

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILTON

**MINUTES**  
Regular Meeting  
June 4, 2014  
7:00 p.m.

Present:

Reeve: Rodney Wood

Councillors: Pat Garside

Dianne Holt

Robert Jerrard

Dave Leask

Road Superintendent: Lyn Garside

Clerk Treasurer: Valerie Obarymskyj

Absent:

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

Moved by Pat Garside 2014-76

Seconded by Dave Leask

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

Moved by Dianne Holt 2014-77

Seconded by Dave Leask

Resolved that we do approve the Minutes of the meetings of May 7, 2014 and May 21, 2014 as presented.

\* Carried \*

Moved by Dave Leask 2014-78

Seconded by Dianne Holt

Resolved that we do approve the Minutes of the Closed Meeting of May 7, 2014 as presented. \* Carried \*

Lyn Garside, Road Superintendent, confirmed that half-load restrictions had recently been removed from roads within the Township. Calcium will be applied a little later than usual this year and will include a light application on the 20<sup>th</sup> Side Road to help stabilize the road prior to surface treatment in July. The Road Super confirmed he has been working with MNR officials to try and obtain permission to rebuild the Milford Haven Boat Launch prior to the previously permitted period of August. The MNR's concern is related to fish spawning periods, however, an MNR representative has agreed to carry out an inspection of the site to determine if early reconstruction might be possible.

Council was advised that the cost of replacing the Road Department's fuel tanks had inadvertently been omitted from the recent budget proposal. The estimated cost is \$5,000. Installation of the double-walled tanks is anticipated for July 2014. The Township's insurance provider will then be advised as the upgraded tanks are a requirement of this year's policy. The impact of the additional cost on the budget/tax rate would be addressed later in the meeting.

The Clerk provided Council with a copy of correspondence from a nearby resident concerned about the speed at which motorists were driving a section of Highway 548. Council agreed with the Clerk's response to the resident stating Highway 548 does not fall within the Township's jurisdiction and that concerns with drivers of specific companies should be addressed with those companies or the OPP. Council did note it is also a homeowner's responsibility to ensure any pets are contained in yards and not left to wander onto roadways, posing a danger to both the animals and motorists.

Correspondence was received from AMO advising we would receive a refund of approximately \$400 due to unused administrative funds. AMO delivers the Federal Gas Tax funds on behalf of Ontario municipalities and its reduced administration costs resulted in rebates to all municipalities with the amounts determined on a per capita basis.

Council reviewed correspondence from an area resident concerned about horse waste along roadsides and requesting a by-law be adopted requiring horse and buggy owners to use waste buckets when travelling within Hilton Township. The Clerk provided a summary of responses from area municipalities and for those where the issue had been addressed at the Council level, none had instituted such a by-law. This included Johnson and Tarbutt Townships where the issue is much more prevalent. Council acknowledged that while such situations may occur on some of our Township roads, the majority of times it is on Highway 548 which is outside our jurisdiction. The issue of enforcement was also discussed and the associated cost. In addition, such waste can also result from single-rider horses using Township roads and to many is considered part of residing in a rural area.

Councillor Holt advised a resident had contacted her regarding a concern over the effect beavers may be having on her well water. As a result of a beaver dam on a nearby privately owned lot, water on the resident's property was not draining effectively and the concern was that was negatively affecting her well water. The Road Superintendent confirmed he had discussed the issue with the resident and the possibility of the Township creating a new ditch along the front of her property. The undertaking would be considerable because of the terrain involved and was not thought to be a solution to the complaint of foul-smelling well water. Council suggested the resident first create a ditch using the natural grade of her own property to help alleviate the standing water behind her residence. The Road Superintendent was asked to visit the site and check grade elevations to see if this solution would work. It was not thought that surface water should have any impact on the well water and checking with the well installer might be in the resident's best interest.

Council reviewed a quote for DZ training for the Fire Department volunteers. It is now a requirement that any volunteers driving either the pumper or the tanker be a licensed DZ operator and currently, only three of the department's members have such a designation. It was noted that the cost of the training and driving test could be reduced if more individuals from nearby fire departments or even road departments took part. The Clerk advised she would be meeting with area Clerks the following day and was asked to see if any municipalities along the North Shore had any staff members needing such training.

Council reviewed a revised tax levy of \$457,250 which now included an additional \$5,000 for fuel tanks for the Road Department. The Clerk advised the addition to the tax levy would still result in a reduction of 1.3% to the 2013 tax rate, as opposed to the earlier proposed reduction of 2.2%. The Clerk advised Council also had the option of keeping the tax rate the same as was proposed at the May 21, 2014 budget meeting by not transferring \$5,000 to Road Infrastructure Reserves this year and instead, using that money to cover the tank purchase. Council opted to accept the latter recommendation and the 2014 levy will remain at \$452,250.

Moved by Dave Leask 2014-79

Seconded by Dianne Holt

Resolved that we do approve the 2014 Budget as amended, in the amount of \$867,070, resulting in a municipal tax levy of \$452,250 including grant-in-lieu payments with formal adoption of the required tax rates to take place at the July 9, 2014 meeting of Council. \*Carried\*

Moved by Dianne Holt 2014-80

Seconded by Dave Leask

Resolved that we do contribute \$500 to St. Joseph Township to help offset the operating costs associated with the Island-wide youth baseball/soccer programs offered by that municipality. \*Carried\*

Moved by Dave Leask 2014-81

Seconded by Pat Garside

Resolved that we do contribute \$500 to the Jocelyn Township Recreation Committee's fireworks display. \*Carried\*

The Clerk advised she had contacted the government agency responsible for handling the reporting requirements of the Province's energy legislation which is due July 1, 2014. Small municipalities such as ours are not treated any differently than large municipalities and are required to submit a Five Year Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan. The intent of the Plan is to help public agencies better understand their energy consumption and find ways to develop energy saving measures. Once completed, a municipality must post its Plan on its website and provide a link to the Province.

The Clerk confirmed that CASS is holding a separate graduation celebration for Grade 8's and that if the Township wanted to continue with its graduation recognition for Grade 8 students, the contribution should be forwarded to CASS.

Moved by Pat Garside 2014-82

Seconded by Dave Leask

Resolved that we do support CASS with a donation of \$50.00 to be awarded to a deserving Grade 8 graduation student. \*Carried\*

Council reviewed a summary of area tax rates for the 2012 and 2013 years as provided by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and noted that Hilton Township had the lowest tax rate of 22 municipalities in the Algoma area.

The Clerk distributed copies of the Ministry of Labour's "Supervisor – Health and Safety at Work" booklet and advised that all council members, along with supervisory staff, needed to complete the training exercises prior to July 1, 2014. All other employees will complete the "Worker" training booklet by the same deadline.

Moved by Dianne Holt 2014-83  
Seconded by Dave Leask

Resolved that we do authorize the payment of Township bills for the month of May 2014 in the amount of \$71,444.11 as per Voucher 05-2014: Administration - \$22,578.75; Algoma Dist Services Administration (May) - \$21,346.17; Building - \$496.07; Fire - \$3,303.33; Misc - \$6,094.45; Museum (2014 levy) - \$5,368.67 ; Policing - \$6,108.00; Recycling (1st Qtr) - \$2,255.11; Roads - \$3,893.56. \* Carried \*

Moved by Pat Garside 2014-84  
Seconded by Dave Leask

Resolved that we do pass By-Law 1104-14 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of this meeting. \*Carried\*

Council agreed to move the July council meeting to the second week of July instead of the usual first week.

Moved by Pat Garside 2014-85  
Seconded by Dianne Holt

Resolved that we do adjourn at 10:03 p.m., Council to meet again at the Hilton Township Municipal Office at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 9, 2014 or at the call of the Reeve. \*Carried\*

Rodney Wood, Reeve

Valerie Obarymskyj, Clerk Treasurer

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**\*\*\* Building Inspection \*\*\***  
Ron LeBlanc – Building Inspector - Call 1-800-797-2997  
Email: ron.leblanc@tulloch.ca

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**Dump/Recycling (M & N Road):**

**SUMMER Hours in Effect from May 15/14 – September 15/14**

Wednesday: 2:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
Saturday: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm      Sunday: 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm  
Holiday Mondays: 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm

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**Items considered Hazardous:** Paint (both oil and latex); oil; acids; anti-freeze; aerosols; caustics; flammables; pesticides; batteries of all types; propane cylinders; oil filters; pharmaceuticals; fire extinguishers; etc. Please note the above items are not accepted in the local landfill anymore.

Hilton Township residents are authorized to deposit these items at the Household Special Waste Facility located at:

**115 Industrial Park in Sault Ste. Marie**

(turn off Great Northern Road across from Esquire Honda).

**Hours of Operation:** Thursdays and Fridays from 9:00 am till 6:00 pm and Saturdays from 8:00 am till 4:00 pm during the months of May through to October.

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**F I R E - 911 for EMERGENCIES**

**\*\* New Cell Phone # for Fire Chief: 705-971-2806 \*\***



It is necessary to obtain a Fire Permit at the Municipal Office for Small Brush Burning and Incinerator Burning during the months from April to October. There is no fee for this permit.

**A reminder that burning is only permitted two hours before sunset and two hours after sunrise.**

*(Exception: campfires for cooking/warmth allowed anytime.)*

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***Fireworks Safety Tips***  
(Courtesy of the Office of the Fire Marshal)

**To minimize the risk of fire and burn injury, the fire service does not recommend family fireworks or informal neighbourhood displays.**

- The fire service recommends attending public fireworks displays hosted by your municipality or other responsible organization (*Plan to attend Jocelyn Township’s Canada Day Celebrations – potluck supper starts at 6:00 pm followed by games and fireworks at dusk at the Jocelyn Township Park – A Line – Sponsored by Jocelyn Recreation*)
- If you still choose to have a family fireworks or an informal neighbourhood display, check with your local fire department about regulations regarding fireworks. Here are some important safety tips to be followed:
  - Appoint a responsible person to be in charge. Only adults who are aware of the hazards and essential safety precautions should handle and discharge fireworks.
  - Carefully read and follow the label directions on fireworks packaging.
  - Always keep a water hose or pail of water close by when discharging fireworks.
  - Discharge fireworks well away from combustible materials like buildings, trees and dry grass.
  - Keep onlookers a safe distance away, upwind from the area where fireworks are discharged.
  - Light only one firework at a time and only when they are on the ground. Never try to light a firework in your hand or re-light dud fireworks. For dud fireworks, it is best to wait 30 minutes and soak them in a bucket of water. Dispose of them in a metal container.
  - Discharge fireworks only if wind conditions do not create a safety hazard.
  - Keep sparklers away from children. Sparklers burn extremely hot and can ignite clothing, cause blindness and result in severe burns. As the sparkler wire remains hot for some minutes after burnout, it should be immediately soaked in water to avoid injury.
  - If someone gets burned, run cool water over the wound for three to five minutes and seek medical attention, if necessary.



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