

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILTON

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
January 9, 2019
7:00 p.m.

Present: Absent:
Reeve: Rodney Wood
Councillors: Pat Garside
Dianne Holt
Dave Leask Robert Jerrard
Road Superintendent: Lyn Garside
Clerk Treasurer: Valerie Obarymskyj

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

Moved by Pat Garside 2019-01
Seconded by Dave Leask
Resolved that we do accept the Agenda as presented. * Carried *

Moved by Dianne Holt 2019-02
Seconded by Pat Garside
Resolved that we do approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 5, 2018 and the Minutes of the Joint Meeting of December 19, 2018, as presented. *Carried*

Lyn Garside, Road Superintendent, provided an update on road issues in the Township. It was noted there appears to be a shift in the Province's approach to winter maintenance of the Class 5 local highways (ie Hwy 548). In the past, the standard was to achieve a snow packed driving surface within 24 hours of the end of a winter storm. Excess snow would be plowed off and sand applied where required to improve friction. It now appears that salt is being applied in order to achieve centre bare pavement as opposed to snow packed. The location of the salt dome in Hilton Township and the steady traffic of the Province's plow trucks is resulting in considerable damage to Base Line. The recent improvements to this area were funded by Hilton Township taxpayers and a request will be made to the Province to cover the expense of applying asphalt from the entrance to the salt/sand dome to Hilton Road to alleviate this ongoing damage. The Road Superintendent noted that surface treatment is not made to withstand the deposit of salt as can be seen in the section of Hilton Road from the intersection of Base Line into the Village. It was suggested that this matter be addressed with a letter to the Ministry of Transportation as well as at MPP Mike Mantha's upcoming constituency meeting on January 18, 2019.

Correspondence was received from a Hamilton Court resident requesting additional sand be deposited to that area of the Township given the icy road conditions. The Road Superintendent noted that with every plowing event sand is deposited to the roads in this area given its volume of traffic and curves in the road. The traction benefits of sand can be short-lived, however, as the volume of traffic can push it down beneath the surface and a subsequent snowfall cover it. The recurring freeze/thaws this winter season have made it difficult to avoid icy conditions with the use of sand alone and not using salt as does the Province.

Correspondence was received from a Village of Hilton Beach resident asking that the snow piled alongside the road be removed by the municipality to allow for a parking area for that individual's commercial establishment. Given the letter was addressed to the Village Council it was determined there was no need for the Township Clerk to respond.

Council discussed a variety of road projects for this year in preparation for the amalgamated tenders to be submitted in February 2019. The Road Superintendent suggested surface treating a 350 metre section at the bottom of P Line Hill to the turnaround at the 15th. Jocelyn Township surface treated all of P Line hill in 2018 complete with the installation of guard rails. Surface treating this section would also remove safety concerns when the area needs to be graded. It was also suggested that surface treating the section of K Line (off Canoe Point Road) would alleviate having to take the grader there. This area is maintained by our Township in lieu of the Township of St. Joseph maintaining the section of K Line off of the 20th Side Road. This matter will be discussed at an upcoming meeting with St. Joseph Township representatives in order that a formal written agreement be adopted in compliance with the Municipal Act and provisions regarding boundary roads. The final area suggested for surface treatment included a continuation on Base Line from where resurfacing ended in 2018. This would include the area just beyond the M and N to the P Line. The Township's Asset Management Plan and ten year road improvement plan were reviewed. A future decision will be made based on both budget and time as to what degree of construction will be carried out on Trainors Side Road.

The Road Superintendent and Clerk plan to attend a meeting with St. Joseph Township residents to discuss a written agreement for maintenance of the section of K Line off of the 20th Side Road. This section of municipal road is classified as a non-maintained road in the Township of Hilton's road classification adopted in 2003. Councillors Holt and Leask, as well as, Reeve Wood offered to attend the proposed meeting dependent on the date.

An update from the Associated Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) was received advising of the potential risks for property taxpayers and municipal budgets given the recent communication from the Ministry of Finance that OMPF funding will be reduced in 2019 and allocation announcements delayed. OMPF (Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund) funding is unconditional operating support from the Province to municipal governments and represents a critical source of funding for small municipalities without growth in their property assessment base. The Province normally announces OMPF allocations in the year prior to enable Councils to make accurate spending decisions using that information. The Township of Hilton's OMPF allocation in 2018 was \$299,200.

Reeve Wood welcomed local resident Mike Garside, present to address Council regarding its decision whether to opt in or opt out to allowing private cannabis retail stores within its community. All municipalities have the option to not allow cannabis stores but a formal decision must be made prior to January 22, 2019. Mr. Garside noted the likelihood of a retail store opening up with the Township would be slim given the significant cost of licensing and the limited population that would be served. He acknowledged that despite the legalization of cannabis there still remains a significant population not in agreement with the recent change. There is an unknown factor as to how much the legalized use of this product will impact services such as fire departments, paramedics, policing, bylaw enforcement, etc. Mr. Garside noted the Province would allocate \$10,000 in 2019 to all municipalities to address such issues, but only those municipalities that opt in to allowing retail stores would be eligible for any future funding: given this Provincial stance he recommended the Township opt in to keep the door open to any future funding. Reeve Wood thanked Mr. Garside for his comments and Council proceeded to discuss the matter, considering information received from Algoma Public Health and acknowledgment from the Clerk that several area municipalities had chosen to opt in based on the eligibility for future funding. After due consideration, Council agreed to opt in and the following resolution was passed.

Moved by Dianne Holt

2019-03

Seconded by Dave Leask

Resolved that Whereas on October 17, 2018, it became legal in Canada to possess or use cannabis subject to certain limits, and;

Whereas Health Canada will have care and control of administering the licensing for producers, and advertisements, and;

Whereas the Province will be responsible for establishing wholesale and retail distribution systems, and;

Whereas smoking recreational cannabis will be legal where tobacco consumption is permitted under the Smoke Free Ontario Act, and;

Whereas Municipalities have until January 22, 2019 to opt-out of hosting recreational cannabis retail storefronts in their communities and;

Whereas this opt-out can be reversed at any point in the future, but any further decision to opt-in is final, and;

Whereas the choice to 'opt-out' may affect the portion of cannabis excise tax funds a municipal government is eligible to receive;

Be it Resolved that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Hilton hereby OPTS-IN to allowing legalized cannabis retail storefronts within its jurisdiction. *Carried*

Council agreed to continue its membership in both AMO and AMCTO for 2019.

In preparation for issuing the 2019 interim taxes, the Clerk asked that the following by-laws be passed. The interim taxes will be mailed the beginning of February with a due date of February 28, 2019. Calculation of the interim taxes is based on 50% of the previous year's tax rates applied to the current year's assessment.

Moved by Pat Garside

2019-04

Seconded by Dianne Holt

Resolved that we do give first, second and third and final reading and pass By-Law No. 1230-19 being a by-law to provide for an interim tax levy for 2019 and for the payment of taxes and for penalty and interest of 1.25% per month after the due date. *Carried*

Moved by Dave Garside

2019-05

Seconded by Pat Garside

Resolved that we do give first, second and third and final reading and pass By-Law No. 1231-19 being a by-law to establish tax ratios for the Township of Hilton for the year 2019. *Carried*

The Clerk advised that effective March 1, 2019 all municipalities will be required to appoint an Integrity Commissioner and establish a Code of Conduct for members of council and local boards. The role of the Integrity Commissioner has been expanded to allow such individuals to conduct independent inquiries into allegations of conflict of interest against council or local board members under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act (MCIA).

Moved by Dave Leask

2019-06

Seconded by Dianne Holt

Resolved that we do authorize the payment of Township bills for the month of December 2018 in the amount of \$106,895.89 as per Voucher 12-2018: Administration - \$9,994.31; Algoma District School Board - \$33,993.46; Algoma District Services Admin - \$23,491.17; Building - \$703.43; Emergency - \$527.37; Fire - \$5,159.45; Misc (Employee/ Employer Payroll Deds/Benefits) - \$6,078.06; Policing - \$13,886.00; Roads - \$14062.64. *Carried*

Moved by Pat Garside 2019-07
Seconded by Dianne Holt
Resolved that we do pass By-Law No 1232-19 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of this meeting.*Carried

Moved by Dave Leask 2019-08
Seconded by Pat Garside
Resolved that we do adjourn at 10:12 p.m Council to meet again at the Hilton Township Municipal Office at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 6, 2019 or at the call of the Reeve. *Carried*

Reeve, Rodney Wood

Valerie Obarymskyj, Clerk Treasurer



*** Building Inspection ***
Kevin Morris – Building Inspector - Call 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**



WINTER Hours in Effect from Sept 15/18 – May 15/19
Saturday: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Sunday: 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm



Residents are reminded that several turnarounds exist on municipal roads and these are intended for the use of the snowplow operator as well as school buses and even fire department vehicles. Residents must not park their vehicles/trailers/etc in these areas and this applies on a year-round basis.



The Village of Hilton Beach All-Sports Surface Winter Rink is ready! Many thanks to Tom and Kristopher Desjardin for their hard work. The Village invites everyone to come out and enjoy!

F I R E - 911 for Emergencies



How do I prevent an electrical fire?

- ❖ Check cords for damage such as fraying or nicks. A damaged cord can expose wires and result in a potential shock or fire hazard.
- ❖ Avoid running cords under rugs, which can damage the cord and cause a fire.
- ❖ Extension cords should be used only as a temporary connection. If permanent wiring is required, have additional outlets installed by a licensed electrician. Extension cords should not be linked together – use an extension cord that is long enough to do the job.
- ❖ Air conditioners and other heavy appliances should be plugged directly into an outlet.
- ❖ Avoid overloading a circuit with "octopus outlets". If additional outlets or circuits are required, have them installed by a licensed electrician.



The INTERIM instalment of this year's property tax bill will be mailed on February 1, 2019 with a due date of February 28, 2019.
A reminder for those residents that wish to pay their taxes electronically - we have agreements with most banking institutions to enable this. Your customer identification number will be your "Roll Number" that appears on your tax bill.

PLEASE ensure when choosing the "Payee Name" that you select:
HILTON (TOWNSHIP) - TAXES
and not
HILTON BEACH (VILLAGE) - TAXES
Thank you!