

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILTON

MINUTES

Regular Meeting
September 3, 2014
6:30 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

2014-104

Seconded by Robert Jerrard

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

Moved by Robert Jerrard

2014-105

Seconded by Dave Leask

Resolved that we do approve the Minutes of the meeting of August 6, 2014, as presented. * Carried *

Reeve Wood welcomed Joe Books, Community Emergency Management Co-ordinator (CEMC), for Hilton Township to the meeting. Council had agreed to meet earlier than the traditional 7:00 pm start time to accommodate a review of our Emergency Plan and carry out a tabletop emergency scenario. Review of the Township's Emergency Plan raised the question as to whether the Village of Hilton Beach's Community Hall should be added as an Emergency Warming/Support Centre. In the current Plan, only the St. Joseph Island Royal Canadian Legion is listed. It was Council's understanding that through a recent Provincial grant, the Village had acquired a generator for use in the Community Hall which would allow use of the building in emergency situations. Mr. Books will be making a similar presentation with the Village Council in the near future and will confirm whether such a change should be made. It was noted that telephone contacts for certain individuals and businesses in the Emergency List should be updated. Council was presented with the scenario of an impending snow storm that might result in combinations of significant snow/freezing rain/zero visibility/power outages/etc all of which could compromise the safety of Township residents. The following issues were reviewed: the need to form an Emergency Control Group; the roles of such members; the timing for declaring and cancelling an emergency; the role of the media; alternative means of communication; the importance of thorough documentation throughout the process; the availability of a list of 'vulnerable individuals' that designated people should contact to ensure their safety. Reeve Wood thanked Mr. Books for his continued efforts in his role as CEMC and ensuring the Township satisfied the requirements set out by Emergency Management Ontario.

Lyn Garside, Road Superintendent, provided an update on road conditions in the Township. The Canoe Point Road culvert situation was discussed again and a possible solution proposed. The fuel tank on the plow truck has been replaced as the old one was beyond repair. The new double walled fuel tanks have also been installed in accordance with this year's insurance company's requirements. The Road Superintendent noted he is planning to start the Neal Drive reconstruction in September.

Moved by Pat Garside

2014-106

Seconded by Dave Leask

Resolved that we do accept the quotation submitted by Gilbertson Enterprises to supply and deliver gravel for the Neal Drive Project (Contract No. 1-14) in the amount of \$38,058.40 (including taxes) detailed as follows:

1,200 Cubic Yards of 5/8" Crushed Class A Gravel at a price of \$10.15 per cu. yd. and

2,500 Cubic Yards of 2" Crushed Class B Gravel at a price of \$ 8.60 per cu. yd * Carried *

Moved by Dave Leask

2014-107

Seconded by Robert Jerrard

Resolved that we do approve in principle the application made by Galilee Cattle Company (Robert Trapp) to purchase that part of the original shoreroad allowance lying in front of Block D, Plan H597 and Lot 25, Plan H597 (Hamilton Drive) and further declare that this land be deemed surplus to the needs of the Municipality. This approval is subject to the provisions of the Municipal Act and any other requirements set by various agencies as well as the required Reference Plan of Survey and deposit being received by this municipality within one year of this date. * Carried *

The Clerk advised that a representative of the Ministry of Transportation has asked for a meeting to be held at the Hilton Township Office in September 2014 to address its planned replacement of the Highway 548 Kaskawan

Creek culvert situated on U Line. The work could involve closing that section of Hwy 548 for up to a month and plans for a detour need to be reviewed by both roads and emergency personnel.

The Clerk provided correspondence regarding grants that had recently been announced by the Ministry of Infrastructure. Under one part of the program, all municipalities under 100,000 population as well as those municipalities located in Northern Ontario will receive formula-based grants that will not require any application. It is expected that municipalities such as ours will receive the minimum \$25,000 while other municipalities with significantly more infrastructure will receive more. Use of such funds is restricted to Roads, Bridges, Water and Wastewater projects or Asset Management Plan implementation. In addition, there was an opportunity to apply for funding under a separate program if a case could be made for addressing a public health or safety concern. It was confirmed with the Road Superintendent that the upcoming road construction projects as detailed in our Asset Management Plan did not appear to satisfy that criteria.

Councillor Leask noted he had been in discussion with Deputy Fire Chief Robert Hope and it was confirmed the Village of Hilton Beach supported the recent decision to postpone work on the existing firehall until Spring 2015.

The Clerk advised she had attended a recent meeting in Sault Ste. Marie sponsored by the OPP. The meeting had been held to explain how the new billing model to be introduced in January 2015 would work. The new billing model is intended to distribute provincial policing costs in a fairer manner among municipalities as well as offer increased transparency in the services being provided. While actual costs will not be released for individual municipalities until later in September, the average base cost is expected to be \$203 per household. The Township of Hilton currently pays approximately \$88 per household. Any increases are to be phased in over a five year period with an annual cap of \$40 per household until the allocated cost is reached. The Township currently pays approximately \$31,000 per year for policing and under the new billing system will pay approximately \$45,000 in 2015. This estimated \$14,000 annual increase will continue for at least three years until the Township reaches the \$203/hh remittance for 'base costs'. At that point, the Township will be paying approximately \$73,000 toward base service costs for policing. Base costs include routine patrols, crime prevention, RIDE programs and proactive policing. It was noted that there will be an additional charge for 'service costs' which involve reactive calls for service such as the attendance of an officer at the scene of occurrences such as motor vehicle collisions. It is estimated that the base costs will represent roughly 60% of a municipality's bill and service costs the remaining 40%. The service costs will continue to result in fluctuations in policing costs amongst municipalities as they are based on individual usage levels. Council noted that while the phase-in approach over five years will help to avoid an immediate exorbitant change in the tax rate, increases to the tax rate in future years will likely be unavoidable.

Council discussed the matter of contributing to the Matthews Memorial Hospital Association physician recruitment fund and decided it would follow suit with the Township of St. Joseph and set aside funds in a new reserve for such purposes. As part of the 2014 budget, the Township raised \$4,600 for the intended purpose of physician recruitment. It is the understanding of Council that the current doctors have agreed to stay on the Island for the next four years and as such, these funds will be held in trust by the Township until the financial need arises.

In accordance with the May 2014 council decision to change the manner of compensation for the position of Custodian and the subsequent 90 day posting of the required Pay Equity Amendment, the following by-law was passed.

Moved by Pat Garside 2014-108
Seconded by Dave Leask
Resolved that we do give first, second and third and final reading and pass By-Law No. 1110-14 being a by-law to amend the Pay Equity Plan for Hilton Township. *Carried*

The following by-law was updated and passed to reflect the change to the Custodian rate of pay as well as recognizing a "Vacation Relief" wage for the Deputy Clerk while replacing the Clerk.

Moved by Pat Garside 2014-109
Seconded by Robert Jerrard
Resolved that we do give first, second and third and final reading and pass By-Law No. 1111-14 being a by-law respecting remuneration and expenses for members of council and municipal employees of the Corporation of the Township of Hilton. *Carried*

Moved by Dianne Holt 2014-110
Seconded by Pat Garside
Resolved that we do authorize Valerie Obarymskyj to attend the MFOA Investment Basics and Beyond Workshop to be held in Sault Ste. Marie on Thursday, October 30, 2014. * Carried *

The Clerk asked if Council wanted the line by line version of the 2014 budget posted to our municipality's website and was advised to post a simplified version that would be easy for residents to follow. If anyone wanted additional detail, it could be provided by contacting the Clerk.

Council reviewed a letter from a resident addressing the matter of the significant capital improvements required for the library building located in the Village. The structure was referred to as a heritage building but to Council’s knowledge it has never been formally designated as such. Council noted that if the Village wanted to go through the application process to designate this structure as a heritage building, it might then be eligible for specific grants for improvements. It was also noted that the Village could pursue grants designed to improve the energy efficiency of municipal buildings that would also help to offset the necessary renovation costs.

Moved by Robert Jerrard 2014-111
Seconded by Dianne Holt
Resolved that we do authorize the payment of Township bills for the month of August 2014 in the amount of \$55,781.11 as per Voucher 08-2014: Administration - \$6,213.11; Algoma Dist Services Administration (August) - \$21,346.17; Building Inspection- \$785.69; Fire - \$305.00; Miscellaneous (Employee/Employer Payroll Deductions/ Benefits) - \$6,209.06; Police - \$2,645.00; Roads - \$18,277.08. *Carried*

Moved by Dave Leask 2014-112
Seconded by Pat Garside
Resolved that we do pass By-Law 1112-14 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of this meeting. *Carried*

Moved by Dianne Holt 2014-113
Seconded by Dave Leask
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, October 8, 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



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.

A sincere thank you to EVERYONE who helped out during the recent wind storm that resulted in so many trees falling on our Township roads and causing power outages lasting days for some folks. Residents, Members of Council and the Fire Department all stepped up to volunteer their time to ensure downed trees were removed as quickly as possible and barricades erected to mark fallen power lines. We are thankful no one was injured and so very appreciative of the community spirit shown by so many. In addition, sincere thanks to Road Superintendent, Lyn Garside, for efforts above and beyond to get roads back to normal and to Joe Books, CEMC, who (with his crystal ball!) provided refresher Emergency training to Council the day prior to the storm. Certainly, this training helped to ensure our response was prompt and appropriate.



Council for the Township of Hilton honoured Councillor Pat Garside at its meeting of September 3, 2014 noting Pat has served continuously as a council member since December 1988. A plaque commemorating his 25 year achievement was received from the Province of Ontario and Council celebrated with a cake. On behalf of all Hilton Township residents, thank you Pat for your many contributions over this significant period! (We all look forward to celebrating your 50th!)

F I R E = 9-1-1
Fire Prevention Week, October 5 – 11, 2014
“Smoke Alarms Save Lives: Test Yours Every Month!”

Ontario law requires that working smoke alarms be located on every storey of the home and outside all sleeping areas.

Your safety is your responsibility. Only *working* smoke alarms save lives. In fact, smoke alarms can increase your chances of surviving a fire by up to 50%!

Make sure you:

- Test smoke alarms monthly.
- Change the batteries once a year.
- Replace smoke alarms after 10 years.
- Develop and practice a home fire escape plan with everyone in your household.

[A Message from the Ontario Fire Marshal and Chief, Emergency Management](#)

The FINAL instalment of this year's property tax bill was mailed September 1, 2014. The due date is September 30, 2014.