

TOWNSHIP OF MACHAR
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
Monday, January 8, 2024

6:30 pm Call to Order, Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof; Nil

Council present: Mayor Lynda Carleton, Deputy Mayor Ron McLaren, Councillor Blair Flowers.
Councillors Pearl Ivens and Neil Scarlett absent with notice
Staff present: Treasurer Deputy Clerk Angela Loney and Finance Intern Jadah McLaren.

Guest observing: Mark Savill.

BUSINESS

1. Adoption of Dec 11, 2023 minutes, Resolution

Spelling mistake fixed on pg 1. Councillor McLaren wished to clarify that while Ms. Hawthorne requested feedback within the month, we had not promised a monetary amount. TDC confirmed Council indicated to her that we were in favour of looking at repairs in the future.

1-24 McLaren, Flowers

THAT we adopt Dec 11, 2023 minutes, as amended. CARRIED

2. Short Term Rental By-Law comments received

More good comments, some in favour of regulations.

Mayor Carleton advised FONOM has a delegation to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing re: STRs scheduled for Jan 22, so hopefully the Province will pick up some responsibility.

3. Rezoning Report & By-Law 1-001, Resolution

Planner reviewed comments and updated the Recommendation Report for Council. The Planner has also spoken with those concerned and explained the Environmental Protection Zone is in fact increasing, not decreasing.

2-24 Flowers, McLaren

THAT we give 1st, 2nd, 3rd and final reading to By-Laws No. 1-24; being a by-law to amend By-Law No. 45-12, as amended, the Zoning By-Law for the Corporation of the Township of Machar with respect to lands located on Broadway St, Part of Lot 1, Con 1 (1-001). CARRIED

4. Consent Application 6-017, Resolution

3-24 Flowers, McLaren

THAT we receive the Planning Report dated Jan 8, 2024 regarding the proposed Consent Application for the subject lands located at 308 King Lake Rd, Part Lot 24, Con 11 (File 6-017) and that Council recommend the following to the Central Almaguin Planning Board:

- 1) That the Application for Consent (to sever 1 new lot) on the subject lands located as described above be provisionally approved, subject to conditions listed in the report, including but not limited to:
 - a) That the ability of the lots to accommodate a septic be confirmed by the North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority,
 - b) Confirmation from a licenced Sewage Disposal Business that they have the ability to accommodate hauled sewage from the 1 additional lot,
 - c) If applicable, that the owner survey the abutting portion of King Lake Rd and dedicate the right-of-way of 20 metres to the Township,
 - d) The standard conditions of provisional Consent be included in the decision as follows: the Township requires a copy of the decision, 2 copies of the registered survey, and a Cash-in-Lieu of Parkland payment in the amount of \$2,500 + HST per lot created = \$2,825. CARRIED

5. 2024 OMPF Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund allocation

Funding is down \$5,600 from \$590,000 in 2023 to \$584,100 in 2024.

6. Auditor Communication and Engagement 2023, Resolution

Further to Interim Audit completed in Nov and Annual Audit scheduled for Feb.

4-24 Flowers, McLaren

THAT we authorize the Mayor and Treasurer Deputy Clerk to execute the Auditor Communication and Engagement 2023 letters dated Dec 17, 2023. CARRIED

- **Pay List by Fund for Dec, next meeting due to year end processing requirements**

COMMITTEES

7. Machar Public Works minutes of Dec 14, 2023, Resolution

Reviewed.

5-24 McLaren, Flowers

THAT we accept Public Works minutes of Dec 14, 2023. CARRIED

8. South River Machar Library minutes of Dec 12, 2023, Resolution

Librarian would like to attend Council for a brief review of the library's operation in 2023, will check her schedule for Feb. Service Ontario has been attending the Library once a month to meet with people and get help with various needs ie passports, pensions etc.

6-24 McLaren, Flowers

THAT we acknowledge Library minutes of Dec 12, 2023. CARRIED

9. DPSMA (Distr of Parry Sound Munic Assoc) Executive Meeting minutes of Dec 13, Resolution

Annual membership increasing from \$160 (since 2015) to \$200 in 2024. Parliamentary Procedures Training was approved, registration forms to be distributed to interested municipalities.

7-24 Flowers, McLaren

THAT we acknowledge Municipal Association Executive Meeting minutes of Dec 13, 2023. CARRIED

10. E Parry Sound Veterinarian annual invoice, AGM minutes, financial statement, Resolution

Reviewed. This program pays a portion of the veterinarian's travel cost to visit the large animal livestock and return to their clinic; thus, reducing the cost of calling the vet no matter where you live from the vet's clinic base. East Parry Sound has 2 full time vets, 1 in Sundridge and 1 in Magnetawan. Machar's fees for 2023 are the same at \$160; 10 participating municipalities fees range from \$90 - \$385.

8-24 McLaren, Flowers

THAT we acknowledge Veterinary minutes of Mar 27, 2023. CARRIED

11. NBPSDHU (N Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit) 2024 Municipal Levy Package

Mitigation funding from the Province has been rolled into the provincial share during the next three years, until a new funding formula for public health units is developed. Machar's share is up 3% from \$27,061 in 2023 to \$28,415 in 2024. During the next three years, the Ministry of Health's Strengthening Public Health initiative will affect public health by increasing the size and reducing the number of health units through voluntary merges, revising the Ontario Public Health Standards, and introducing a new funding formula. Municipalities will be updated on the 2023 year-end status of

the municipal reserve (nearly \$2M) following the audit process in April 2024.

12. NBPSDHU Letter to Premier Intimate Partner Violence and Public Health Action

Good resolution by the Board of Health calling on the Province of Ontario and the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services to increase the funding allocated to the Healthy Babies Healthy Children Home Visiting program that is operated out of local public health units. The program directly services individual parents who need support and the annual budget has not increased in over 10 years.

13. DSSAB (Distr of Parry Sound Social Services Admin Bd) area rep, CAO Report Dec 2023 AVAILABLE

14. Joint Building Permit Summaries for Dec, Resolution

Total permit activity 2023 to 2022 is down 30, Machar has highest number of permits at 31.

9-24 McLaren, Flowers

THAT we accept Building Permit summaries for Dec 2023. CARRIED

INFORMATION

- 15. City of Thunder Bay Resolution**, Advocacy Short Term Rentals request to the Government of Ontario to establish a regulatory framework requiring digital platforms such as Airbnb and VRBO to comply with municipal planning and licensing regulations... ATTACHED
- 16. Municipality of Grey Highlands Resolution**, Petition the ON Government to expedite the implementation of recommendations i) to ix) regarding the ON Energy Board's Leave to Construct process entitled "reducing red tape for more cost-effective, timely energy connections in ON
- 17. Township of Clearview Resolution**, Requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following four points to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers
- 18. City of Stratford Resolution**, CEBA Loan Businesses, the Downtown Stratford Business Improvement Area is urging the Federal Government to provide more business support for CEBA loan businesses
- 19. City of Greater Sudbury Resolution**, Requests that the province amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "employer" to exclude owners that have contracted with a constructor for a project
- 20. City of Port Colborne Resolution**, Support the Resolution from the Municipality of Tweed regarding 1/3 Funding Grant Programs
- 21. Township of Tay Resolution**, Requesting provincial cemetery management support to amend the Funeral Burial and Cremation Services Act to have the province identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned, provide annual funding to municipalities, provide free training opportunities for municipalities, investigate and support universal cemetery software
- 22. Town of Aurora Resolution**, Respecting Homelessness Crisis, acknowledge that homelessness in ON is a social, economic and health crisis, including people with substance use disorders, Aurora commits to ending homelessness in the community in collaboration with the Region and both the Provincial and Federal governments, call on the Region, the Province and Federal governments to increase action and supports, commit to ending homelessness, work with AMO and a broad range of community, health, and economic partners to develop, resource, and implement an action plan, provide a long term financial commitment to assist in the creation of more affordable and supportive housing for people in need – including people with substance use disorders, increase investments in evidence informed substance use prevention and mental health promotion...
- 23. Town of Aurora Resolution**, Respecting Community Safety and Inciteful Speech, call on all levels of government to acknowledge the uncertainty and safety concerns in Canada and look to strengthening available tools to deny inciteful speech that encourages violent extremists the ability to publicly manipulate, advocate and incite violence or physical harm to another human being, whether it be online or in person, encourages our community and diverse local leaders of faith to bring the community together to promote peace, healing and understanding...
- 24. Township of Asphodel Norwood Resolution**, Call for action with rising municipal insurance costs, these annual increases are unsustainable and divert funds from critical municipal services as one of the most significant constraints in limiting yearly tax levy increases...

Councillor McLaren inquired, TDC read the resolution aloud. Councillor Flowers mused why Municipalities could not be self insured the way churches are.

25. **Almaguin Adult Learning Centre (AALC)**, Jan Calendar of Events
26. **NBPSDHU (N Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit), News Release, Plan Ahead to Help Keep Your Holidays Healthy**, Whether you're travelling to visit family and friends, staying local or planning a New Year's Eve party with all the special people in your life, the holidays are prime time for respiratory viruses like COVID-19, flu and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)
27. **NBPSDHU, News Release, Infection Prevention and Control Lapse: Public Action Required**, Northern Custom Tattoo Piercing located at 68 Lakeshore Dr, N Bay between Jun 30, 2021 and Nov 30, 2023, not directed to individuals who only received tattoos from this facility
28. **The Friends**, Friendly Focus Winter 2023
29. **Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC)**, 2023 MPAC Municipal Levy Letter
30. **MPAC**, Nov/Dec 2023 InTouch
31. **Explorers Edge/RTO12 Update Dec 2023**. Catalyst Housing Pilot Project: Huntsville Tourism Operators Assisting with Labour Gaps Analysis, Introducing the Women In Tourism Social Club, Federal Government Announces Tourism Growth Program, Destination Ontario & Explorers Edge Marketing Partnerships
32. **AMO President**, Value of AMO Membership and MEPCO Support in 2024
33. **AMO Communications, Policy Update**, New Funding for Programs to Prevent and Address Gender-Based Violence, 2024 Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund Allocation, School Capital Program Enhancements, Release of Auditor General's 2023 Annual Report
34. **AMO Communications, Policy Update**, Bill 150, Energy Symposium Summary, and Development Chargers Consultation
35. **AMO Events**, New Education Programming for AMO Members in 2024
36. **AMO Events**, Important information on AMO 2024 Conference Hotel Booking
37. **AMO Watchfile Dec 7, 2023, In This Issue**
 - AMO is moving! - Webinar on public health mergers - Help promote Canada's 9-8-8 Suicide Crisis line
 - Renewal of Ontario Invasive Species Strategic Plan - Volunteer firefighter recruitment and retention
 - Applications open: Rural Transit Solutions Fund - ROMA 2024 Conference: Closer to Home programming updates - Save the date: OSUM 2024 Conference - Don't get left in the dark! - Municipal climate internship recruitment - Join changemakers at the Future of Aging Summit next May - Must attend: ORFA's Outdoor Ice Symposium - Data Standards for Planning and Development Applications: Terminology - Fleming College seeking municipal partnerships projects - Careers: North Huron and Aurora
38. **AMO Watchfile Dec 14, 2023, In This Issue**
 - AMO is moving! - Renewal of Ontario Invasive Species Strategic Plan - Volunteer firefighter recruitment and retention - Applications open: Rural Transit Solutions Fund - ROMA Conference 2024: Programming update
 - Free asset management webinar series - Join changemakers at the Future of Aging Summit next May
 - Data Standards for Planning and Development Applications: Terminology - Fleming College seeking municipal partnership projects - Careers
39. **AMO Watchfile Dec 21, 2023 In This Issue**
 - AMO has moved! - AMO office closure during the holidays - Renewal of Ontario Invasive Species Strategic Plan - Volunteer firefighter recruitment and retention - Applications open: Rural Transit Solutions Fund
 - ROMA Conference 2024: Programming update - Free asset management webinar series - Happy holidays from the LAS team - IESO Procurement #2 – Feedback on proposed process - Public safety personnel mental health support - Join changemakers at the Future of Aging Summit next May - Data Standards for Planning and Development Applications: Terminology - Careers: AMO, Midland, Orillia, Halton and Thunder Bay
40. **AMCTO The Municipal Experts, Legislative Express**, Strong Mayors now 46 municipalities, notably 4 municipalities did not sign housing pledges and were not included in the updated regulation, Municipal Modernization, MFIPPA, Provincial Offences Act, Elections Ontario, Municipal Reporting Burden, Policy Spotlight, Policy Updates, Bills and Lawmaking...
41. **AMCTO The Municipal Experts, Advocacy Update**, Province Announced Legislative Reconsiderations, Region of Peel, Minister Zoning Orders (MZOs), Bill 23, More Homes, Built Faster Act, Municipal Third-Party Audits
42. **AMCTO The Municipal Minute, Dec 13**, Climate change battering municipal finances across Canada, How tiny shelters in Ontario are looking to fill the gap for those in need of housing, Sudbury pushes for legislative change after Supreme Court ruling, Municipal tax system not designed for downloaded services, community crises: Dufour, Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus shares 7 in 7+ Regional Housing Plan at Queen's Park, No decisions made on 'potential' dissolution of Peel Region: Ontario Minister, Grimsby's closed session meeting contravened Municipal Act: Ontario's ombudsman, Windsor considering on-street parking options for electric

vehicles, Transport Canada seeks public feedback as it considers tightening restrictions on floating accommodations, Bank of Canada leader talks housing, inflation at Windsor business luncheon, Brock research explores Niagara Canada Games municipal collaboration, Windsor Indigenous, municipal leaders meet for reconciliation conference, CFIB: Labour shortages cost Canada small businesses over \$38 billion in lost revenue opportunities

43. **AMCTO The Municipal Minute, Dec 27**, Top articles from 2023: Be careful what you say and do – governance trainer tells C-K council, ON investing in critical infrastructure, In this ON municipality – AI is coming for the garbage (curbside), What happens when homeowners disconnect their houses from systems designed to stop flooding, Rural municipalities in Canada lead the way in 4-day work weeks to combat high turnover rates, Government adds municipalities to Strong Mayor Regulation, ON to introduce new Greenbelt bill soon – new housing minister says, ON government announces funding for rural municipalities, A northwestern ON council is appointing mayor and deputy mayor replacements – is this allowed?
44. **AMCTO The Municipal Minute, Jan 3**, An accessible ON by 2025 – here’s where the Province stands on its goal, Bradford Council seeks carbon tax relief for rural residents, Ontario’s housing crisis – next year is going to be harder, 5 of the top issues facing County of Brant councillors in 2024, New towing rules rolled out in Province to curb chasers, City may have indefinitely shelved its review of troubled 2022 municipal election, Ottawa went too far on regulating mining – infrastructure projects – experts, Province to overrule ON Energy Board – says decision will raise cost of new homes, Toronto transit advocacy group says Ontario’s one-fare program is a positive step but can go even further, ON government worries about safety of new off-grid communities, 4 questions to ask to engage your new hires and keep them, Don’t be so competitive at work says bestselling author Simon Sinek – how to get ahead instead
45. **IESO (Independent Electricity System Operator), Energy Webinars**, Jan 15 and 17, 2024
46. **Land Information Ontario**, Introducing the new MNRF Data Access Requests Ontario GeoHub page!
47. **Land Information Ontario**, 2023 Ontario Elevation Mapping Program Updates
48. **Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)**, Trains and Drains Update
49. **ROMA**, 2024 Conference Program Update, Immigration to Rural Communities, Exploring Solutions to Increasing Housing in the Rural Context, Infrastructure
50. **ROMA**, Mon programming information for ROMA 2024 Conference, Responding to Gender Based Violence, Economic Development in Local Communities, Risk Management and Reducing Liability, Addressing Municipal Staff Retention and Recruitment Challenges, Municipal Lessons Learned with Energy Projects, Understanding Voluntary Public Health Unit Mergers, Legal Challenges to Ontario’s Drainage Act – New Municipal Risks, Meet your ROMA Board Zone Representatives
51. **ROMA Update**, Dec ROMA Board Meeting Highlights, 2024 ROMA Conference Jan 21-23, 2024, Trains and Drains, Teeny Tiny Summits
52. **Ius Laboris Canada, Global HR Lawyers Mathews Dinsdale**, Dealing for Fighting Against Forced and Child Labour in Supply Chain Reporting Obligations for Companies in May 31, 2024: Is Your Organizations Prepared?
53. **MAHC (Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare) News Release, Nuclear Medicine Suite Reopened with State of the Art Equipment**, supported by an incredible \$2 million contribution by the Huntsville Hospital Foundation’s Focus on Imaging campaign, up to 2,000 nuclear medicine exams are completed in Huntsville annually
54. **MAHC News Release, Pine St land in Bracebridge chosen for Future Hospital**, followed an objective site selection process over the past year, location ensures proximity to downtown Bracebridge and Hwy 11, as well as other nearby amenities including municipal transit, environmental impacts are minimized, property is owned by Bracebridge and the municipality is committed to working collaboratively with MAHC over the next several years on infrastructure matters such as water/sewer servicing requirements and road access to prepare the site for the future hospital...
55. **MAHC rescheduling MAHC Political Leaders Forum in Jan**, to Jan 26 at 9 am
56. **MAHC Planning for our future with a Made-in-Muskoka Healthcare Solution**, replace our aging hospital sites in Bracebridge and Huntsville with 2 new hospitals
57. **Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO)**, LifeLine: BAO year-end messages from the Chair of the BAO Board and the Interim CEO/Registrar
58. **BAO**, Lifeline: New BAO Beyond magazine, Licence renewal deadline extended, Chief Coroner’s message
59. **BAO**, LifeLine: City of Toronto is including licensing fees in rates from funeral homes & cemeteries, Licence renewal required
60. **Prime Ministers Awards**, Nominate an outstanding educator for the 2024 Prime Ministers Award
61. **Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA)**, Letter from the Honourable Lisa Thompson, Rural Economic Development Program (RED) will be opening in Jan 2024

INFORMATION – COVID-19

- 62. MAHC (Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare), News Release, Huntsville District Memorial Hospital (HDMH) South Wing Visiting Suspended Due to COVID-19 Outbreak,** Visiting to the South Wing inpatient unit at the HDMH has been suspended after a unit-specific COVID-19 outbreak was declared in collaboration with the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit
- 63. MAHC, News Release, HDMH South Wing COVID Outbreak Lifted,** MAHC, in consultation with the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, has confirmed the COVID-19 outbreak on the South Wing at HDMH Site over

ADDITIONAL/ROUND TABLE/NOTICE OF MOTION

CLOSED SESSION

10-24 Flowers, McLaren

THAT we proceed into Closed Session in order to address a matter pertaining to; personal matters about identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees; labour relations or employee negotiations. Time 7:15 pm. CARRIED

11-24 McLaren, Flowers

THAT we come out of Closed Session. Time 7:45 pm. CARRIED

ADJOURN

12-24 Flowers, McLaren

THAT we give 1st, 2nd, 3rd and final reading to Confirming By-Law and that we adjourn until our Regular meeting scheduled for Mon, Jan 22, 2024. CARRIED

Mayor Lynda Carleton

Treasurer Deputy Clerk Angela Loney

AL/BP/tb