

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
November 5, 2014
7:00 p.m.

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

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

Moved by Dave Leask 2014-127
Seconded by Pat Garside
Resolved that we do accept the Agenda as presented. * Carried *

Moved by Dianne Holt 2014-128
Seconded by Robert Jerrard
Resolved that we do approve the Minutes of the meeting of October 8, 2014, as presented. * Carried *

Lyn Garside, Road Superintendent, provided an update on road conditions in the Township. The continued wet weather has involved considerable efforts at dealing with beaver problems, as well as, slowed the construction progress on Neal Drive. The Clerk was asked to send a letter of appreciation to an abutting landowner of Neal Drive who has permitted ditching and the deposit of material onto his property. As a result of the soft road conditions the Road Superintendent has recommended that the gravel deposit be postponed till after the middle of November to avoid damage to existing roads. There is currently an issue with the air tank of the plow truck which will have to be replaced and this will be done when the truck is in for its annual mechanical and Drive Clean testing. The Road Superintendent confirmed the plow would be mounted and ready by the weekend given the early forecasts of snow. Council asked about the remaining life of the truck as it is currently 15 years old with approximately 100,000 kilometres. It was noted the truck has been used extensively during summer construction projects in addition to winter plowing and this has resulted in considerable cost savings for the Township. Council will continue to set aside funds on an annual basis in an effort to prepare financially for the vehicle's replacement within the next few years.

The Clerk recommended that Council consider some form of recognition given the 'on call' requirement of a one-man Roads Department. It was noted that this issue had recently been addressed by a neighbouring municipality and Council supported the following resolution.

Moved by Dianne Holt 2014-129
Seconded by Robert Jerrard
Resolved that we do recommend that the 'on call' responsibility that is part of the requirements of the Road Superintendent full time position be recognized with an annual allocation of one week for 'on call pay' for the winter season, to be either paid out or taken as vacation and that this change be effective January 2015. * Carried *

The Clerk advised that when completing the final reporting for the Small Rural Northern – Top Up grant the Township had been awarded for the 20th Side Road rehabilitation, it had come to light that the costs allocated to use of our own equipment would not be considered an eligible expense. The costs had been detailed in the initial grant application and deemed to be considered eligible by the Township when the grant approval was received. The Clerk is continuing to work with OMAFRA (Ontario Ministry Agriculture Food Rural Affairs) representatives to ensure the \$60,000 anticipated amount of grant funding will still be received in its entirety.

The Clerk reminded those members of Council that serve on the Fire Board that the next meeting is scheduled for November 25, 2014. The date will be confirmed again with Village representatives.

The St. Joseph Island Planning Board asked for confirmation of who would sit as board members from this municipality for the new term of office beginning December 1, 2014. The Clerk advised that the full appointment by-law is usually passed in January each year and that current members should give some consideration to what boards they may wish to sit on. The Clerk was asked to contact all current community representatives to inquire if they were willing to continue to represent the Township on the various boards.

Moved by Robert Jerrard 2014-130
Seconded by Dianne Holt
Resolved that we do appoint Dave Leask and Rod Wood as Hilton Township's representatives on the St. Joseph Island Planning Board for the term 2014 – 2018. * Carried *

The Clerk advised that since the PIN registration had been initiated several years ago there have been several instances where owners owning abutting properties have been told that their lots have merged and are now considered one property. Through discussion with the Secretary Treasurer of the Planning Board, the Clerk's understanding was that merging would not occur unless an application was filed under the Planning Act. Currently, one landowner who owns four abutting lots is asking if it is possible to add on to the construction of his existing residence in a manner that would cross over into the abutting property. The Clerk asked that the issue be addressed at the next Planning Board meeting as to whether a zoning amendment or adjustment of boundary lines would be the best option for the owner.

Council was advised that a total of 24 Township residents had voted at the Village of Hilton Beach for the position of Algoma District School Board Trustee. A high voter turnout was not expected given there wasn't an election for any council positions.

An excerpt from the Village of Hilton Beach's Minutes of October 8, 2014 advised that no action would be taken on the Township's request to have tippage fees waived for the deposit of brush and tree limbs from the September windstorm as most of the clean-up had already been completed. In addition, the Township's request to have a specific ditch for the disposal of carcasses given the upcoming hunting season was deemed unnecessary and that such remains could be deposited in existing trenches as in previous years.

Council reviewed two letters regarding current issues facing the Hilton Union Public Library. One letter was from a Township resident asking the Township to further consider its position regarding sharing in the costs of a new heating system for the library given the building's cultural significance. The second letter was from a Village resident recommending that any necessary upgrades be made to the existing building so that it can remain where it is as opposed to being relocated to the Village's Waterfront Centre. The Clerk was asked to send a letter to the Library Board further clarifying the Township's position on a number of issues related to the library.

Councillors Holt and Jerrard reported on the recent meeting they had attended in Laird sponsored by the Central Algoma Freshwater Coalition. The meeting had addressed the problem areas affecting the water quality in our district and these included outdated septic tanks, blue-green algae and invasive species. The group continues to struggle with gaining municipal involvement and sponsorship. They noted there are only a few municipalities in the area which have recognized the importance water quality has on our communities despite the number of local communities that depend on good water conditions for assessment and tourism. Hilton Township has supported the projects this group has undertaken ever since it assisted our municipality when it was facing the blue-green algae problem on Twin Lakes. The group helped to educate our affected residents and assisted with continued monitoring of the lake condition. They sponsored safe boat washing blitzes in the area to raise awareness of how the Eurasian Watermilfoil situation present at nearby marinas could easily get out of control and threaten many of our water bodies. Council recognizes how important good water quality is for the enjoyment of residents but also for the tax base of the community. It is for this reason an allocation was included in this year's budget and will be submitted to the CAFC along with a suggestion for a project within Hilton Township within the next couple years.

Council reviewed the response from a Bell representative regarding our municipality's request for modifications to the towers to improve the cell service within the Township. It had been anticipated that the new tower erected in the Village of Hilton Beach this year would have resulted in better results for both cell and high-speed internet service in the surrounding areas but the reception for much of Base Line, P Line, U Line and W Line continues to be poor to non-existent. The Township was asked to identify and prioritize the areas on a map where service is poor and Bell will try to find ways to improve the service based on such input.

Moved by Pat Garside

2014-131

Seconded by Dave Leask

Resolved that we do contribute \$100.00 to Branch 374, Royal Canadian Legion, in recognition of the 2014 Remembrance Day Campaign. * Carried *

Council reviewed information about a Regional Town Hall Meeting to be held by TSSA (Technical Standards and Safety Authority) from 7:30 am to 9:30 am on November 12, 2014 at the Delta Hotel in Sault Ste. Marie. This meeting is for the general public to attend. The TSSA Fuels Safety Program Director is scheduled to meet with area service station operators in Richards Landing on November 11th but due to confidentiality issues that meeting will not be open to the public.

Council reviewed correspondence from the Algoma District Municipal Association asking for support of its recent resolution that area municipalities contribute to the financial support of the area Crimestoppers program. A table was attached identifying the amount requested from Hilton Township based on population.

Moved by Robert Jerrard

2014-132

Seconded by Dave Leask

Resolved that we do agree to support the ADMA resolution regarding Algoma District support for Crimestoppers with a contribution on behalf of Hilton Township in the amount of \$96.89 as per the provided breakdown.

Carried

Moved by Robert Jerrard
Seconded by Dianne Holt

2014-133

Resolved that we do authorize the payment of Township bills for the month of October 2014 in the amount of \$150,044.78 as per Voucher 10-2014: Administration - \$8,904.78; Algoma Dist Services Administration (October) - \$21,346.17; Assessment (Quarterly) - \$4,433.20; Building Inpection- \$692.13; Fire - \$889.80; Miscellaneous (Employee/Employer Payroll Deductions/ Benefits) - \$6,130.64; Police - \$2,645.00; Roads - \$103,623.16; WSIB (Quarterly) - \$1,379.90. *Carried*

Moved by Pat Garside
Seconded by Pat Garside

2014-134

Resolved that we do pass By-Law 1117-14 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of this meeting. *Carried*

Moved by Robert Jerrard
Seconded by Dave Leask

2014-135

Resolved that we do adjourn at 10:45 p.m., Council to meet again at the Hilton Township Municipal Office at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 3, 2014 or at the call of the Reeve. *Carried*

Rodney Wood, Reeve

Valerie Obarymskyj, Clerk Treasurer



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

Dump/Recycling (M & N Road):

WINTER Hours in Effect from Sept 15/14 – May 15/15

Saturday: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm Sunday: 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm



Winter has come (too?) early this year.



Please ensure:

1. **Your laneway is cleared wide enough so that any form of emergency vehicle can enter should the need arise.**
2. **Do not park your vehicle on the road or in any municipal turnarounds. This is absolutely imperative for overnight periods but the plow must often be out during daytime hours also – so for the safety of everyone, please do not leave your vehicle on the road during the winter.**
3. **Do not push snow onto/across/along any roads when clearing your driveway. Not only is it against the law but when these snow deposits freeze they can result in a dangerous situation for motorists, as well as, plow operators.**

Your co-operation is appreciated in helping to make this a safe winter for everyone.

A sincere thank you to EVERYONE who donated Hallowe'en treats to the Hilton Township Recreation Committee, who in turn, distributed them to area ghosts, goblins and a variety of superheroes! Due to the generosity of area residents, many parents consider this location a 'one stop shopping experience' complete with plenty of goodies and always a spooky theme to enjoy. Thanks also to our amazing Recreation Team that puts so much effort into this night and never disappoints with something new and freaky!



Hilton Township Recreation Committee welcomes all children to the Hilton Township Office for a Christmas Party on Sunday, December 14th, 2014 from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm. Crafts, food and a free colour photo of each child with Santa!