

**TOWNSHIP OF MACHAR
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
Monday, February 13, 2023**

Call to Order, Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof; Councillor Pearl Ivens with respect to 2.a. as she sits on the Executive.

Council present: Mayor Lynda Carleton, Deputy Mayor Ron McLaren, Councillors Neil Scarlett, Pearl Ivens and Blair Flowers. Staff present: Clerk Administrator Brenda Paul and Treasurer Deputy Clerk Angela Loney. Guest observing: Kathy Schoenberger.

PUBLIC MEETING

6:30 pm Lakeshore Road Closing 5-251, Resolution

Requirements completed and questions answered.

25-23 Scarlett, Flowers

THAT we read a first, second, third and final time and pass By-Law No. 4-23; to deem Lot 14, Plan M108 not to be a Registered Plan of Subdivision. CARRIED

The above Resolution/By-law is required for Lot 14 to merge with Part 1 (lakeshore road allowance).

26-23 McLaren, Ivens

THAT we read a first, second, third and final time and pass By-Law No. 5-23; to close and sell part of the original road allowance in front of Lot 24, Con 8 (Lot 14, Plan M108). CARRIED

BUSINESS

1. Adoption of Jan 23, 2023 minutes, Resolution

27-23 Scarlett, Flowers

THAT we adopt Jan 23 and 30, 2023 minutes. CARRIED

2. Pay List by Fund for Jan, Resolution

28-23 Scarlett, McLaren

THAT we approve Pay List by Fund as of Jan 31, 2023: \$196,838.36 Grand Total + \$85,559.66 Q1 2023 payments to Library, Fire and Arena. CARRIED

a. South River Friendly Circle annual donation request

Discussed. Approved \$1,200.

b. Para-Track Athlete Hudson Booth financial request

Discussed. Approved \$100.

COMMITTEES

3. Machar Public Works minutes of Jan 19 2023, Resolution

Reviewed. Discussed. Clarification on 6.b. to be revisited on Thu.

29-23 Ivens, McLaren

THAT we accept Public Works minutes of Jan 19, 2023 as amended. CARRIED

4. Shared Services; Arena NOHFC Application Final, New Condenser, 2022 Budgets

3rd Draft and final version of the Community Enhancement Program – Enhance Your Community Stream Application to the Northern ON Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) for \$1.2 million total eligible costs (new Condenser, new Dehumidifier, new Chiller and Brine Pump, and Ice Pad replacement) provided. South River has passed Resolutions on Feb 1, 2023 to amend the 2022 Fire Budget to \$191,105.17 municipal contributions, approved the purchase of Arena Condenser from Black and McDonald Option #2...in the amount of \$124,560 + HST per quote...dated Jan 26, 2023, support the Arena application to NOHFC, and revised Fire and Arena Shared Services Statement.

Council inquired if the Tebby Park costs have been removed from Arena as requested. No answer.

Council and any interested staff are welcome to participate or observe South River's Committee of the Whole meeting on Feb 15, 2023. Draft 1 2023 Budgets for Fire and Arena received from South River on the evening of Jan 23, 2023 were provided. The dollar increases over what we budgeted for 2022 are: \$112,449.23 for Arena and \$31,778.83 for Fire = \$144,228.06 input into OPTA (Online Property Tax Analysis) calculates an increase of 5.57% to our taxpayers for these 2 services alone.

We received Draft 2 2023 Budgets for Fire and Arena from South River late this afternoon, accompanied by several other items (pre audit year end results for our Audit purposes, NOHFC letter on Application, minutes from South River COW meeting on Jan 25, 2023, and Jan reports), however there wasn't an adequate opportunity to review it and it appears the agenda wasn't attached. We'll reach out for the Agenda with meeting link and we'll provide copies to Council.

*Draft 2 2023 Budgets received from South River for Fire and Arena appear to be the same, with the exception of Arena Capital from \$200,000 to \$145,000. The dollar increases over what we budgeted for 2022 are: \$84,949.23 for Arena and \$31,779 for Fire = \$116,728.23 input into OPTA calculates an increase of 4.5% to our taxpayers for these 2 services. Agenda with link provided Feb 14, 2023.

5. South River Machar Medical Centre minutes of Jan 17, 2023, Resolution

Reviewed. Caretaker attended the meeting and will attend future meetings to keep communications updated. New Tenant/Request/Comment/Complaint process directed by the Board. Loan Cupboard space requirements to be followed up on at the next meeting.

30-23 Flowers, McLaren

THAT we support motions in Medical minutes of Jan 17, 2023 as follows: Teri Brandt is the new Chair for the first 2 years...Blair Flowers will be the Chair...for the remaining 2 years, adopt the minutes, Pay Lists, Budgetary Control, now adjourned... CARRIED

6. Central Almaguin Planning minutes of Dec 7, 2022 and Jan 11, 2023, Resolution

Reviewed. Board remains busy. Magnetawan is looking at leaving and doing their own. It was noted there is significant workload involved that would be transferred to the municipality.

31-23 Flowers, Ivens

THAT we acknowledge Planning minutes of Dec 7, 2022 and Jan 11, 2023. CARRIED

7. Joint Building Committee minutes of Jan 19, 2023, Resolution

Reviewed. The meeting was longer than usual due to new representatives and new discussion.

32-23 Scarlett, McLaren

THAT we accept Building minutes of Jan 19, 2023. CARRIED

8. Joint Building Committee permit summaries for Jan, Resolution

Reviewed. 5 permits issued in Jan 2023 compared to 1 in Jan 2022. Sundridge is highest with 2.

33-23 Scarlett, Ivens

THAT we accept Building permit summaries for Jan 2023. CARRIED

9. District of Parry Sound Munic Assoc Ward 5 area rep = Lynda Carleton

DPSMA received Resolutions from all 6 municipalities within Ward #5 which resulted in a tie between Lynda Carleton and Tim Bryson. The Sec-Treas reached out to the municipalities and via Zoom proceeded to draw a name from a hat to break the tie. Lynda Carleton is the Ward #5 rep.

10. FONOM; MOE response Boreal Forest Medieval Village, Membership Fees

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is taking action and has issued an Information Bulletin regarding Off-Grid Development in Unincorporated Areas. According to publicly available information and other information shared with MMAH, these communities are being marketed to hundreds of investors per property, as affordable, recreational, “low impact” developments, that seek to avoid government regulation and oversight. To the extent that living sites are not being created by plan of subdivision, they would therefore not appear to be legally conveyable lots under provincial legislation. According to BFMV marketing information, the communities are “not for profit corporations governed by member developed by-laws and annually elected Boards of Directors to help manage the community development” and BFMV purchases the properties, surveys the land, identifies half acre sites, and “distributes them according to member choices”.

The Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), the Timiskaming Health Unit, adjacent municipalities, local municipal associations, local MPPs, and members of the public have all expressed concerns to MMAH. These concerns fall into several categories as follows. Servicing: sewage, drinking water, waste and planning. Adequate water and sewage servicing is essential to ensure environmental protection and people’s health and safety. How each property intends to dispose of greywater to ensure no negative impacts to water quality and the environment. Details regarding the proposed drinking water source, the associated drinking water treatment if any, and the number of residences to be served by any communal drinking water system(s). Information about waste disposal from these projects and confirmation that either landfill sites in the unincorporated areas or within municipalities are willing, approved and have the capacity to accept waste from these projects. Indigenous Consultation: if the developments have the potential to impact Aboriginal and/or treaty rights adversely. Public Health and Safety: Emergency services (fire, ambulance, police). MMAH understands that BFMV communities are to be built with “primitive (roads) through the property and leading to members’ sites”. Emergency vehicles may not be able to navigate these primitive roads to reach the site of an emergency. An increased volume of emergency calls due to the increased number of people living on these parcels of land may create challenges with response. In addition, fire services require water resources. Building permits and building inspections are not available in unincorporated areas, but all buildings are required to comply with the provisions of the Ontario Building Code. All “owners” as defined in the Ontario Fire Code are responsible for complying with the Fire Code irrespective of whether they live in a municipality or in an unincorporated area. Impact to Adjacent Municipalities’ Services and Facilities: development shall be appropriate to planned or available infrastructure, and the establishment of new permanent townsites shall not be permitted. Permanent residences are to be directed to municipalities that have the services and infrastructure to support them. Schools, hospitals, and other public service facilities should be considered to ensure they can support the current and anticipated population.

Administration expressed support for the Ministry’s response as we respond to several similar inquiries. Unregulated development makes our jobs more difficult as it overflows into our municipality often resulting in anti-government sentiment or enforcement action required.

FONOM annual membership fee hasn’t increased for 8 years. Fee is based on population. Membership Invoices will be emailed. Population 1,000 and under = \$176.40 for 2023-2024 year.

11. NECO Community Futures Development Corp; Update to Municipalities Jan 2023

NECO is a not-for-profit funded by the Government of Canada and governed by a volunteer board of directors. Their professional staff encourage entrepreneurship and the pursuit of economic opportunities. Since 1987, they have invested more than \$30 million in business loans and community projects. Their objectives are to assist communities and businesses in the East

Nipissing/East Parry Sound region in the creation of employment through funding for community economic development initiatives and special projects, as well as providing financial assistance, counselling, training and advisory services for small businesses. www.neco.on.ca

12. Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare minutes of Jan 6, 2023 and Stage 1.3 Site Selection Process

COVID hospitalization has been steady, noting as many as 10 cases recently on any given day across both sites over the last few months. Inpatient occupancy continues to be a challenge with over 100% occupancy at both sites, challenging patient flow with admissions in the Emergency Dept. MAHC vaccination policy remains for staff. MAHC has launched the Ontario Telestroke Program, an emergency telemedicine application that provides Emergency physicians immediate access to neurologists with expertise in stroke care to support assessment and treatment of patients experiencing acute stroke symptoms. Renovation and construction to replace the end-of-life Nuclear Medicine machine at the Huntsville site continues with completion targeted by the end of Mar. A question was raised as to whether the municipal mechanics of supporting local share are based on assessment. Board Chair indicated property assessment can be one of the tools, and decision-making with respect to the strategy rests solely with municipal partners and the Local Share Committee is happy to hear any solution. The Town of Huntsville is moving forward with a walk-in clinic in the Annex building in partnership with the Algonquin Health Team. MPP Graydon Smith shared his openness to hearing from anyone in the group that has matters to discuss.

Power Point document; Selecting New Land in Bracebridge (South Muskoka Memorial Hospital).

13. Almaguin Heads of Council (Mayor Rod Ward, Township of Armour); Local Share Updates, Update from Almaguin Highlands Health Council; Approach to MAHC Hospital Build Local Share Commitments (12 for 12 in 12) total municipal commitment \$112,500,000.

Following a meeting of the Local Share Committee, MAHC has asked for preliminary potential funding numbers by Feb 15. Almaguin Highlands Health Council (AHHC) had a delegation from MAHC (Muskoka Algonquin Health Care) and also discussed some potential approaches afterward, resulting in the slide deck which was sent to AHCC members. This is a suggested approach to move things forward. Note that all municipalities in the “catchment area” (including Bracebridge, Huntsville, Gravenhurst, Muskoka Lakes, Lake of Bays, etc) are also expected to provide some sort of number by end of day Feb 15, 2023. Slide deck has been updated twice (3 copies total). Armour Mayor Rod Ward advises that Armour will be discussing both the “80% share for MAHC” and the “20% share for Almaguin Highlands” line items as part of its Feb Budget discussions for approval. Staff is analyzing the impact in advance of those discussions with Council. The approach has been tag lined “\$12-m for 12 municipalities in 12 years...” and is proposing \$198,000 from Machar = \$16,500 per year. Discussed. Machar has an ongoing financial commitment to the construction of the North Bay Regional Health Centre (\$143,173 over 20 years = \$7,158.65 year). 2022 was 16/20 payments. Council are particularly concerned about the 2023 Budget year implications and indicated no commitment to MAHC at the present time, as we’re still committed to NBRHC.

Burks Falls has presented a formula by population, private dwellings, assessment, and weighted (assessment), however their assumptions are different than (those) presented. These figures suggest from \$132,294 at the low end to \$213,827 on the high end for Machar. The increase to our taxpayers when adding the \$16,500 MAHC to the \$144,228 for Fire and Arena = 6.21% tax impact.

MAHC News Release; Have Your Say in MAHC’s Site Selection Survey distributed, open to Feb 20.

INFORMATION

- 14. Short term Rentals Council;** Bay Today article, City to avoid long-term headaches with short-term rental by-law ATTACHED
- 15. Bill C-21 Council;** CBC article, Ottawa withdraws controversial amendments to firearms law, Critics say amendments would have banned a number of long guns in wide use by hunters ATTACHED
- 16. AMCTO The Municipal Experts,** AMCTO at the 2023 ROMA Conference ATTACHED
- 17. Town of Petrolia Resolution,** Request that staff forward this motion to the Hon. Steve Lecce, Minister of Education, MPP Bob Bailey, Ontario Municipal Councils and the County of Lambton requesting that

school boards become responsible for conducting their own trustee elections or at minimum municipalities be compensated by the school boards for overseeing such trustee elections

18. City of Thunder Bay Resolution, To the Memorandum from Councillor Kristen Oliver, Chair – Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee, we recommend that Council support the passing of Bill 42 – Gender Affirming Health Care Act

19. Township of Montague Resolution, Council support World Thinking Day initiative and request staff to purchase a blue flood light and display on World Thinking Day Feb 22, 2023 at the Municipal Office, Council support the resolution provided from the County of Lanark regarding Renfrew Inquest Recommendations

20. City of Brantford Resolution, Council respectfully calls upon the Government of Canada to resume, in good faith, investigations into opportunities to enhance passenger rail services in southwestern Ontario, and respectfully calls upon Via Rail to reinstate line number 82 immediately

21. County of Huron Resolution, Advocate for improvements to the Cannabis Act and current legislative framework for cannabis in Canada by sending the report titled Report for Council: Cannabis Act Information, including the correspondence found in the appendices, to the Western Ontario Warden’s Caucus (WOWC) for discussion and consideration

22. AMO Watchfile Jan 19, 2023 In This Issue

- Call for applications for fill AMO Board vacancies
- Final comments on More Homes Built Faster Plan posted
- 2023-2024 Seniors Community Grant applications
- New dates available for AMO’s Land Use Planning training
- Strengthen your leadership: AMO’s New Councillor Training
- Save the date for AMO-LAS 2023 Energy Symposium: Nov 2-3
- New dates available for AMO’s Navigating Conflict for Elected Officials training
- Webinar: A Barrier Free Website Builder for Municipalities
- Blog: Risk Management Trends to Follow in 2023
- Canoe vendor spotlight: Bargreen Ellingson
- Canoe/Grainger information session
- Kraft Hockeyville nominations open
- Careers: ONE, Niagara, Calvin, North Bay, Georgian Bay, MOLTC, and Durham

23. AMO Watchfile Jan 26, 2023 In This Issue

- Call for applications to fill AMO Board vacancies
- 2023-2024 Seniors Community Grant applications
- Invitation to golf car consultations
- New Community Transit Technology Guide available
- Intake open for Rural Economic Development funding
- Streamline Development Approval Fund deadline extended
- Municipal Modernization Program implementation deadline extended
- New dates available for AMO’s Land Use Planning training
- Strengthen your leadership: AMO’s New Councillor Training
- Save the date for AMO-LAS 2023 Energy Symposium: Nov 2-3
- New dates available for AMO’s Navigating Conflict for Elected Officials training
- Webinar: A Barrier Free Website Builder for Municipalities
- 4 easy steps to use Canoe through LAS
- LAS spring webinars are just around the corner!
- AdvantAge Ontario Long-Term Care webinar for councillors
- Careers: ONE, MOT, Hamilton, HCRA, Ombudsman Ontario, Ajax, and Kingston

24. AMO Watchfile Feb 2, 2023 In This Issue

- 2023 PJ Marshall Municipal Innovation Award – Call for submissions
- Call for applications to fill AMO Board vacancies
- 2023-2024 Seniors Community Grant applications
- New Community Transit Technology Guide available
- Intake open for Rural Economic Development funding
- Municipal Modernization Program implementation deadline extended
- Streamline Development Approval Fund deadline extended
- Ontario Small Urban Municipalities Conference (OSUM) – Apr 26-28, 2023
- New dates available for AMO’s Land Use Planning training
- Strengthen your leadership: AMO’s New Councillor Training
- Save for date for AMO-LAS 2023 Energy Symposium: Nov 2-3
- New dates available for AMO’s Navigating Conflict for Elected Officials training
- LAS Blog: Introducing a personal insurance career experience
- Canoe Procurement Group: No login required
- Canoe vendor spotlight: Kubota

- Ontario Nature webinar on Canada's protected areas and the roles of municipalities
- AdvantAge Ontario Long-Term Care webinar for councillors
- Careers: ONE, Halton Region, Ministry of the Solicitor General and Thunder Bay

25. AMO Watchfile Feb 9, 2023 In This Issue

- Sign up for AMO webinar on housing and homelessness
- Call for applications to fill AMO Board vacancies
- One Call Administrative Penalty Regime webinar
- 2023-2024 Seniors Community Grant applications
- New Community Transit Technology Guide available
- Intake open for Rural Economic Development funding
- Streamline Development Approval Fund deadline extended
- Municipal Modernization Program implementation deadline extended
- Ontario Small Urban Municipalities Conference (OSUM) Apr 26-28
- OSUM Conference: Exhibitor information
- AMO Conference 2023: Exhibitor and sponsorship information
- New dates available for AMO's Land Use Planning training
- Strengthen your leadership: AMO's New Councillor Training
- Save the date for AMO-LAS 2023 Energy Symposium: Nov 2-3
- New dates available for AMO's Navigating Conflict for Elected Officials training
- Canoe – your municipal buying partner
- Canoe vendor spotlight: Cemen Tech
- Do you countertop compost? Don't miss this webinar!
- Think spring training with LAS!
- electHER Now spring learning series: Finding My Place, Balance & Confidence
- AdvantAge Ontario Long-Term Care webinar for councillors
- Careers: ONE, Ottawa, Halton, Richmond Hill, Greater Sudbury, and Toronto

26. AMCTO The Municipal Minute Jan 13, 2023, Municipalities to adopt Elections Ontario voters lists in 2024, Motion would see Sudbury council report on attendance at meetings, City of Mississauga recognized with two prestigious emergency management awards, Ontario's real estate inventory increased by over \$37 billion in 2022, Policing coalition hopes for solution from province, Ontario farm group vows to fight for farmland protection, challenge Ford's housing bill, City council supports contentious natural gas turbine expansion

27. AMCTO The Municipal Minute Jan 25, 2023, Ontario government announces funding for rural municipalities, Canada's economy in for a 'turbulent' year, associate finance minister says, Why London's IT staff say \$1M is needed to protect the city from cyber attacks, Ottawa approves commercial space launches in Canada, 'Cybercrime Atlas' will help police, tech companies fight threat actors, Proposal to ban sledding at all but 2 Oshawa parks draws criticism, Some Ottawans turning to urban farming to make ends meet, 5 Bad Habits You Need to Get Rid of to Be a Good leader, A demanding attitude, A judgemental attitude, A 'my way or the highway' attitude, An indecisive nature, and a lack of accountability

28. AMCTO The Municipal Minute Feb 1, 2023, Community housing a focus at ROMA conference, Government providing more than \$936 million to municipal service managers in 2023-24 and 2024-25 through initiatives under the National Housing Strategy to community housing, Doug Ford pledges to turn Ontario into 'auto manufacturing powerhouse' driven by minerals from Ring of Fire, Council balks at plaza overruns, orders staff to sharpen pencils, City to stop collecting waste from many churches, small businesses, Eastern Ontario residents feel abandoned 6 months after tornado, Thousands of heritage properties risk losing protection under Bill 23, including more than 300 in Cambridge, Proposed towers by Stoney Creek's Battlefield park headed to Ontario Land Tribunal

29. AMCTO The Municipal Minute Feb 8, 2023, Ontario seeks to add 50K child-care spots, focusing on underserved areas, Hamilton councillors vote to keep vaccination mandate for new city staff, Builders group outlines best steps for the Ontario market, Women of Ontario say No push for change with harassment bill, As Windsor-Essex looks to add more homes, municipalities already face building inspector shortage, Rural Ontario delivers its message, Sault Ste. Marie launches municipal government podcast, Eastern Ontario town to debate whether oath to King Charles should be scrapped

30. AMO Communications Policy Update, ROMA 2023 Conference, Federal Disaster Mitigation and Adaption Fund, Rural Economic Development (RED) Funding Intake Open, Other areas of focus include property assessment, AMO President Colin Best highlighted the need to proceed with re-assessment to ensure a stable and predictable property tax system

31. AMO Communications, Final Reminder, AMO Board of Directors Applications due Feb 10

32. Pierrette Desrochers, Sudbury East, Nipissing and Parry Sound Ag Newsletter, Jan 2023

33. **Pierrette Desrochers**, Sudbury East, Nipissing and Parry Sound Ag Newsletter, Feb 2023
34. **Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare (MAHC) Accepting Applications for Board of Directors**, Get involved in your local hospital by submitting your application to join the skills-based, community-oriented team of volunteer directors at MAHC as a board member or a committee appointee member of a standing committee
35. **MAHC News Release, MAHC Repeats Exemplary Accreditation Standing**, For the second time in a row, MAHC has been awarded the highest possible rating from Accreditation Canada, Accredited with Exemplary Standing under the Qmentum accreditation program
36. **Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)**, New ROMA Board Elected at ROMA 2023, Conference Draws Record Number of Rural Municipal Leaders, Election of Zone Representatives and Selection of Board Executive Caps Off Event
37. **Almaguin Adult Learning Centre (AALC)**, Feb 2023 Calendar
38. **Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC)**, Jan 2023 In Touch Important Updates, New year, new notices, Property Assessment Change Notices (PACNs) schedule enhancement for 2023, Changes to the Farm Forestry Exemption
39. **Ontario Farmland Trust**, 2023 Ontario Farmland Forum hosted virtually Mar 23, 2023, Planning to Save the Soil will be of interest to many elected officials and staff
40. **Blue Sky Net**, Tech-Talk Jan 2023 Newsletter and Updates

INFORMATION – COVID-19

41. **N Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, Public Service Announcement, COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics This Week**, the following clinics this week will include: Parry Sound Jan 24, N Bay Jan 26, Sundridge Jan 27
42. **N Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, Public Service Announcement, COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics This Week**, the following clinics this week will include: N Bay Feb 7, Parry Sound Feb 9
43. **N Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, Public Service Announcement, COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Cancelled in Parry Sound**, Due to the freezing rain forecasted throughout the region, the COVID-19 vaccine clinic scheduled for Feb 9 has been cancelled. The next COVID-19 vaccine clinic is set to take place Feb 21

ADDITIONAL/ROUND TABLE/NOTICE OF MOTION

Mayor Carleton has a schedule conflict with the Public Works meeting, rescheduled to Thu at 2:30 pm.

CLOSED SESSION

34-23 Scarlett, Ivens

THAT we proceed into Closed Session in order to address a matter pertaining to; personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees, labour relations or employee negotiations, advice that is subject to solicitor/client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose, a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board. Time 8:10 pm. CARRIED

35-23 McLaren, Scarlett

THAT we come out of Closed Session. 8:42 pm. CARRIED

ADJOURN

36-23 McLaren, Ivens

THAT we give 1st, 2nd, 3rd and final reading to Confirming By-Law and that we adjourn until our Regular meeting scheduled for Mon, Feb 27, 2023. CARRIED

Mayor Lynda Carleton

Clerk Administrator Brenda Paul, AMCT