

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILTON

**MINUTES**

Regular Meeting/Budget Revision

August 3, 2022

7:00 p.m.

Present:

Reeve : Rodney Wood

Councillors: Mike Garside

Pat Garside

Dianne Holt

Road Superintendent: Lyn Garside

Clerk Treasurer: Valerie Obarymskyj

Absent: Dave Leask

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

The Clerk requested two items be added to the Agenda: Invasive Plant Species and Internet Towers

Resolution 2022-95

Moved by Mike Garside

Seconded by Pat Garside

Resolved that we do accept the Agenda as amended. \* Carried \*

Resolution 2022-96

Moved by Pat Garside

Seconded by Mike Garside

Resolved that we do approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 13, 2022, and the Open and Closed Minutes of the Special Meeting of July 27, 2022, as presented \* Carried \*

Lyn Garside, Road Superintendent provided an update on road issues in the Township. When completing our road construction projects there was a shortage of gravel available in our area which resulted in modifications to the scope of some of the work. The Road Super confirmed the results of the reconstructed roads will not be negatively impacted. Due to the reduced gravel costs and not completely reconstructing all of X Line and Whybourne Road, a savings of close to \$40,000 has been realized. Council supported the Clerk's recommendation that despite the current year's budget and tax rates having already been adopted, that both be amended to reflect a reduced tax levy for 2022.

The Road Super advised he had received a request from the owners of Part Lot 20, Concession 7 to open up an entrance to their property at the end of Red Maple Drive. Their current entrance is on Garside Road West but has been plagued with beaver problems. The entrance off of Red Maple Drive was negotiated in 2008 when power was brought in to Ellwood Boulevard and certain conditions attached including a maximum 16' width; the location be outside the easement area of Algoma Power and the entrance be gated to avoid it becoming a thoroughfare to Garside Road West. The owners plan on meeting with the Road Super in the coming weeks to determine if changes could instead be made to the current entrance off of Garside Road West.

The Clerk advised Council that the owner of the Base Line lot abutting the M and N walking trail had mentioned that during one of the recent windstorms, a couple large trees had fallen across the walking trail. This appeared to be part of the reason why trail users were now trespassing onto his property and this included ATVs. The Road Super advised the large downed trees have since been removed from the walking trail, however, most users are now using an ATV created trail leading out to Sixth Street. The intent with the original walking trail was to have it meander through the large trees and not be open to ATVs. The ATVs have created a dirt trail that does make for easier walking for hikers. The Road Super suggested that to rectify the situation, he could go in with a machine from the South Street entrance to clean up and better define the walking trail.

At 7:30 p.m. Reeve Wood announced the advertised Public Meeting to be open under the Planning Act. This meeting had been scheduled to address any objections or concerns regarding a zoning amendment to permit a reduced setback for a septic system. The Clerk advised no objections had been received from agencies and neighbouring owners that had been notified under the Planning Act requirements. Algoma Public Health representative, Gary Leith, had contacted the Clerk and explained the reasons why the road side of the property was not suitable for the new septic system and the waterside was the best location. Council closed this meeting and returned to Open Meeting under the Municipal Act.

Reeve Wood continued with the regular meeting to allow until 8:00 pm for any residents to attend to speak to the advertised Public Meeting issue.

The matter of an invasive plant species known as "Japanese Knotwood" was brought to the attention of Council by Road Super Lyn Garside and Councillor Mike Garside. This plant can choke out other vegetation and change the soil chemistry so other plants can't grow. It can significantly damage infrastructure with the ability to tunnel its way through building foundations, wells and septic systems. Council was advised we have a large growth area

of this weed on the municipal property. The Road Super has continually mowed it down each year prior to it flowering but it has always grown back. A different approach to remove the plant for good will be taken. It was noted the Japanese Knotweed is also found in the M and N landfill and unfortunately, because of its ornamental appearance, some residents have removed some plants for their own personal properties. This plant is included as a prohibited species under the Invasive Species Act and it is illegal to transport this plant anywhere in Ontario. The Clerk was directed to contact the Village about the landfill issue and the Island Clippings in an effort to bring this matter to the attention of the public.

Resolution 2022-97

Moved by Dianne Holt

Seconded by Mike Garside

Resolved that we do give first, second and third and final reading and pass By-Law No. 1339-22 being a by-law to reduce the minimum setback on Lot 15, Plan 1M447, 3854 Hamilton Drive, Township of Hilton from 30 m (100') to 23.5 m (77') for the installation of a septic system. \* Carried \*

The Clerk informed Council that our CEMC, Glenn Martin, has advised he will be stepping down from the position at the end of this year when he retires. Mr. Martin has been CEMC for both Hilton and Jocelyn Townships for the past few years. It was noted that the CEMC for the Village and St. Joseph Township is also stepping down this year. The possibility of training a new individual to serve in this capacity for the entire Island will be further discussed in the coming months.

The issue of requiring the registration of a Site Plan Agreement for new construction on lots within the Limited Service Residential Zone was readdressed. The Township's solicitor confirmed that simply having a Site Plan Agreement signed and adopted by by-law would clearly lay out the Township's intent, however, the future sale of such properties could result in confusion for new owners if the limitations were not registered on title. The possibility of providing a blanket registration for such subdivisions at a reduced price will be researched. Signing such roads with clear messages that they will not receive winter maintenance or in some case, any municipal road maintenance, was also suggested. The matter is still to be addressed at an upcoming Planning Board meeting and the Official Plan Open House.

The Clerk advised she had been contacted by Northern Rural Net regarding the installation of a tower on a residential lot along X Line. It was confirmed that notification of the 96' trylon tower will be provided to all property owners within 300' of the location. This notification is in accordance with Industry Canada requirements. The municipal Zoning By-law's height restrictions included in the Shoreline Residential Zone has no authority regarding such structures.

Resolution 2022-98

Moved by Pat Garside

Seconded by Dianne Holt

Resolved that we do accept the 2021 Financial Statements for the Township of Hilton and Hilton Union Fire Department, as prepared by BDO Dunwoody. \* Carried \*

Council reviewed the revised Budget for 2022 that included a reduction of \$40,000 to the municipal levy and capital road projects completed this year.

Resolution 2022-99

Moved by Mike Garside

Seconded by Pat Garside

Resolved that we do approve the 2022 Budget as amended in the amount of \$1,473,130 including a municipal tax levy of \$683,330 (including Payment in Lieu of Taxes). Resolution No. 2022-78 passed on July 13, 2022 is hereby rescinded. \* Carried \*

Council reviewed a revised by-law establishing the tax rates required for 2022 given the revised Budget. Under the revised budget, property owners with a \$100k assessment will be experiencing an increase of approximately \$63 over their 2021 annual taxes.

Resolution 2022-100

Moved by Pat Garside

Seconded by Dianne Holt

Resolved that we do give first, second and third and final reading to By-law No. 1340-22, being a by-law to provide for the adoption of the current estimates and tax rates and to further provide for penalty and interest in default of payment thereof for 2022. By-law No. 1336-22 passed on July 13, 2022 is hereby rescinded. \*Carried\*

The Clerk advised that the East Algoma group insurance benefits plan had been sent out for tender and it appeared the best option would be to remain with our current provider.

Resolution 2022-101

Moved by Pat Garside

Seconded by Mike Garside

Resolved that we do give first, second and third and final reading and pass By-law No. 1341-22 being a by-law to appoint a Compliance Audit Joint Committee for Central Algoma Area Municipalities. \* Carried \*

Resolution 2022-102

Moved by Pat Garside

Seconded by Mike Garside

Resolved that we do authorize the payment of Township bills for the month of July 2022 in the amount of \$184,749.14 as per Voucher 07/22: Administration - \$9,424.01; Algoma District Services Admin - \$24,801.67; Building - \$2,050.95; Fire - \$350.00; Misc (Employee/ Employer Payroll Deductions/ Benefits) - \$8,442.61; Matthews Memorial Hospital - \$2,500; MPAC (qtrly) - \$4,464.86; Museum - \$6,070.00; Policing (May/June) - \$14,270.00; Roads – \$110,126.14 ; WSIB (qtrly) - \$2,248.90 . \*Carried\*

Resolution 2022-103

Moved by Dianne Holt

Seconded by Pat Garside

Resolved that we do pass By-Law No. 1342-22 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of this meeting.\*Carried

Resolution 2022-104

Moved by Pat Garside

Seconded by Dianne Holt

Resolved that we do adjourn at 9:35 p.m., Council to meet again at the Hilton Township Municipal Office at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 7, 2022 for the next regular meeting of Council or at the call of the Reeve.

Reeve, Rodney Wood

Valerie Obarymskyj, Clerk Treasurer



**Building Inspection:**

Kevin Morris – Building Inspector

Phone: 1-800-797-2997 Email: kevin.morris@tulloch.ca

**IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE OWNER TO OBTAIN A BUILDING PERMIT  
IT IS ILLEGAL TO START WORK WITHOUT A PERMIT**



**M and N Landfill/Recycling:**

**SUMMER Hours in Effect from May 15, 2022 to September 15, 2022**

Wednesday: 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Saturday: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Sunday: 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

**Holiday Mondays: 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

**FINAL 2022 PROPERTY TAXES**

The Final 2022 Property Taxes will be mailed to residents the last week of August with a due date of September 30, 2022. Residents may submit their payments using any of the following methods:

- ✓ Use the Bill Payment option in your online banking and reference your property’s 19 digit “Roll Number”;
- ✓ Etransfer your payment to the following email address: admin@hiltontownship.ca. (Please email the answer to the Security Question separately and the Roll Number(s) to which the payment should be applied).
- ✓ Pay by cheque and mail to the Township of Hilton, 2983 Base Line, Hilton Beach, On P0R 1G0 or drop through the front door slot of the office.
- ✓ If you prefer to pay by cash, the Office will be open on Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays only from 9:00 am until 4:30 pm.

**Please note, we do not offer credit or debit card payment options.**

## Invasive Plant Species Information

In 2015, the Ontario provincial government introduced the Invasive Species Act (2015), which explicitly regulates the prevention and management of invasive species in Ontario. 22 species are prohibited under this Act, meaning *it is illegal to import, possess, transport, or release these species anywhere in Ontario.*

### Japanese Knotweed



Japanese knotweed grows in a wide range of habitats. It forms dense thickets of bamboo-like vegetation with hollow, smooth, purple/green-coloured stems up to 2.5 cm in diameter.

#### Impacts on biodiversity

Japanese knotweed can severely degrade the quality of wetland and riparian habitats where it becomes established. Dense thickets can reduce sunlight penetration by more than 90% and its thick mats of dead and decaying vegetation in fall/spring prevent other plant species from growing by shading them out.

As a result of the reduced native plant biodiversity and lowered invertebrate densities, established knotweed stands do not support

the same levels of native amphibian, reptile, bird and mammal populations. The roots contain unique compounds, which may alter soil chemistry or prohibit the growth of nearby native species.

#### Impacts on infrastructure

This plant can significantly damage infrastructure. It is able to grow through concrete/asphalt up to 8 cm thick and building foundations. Japanese knotweed root systems, while strong, are not as dense as those of native plants, and do not hold soil as well. When Japanese knotweed establishes along stream banks, the bank can become unstable and more vulnerable to erosion and flooding. Reductions in available soil (because of erosion) and space (because of the larger root/rhizome biomass) affect the ability of the streambank to hold water during heavy rains.



### Wild Parsnip



Wild parsnip produces sap containing chemicals that can irritate human skin. The plant forms dense stands that outcompete native plants, reducing biodiversity and the quality of agricultural forage crops such as hay, oats, and alfalfa. Wild parsnip can grow up to 1.5 m tall with compound leaves arranged in pairs, with sharply-toothed leaflets that are shaped like a mitten. Small clusters can be removed with proper protective clothing.

#### Impacts to human health

Both the wild and cultivated forms of parsnip contain toxic compounds, called furanocoumarins. These compounds can cause serious rashes, burns, or blisters to skin exposed to the sap and then sunlight. The plant poses a risk to agricultural workers, those involved with vegetation control, and to people unknowingly exposed

to the plant in the wild. It can also have an impact on pollinators, as honeybees do not visit the plant and it may displace other, more pollinator-friendly plants such as goldenrod.

### What Can You Do?

Invasive plants are harmful non-native trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants that are spread by global trade, human and animal transport, and gardening. They invade forests and prevent native plants from growing, which can have negative impacts on how ecosystems function, on native vegetation, and native wildlife. Once they have taken hold, the thick spread of invasive plants makes them costly and time-consuming to remove.

Get to know the plants around you. **Do not transplant or transport invasive plants.**

For more information on invasive plants in Ontario, visit: [www.ontario.ca/invasivespecies](http://www.ontario.ca/invasivespecies)

Source: <https://www.invasivespeciescentre.ca>