■ Road ownership will be defined for developers

TIMES & TRANSCRIPT STAFF

Riverview town council will examine a proposed bylaw tonight regarding the "stopping up and closing" of Trites Road south of Callowhill Road.

Town manager David Muir says council recently took responsibility for the ownership of Trites Road between Whitepine and Callowhill Roads. The section the councillors will look at tonight stretches from Callowhill through the woods out to the town limits.

"We would be putting a bylaw in the books to make sure that if any development takes place there, no one can come back and say that it

is a town road," said Muir. Although there is no traffic on it, he said officially shutting it off shows the town is not accepting it as a municipal street.

So, anyone wanting to develop it in the future will have to approach the town and negotiate a cost-sharing arrangement for building the street, said the town manager, noting the developer would bear most the cost.

The assumption of ownership by the town for the portion of Trites Road between Whitepine and Callowhill followed a difference of opinion between the municipality and Greater Moncton Developments Ltd.

The former said the stretch was privately owned or, at the very least, there was no evidence to show it was not, while the latter said it belonged to the town and the Department of Transportation supported their contention. The

town had continued to repair and maintain the street.

However, Mayor Clarence Sweetland told council's June 28 meeting that after researching the matter and getting legal advice, it had been determined that the road is, indeed, the town's property. Council unanimously carried a recommendation to acknowledge the fact.

But even with the town being declared the official owner of that section of Trites, the developer will still have to negotiate with the municipality, regarding cost-sharing of road improvements for any future development, there, said Muir.

Tonight's council session will also award the tender for asphalt concrete paving for various streets.

The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. in Riverview Town Hall on Fatima Drive.