

**TOWNSHIP OF MACHAR**  
**MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING**  
**Monday, June 10, 2024**

**Call to Order, Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof; Nil**

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

Guests Scheduled: Senior By-Law Enforcement Jason Newman, and By-Law Enforcement Bryan Austin.

Guests Observing: Mark Smuck, Donald Bruce, Mark Savill, and Kathy Schoenberger.

**GUESTS**

**6:30 pm New By-Law Enforcement Officers – To discuss priority items**

Jason Newman and Bryan Austin introduced themselves to Council and joined the Council table for a brief update on their 1<sup>st</sup> day in the Township of Machar, having issued 3 orders for Property Standards compliance. Council was happy to hear this, they have a number of areas of concern as well which will be forwarded along this week. Contravening trailers were discussed, CA Brenda Paul advising the Zoning By-Law limits trailer usage to no more than 30 day in the calendar year. There is a grandfathered list, Councillor Ivens reminded. Treasurer Deputy Clerk assured Council that the list, which is shortening, will be forwarded as well. Admin has initiated a GIS layer in CGIS mapping and logins for By-Law Enforcement to catalogue their activity by the property in a way that Admin can log in and see. Council and Admin thanked them for joining us and mentioned it was great to have them in office last week.

**BUSINESS**

**1. Adoption of May 27, 2024 minutes, Resolution**

**106-24 Scarlett, Flowers**

THAT we adopt minutes of May 27, 2024. CARRIED

**2. By-Law for disposal of outdated Township records, Resolution**

Mayor Carleton described that annually Admin cycles outdated records, this By-Law authorizes them.

**107-24 Ivens, McLaren**

THAT we give 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading to By-Law No. 9-24 to authorize the destruction of certain outdated Township records. CARRIED

**3. Patrick O'Neill, Integrated Engineering email inquiry Council process**

Mr. O'Neill's email of May 29, 2024 requested insight into how Council come to decisions on these matters, explaining the minutes from the council meetings do not go into any great detail on conversations and opinion that are expressed by Council. Is there a vote, a record of that outside of the meeting minutes, if the decision is made in a closed session, is there a record of what was discussed in Closed. Mr. O'Neill is questioning the transparency of the Council, not only for the lake markers decision, but for any and all decisions that are made. TDC responded May 29, happy to clarify Council process: Correspondence to Council is submitted to our Municipal Office to be placed on a Council agenda for discussion at a Council meeting. Once discussed, a mover and seconder are required to bring a Resolution for support and Council vote. Council review many items of business and not all are supported (therefore no vote). The Townships minutes are fairly detailed, we do this specifically so our citizens can stay up to date on municipal matters. Many municipalities, Boards and Committees only record the decisions, and are legislated and have regard to what matters can

be done in Closed Session. Mr. O'Neill's May 30 response request on specifics that are discussed at Council and by whom, "there is no transcript of that each Council had to say about it". Councillor Ivens was taken aback by Mr. O'Neill's response. Councillor Scarlett agreed with admin's explanations. Mr. O'Neill's preference to forward his correspondence to each Council member, rather than through the Council agenda is not process. Council reviews correspondence as a whole, discussing at the Council meeting, sharing their individual opinion as they wish, and ultimately deciding to support or not to. The decision, once made, is held by Council as a whole.

#### 4. Pay List by Fund for May, Resolution

##### 108-24 Scarlett, McLaren

THAT we approve Pay List for May 2024: \$338,387.86 Grand Total. CARRIED

##### a. Shock Rodz Car Club request to sponsor, Classic's in Tom Thomson Park Auto Show is Sat, Jul 27, 2024 from 9 am to 3 pm, limit of 600 cars, contact 705-477-1113

\$100 approved, funds raised go to mental health and various charities throughout our communities.

### COMMITTEES

#### 5. Shared Services Fire and Arena Contract Renewal Ad Hoc Committee meeting of May 30, 2024

South River Clerk Administrator has forwarded the Ad Hoc minutes of May 30, 2024, including additional material not listed on the agenda. The minutes and additional material were reviewed. In addition to the term "Arena" that it be referred to as the "Community Centre" which includes the Arena, hall, evacuation centre, ballfield, tennis courts, pavilion, etc..., SR CA shared documents showing the population and households changes from 1981 to 2021 based on Census Canada Data. A breakdown of the changes between 2016 and 2021 in both communities with a comparison of how a per household funding model would look for the Fire and the "Community Centre" in 2024, another showing several communities in the region with their 2021 Census data and total 2022 MPAC assessments and finally a call volume report from the Fire Department for Jan 1, 2022 to Dec 31, 2023. For 2024 the per household funding for Fire was Machar \$257 and South River \$441 and for Arena Machar was \$222 and South River \$570. SR CA concluded the presentation with a statement that If the 50/50 model isn't a valid for the "Community Centre" then due to the significant changes in household and population since 1998, other models, such as per household might be a better way to achieve a fair, equitable and sustainable funding model going forward.

Councillor Ivens conceded she saw their point, what do the tax payers want? Discussion ensued. It was noted Machar Council has no voice for the amount we're already contributing. Council recognises the Village is in a tight spot with tax increases, but how many times has the Township suggested ways to keep costs down to have the Village not listen. SR CA's additional material compared other shared services, all of which are either provincially mandated, governed by a Board or Committee or are cost shared heavily by the owning municipality. The Township does not own the Arena or it's grounds. Councillor Scarlett felt the seasonal residents shouldn't be factored into a funding equation when they aren't here for 9 months of the year, nor most of the permanent citizens who aren't able to access it without getting a ride into town. Councillor McLaren had suggested to SR Council that they reach out to the Province for funding to supplement unorganized townships Lount and Laurier's residents' use.

Council is not in favour of changing the agreement other than to remove references to "South River Machar Culture and Recreation" as a 3rd dept, and to extend the agreement's term 2 years into 2026. Treasurer Deputy Clerk was asked to write a letter to SR saying this, TDC requested clarification on the letter's content and if the letter is instead of the proposed Ad Hoc meeting. Council agreed, discussions around the agreement were exhausted, the agreed edits should be made and a draft circulated for approval.

Councillor Scarlett updated that soccer registration went well, 106 participants, less than last year but manageable. DND will be on Tuesday at the Library.

**6. CAPB (Central Almaguin Planning Board) minutes of Mar 6 and Apr 3, 2024, Resolution**

Mayor Carleton relayed that severances remain very busy.

**109-24 Flowers, Scarlett**

THAT we acknowledge Planning minutes of Mar 6, 2024 and Apr 3, 2024. CARRIED

**7. NBPSDHU (N Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit) 2023 Audited Financial Statement and municipal FIR package**

Councillor Flowers spoke to the good job the Medical Officers of Health has been doing, current and former, and how concerned they have been with money. The Board has accumulated \$2m in reserves.

**8. EMS (Emergency Medical Services) minutes of May 23, 2024, Resolution**

Rep's Key Takeaway: 2024 financials are currently projected to be balanced by the end of the year. The Community Paramedicine for Long Term Care has been extended for 2 years. Funding remains the same at \$904,000/year. This programme is greatly reducing emergency visits. Clients must be referred by their physician. Defibrillators in all ambulances need to be replaced as they have reached the end of their life. There is quite a price increase since they were purchased 7 years ago. Hoping to piggyback our purchase to reduce cost on the upcoming budget. The Burks Falls Base MOU was approved at the Advisory Council meeting and will be presented to Burks Falls Council and Town Council for approval. Doing well on target times. The winter season usually slows down responses with weather but we are ahead of our targets on all response times. Critical cardiac arrest we are ahead in response time.

**110-24 Ivens, McLaren**

THAT we acknowledge EMS minutes of May 23, 2024 and area rep report. CARRIED

**9. POA (Provincial Offences Act) meeting May 23, 2024, Resolution**

**111-24 Flowers, Scarlett**

THAT we acknowledge POA minutes of May 23, 2024. CARRIED

**10. DPSMA (District of Parry Sound Municipal Assoc) Spring Meeting Presentations**

Mayor Carleton was very pleased with the Spring meeting and mentioned Minister of Long Term Care has been invited to speak at the Fall meeting hosted by Archipelago on Sep 27<sup>th</sup>. Mayor also hopes Tom Smith will attend again for another update on the Paramedicine program. Councillor Flowers suggested inviting Public Health to come speak on current decisions and initiatives.

**11. JBC (Joint Building Committee) Permit Summaries for May, Resolution**

Permit numbers are down in Machar, but values are still the highest. New residential units at the old Southwind are on the list; those are likely the units that were already in the works within the original building.

**112-24 Scarlett, Flowers**

THAT we accept Building Permit Summaries for May 2024. CARRIED

**12. ACED (Almaguin Community Economic Development) Community Bus Partnership**

Reviewed the Summary of activities and directions provided by the Almaguin Community Bus Partnership Committee. Mayor Carleton and Councillor Flowers noted the availability of Community Care Access, a program provided through Eastholme, provides rides to users for a good price.

**INFORMATION**

13. **Northernnews.ca article**, Fireworks out, laser show in for Voyageur Days, for about \$12,500 there can be 2 laser shows ATTACHED
14. **Town of Cochrane Resolution**, call on the Province of Ontario to treat all municipalities fairly and provide equivalent representative operation budget funding amounts to all Ontario municipalities
15. **Town of Cochrane Resolution**, call upon both the ROMA & OGRA boards to re-establish a combined OGRA & ROMA annual conference
16. **Town of Cochrane Resolution**, regarding increasing Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund to municipalities fairly and equitably allocate resources to Ontario municipalities
17. **Municipality of Callander Resolution**, call upon the Premier to promptly resume the assessment cycle to ensure stability and predictability of property taxes while the Government conducts its review of the property assessment and taxation system, or respond with an alternative method for every municipality in Ontario to achieve fair taxation
18. **Town of The Blue Mountains Resolution**, expresses its support for the migration of ride-share regulations and licensing from the municipal level to the provincial level
19. **Almaguin Adult Learning Centre (AALC)**, Jun calendar of events
20. **N Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit (NBPSDHU) News Release, Aging with Confidence Symposium**, The N Bay Parry Sound Stay on Your Feet (SOYF) Coalition invites you to stop by the Aging with Confidence Information fair, a free in-person seniors fair taking place throughout Jun in north Bay, West Nipissing, and parry Sound to celebrate Seniors Month
21. **NBPSDHU, News Release, Public Pertussis Vaccine Clinics Throughout West Nipissing**, the NBPSDHU is hosting public pertussis vaccination clinics in West Nipissing in response to an increased number of cases of pertussis (whooping cough) in the West Nipissing area
22. **AMO Policy Update**, National Housing Strategy
23. **AMO Policy**, AMO/CO Webinar Invitation: Conservation Authorities and Municipalities Working Together
24. **AMO Education**, Navigating Conflict Relationships as an Elected Official (NCR 1.0)
25. **AMO Events**, AMO 2024: Concurrent Session Highlights, Celebrating 125 Years of Municipal Leadership and Excellence
26. **AMO Communications**, Final reminder: AMO Board nominations closing soon
27. **AMO Communications**, Renewal of the Canada Community-Building Fund
28. **AMO Watchfile May 23, In This issue**
  - AMO Board nominations open
  - Webinar Registration – “Conservation Authorities and Municipalities Working Together”
  - Call for Delegates to SIESLR Conference
  - IPC Transparency Challenge
  - AMO 2024 Conference: Request delegation meetings by June 7
  - AMO members' guide to request, prepare for & participate in delegation meetings
  - Disability Inclusion Virtual Workshop - June 5
  - Cybersecurity June 12 workshop for Municipally Elected Officials
  - Managing Communications During a Time of Crisis - June workshop
  - Navigating Conflict Relationships: Transforming conflict into collaboration
  - IESO Municipal Series – Operating for Energy Efficiency – W/WW
  - Last chance: Canoe spring webinar on streamlining procurement
  - Careers
29. **AMO Watchfile May 30, In This Issue**
  - AMO Board nominations open
  - Conservation Authorities and Municipalities Working Together webinar
  - IPC Transparency Challenge
  - Municipal Codes of Conduct: Pre-Conference workshop August 17
  - AMO Conference - Be aware of scams!
  - AMO 2024 Conference: Request delegation meetings by June 7
  - AMO members' guide to request, prepare for & participate in delegation meetings
  - Disability Inclusion Virtual Workshop - June 5
  - Cybersecurity June 12 workshop for Municipally Elected Officials
  - Managing Communications During a Time of Crisis - June workshop
  - Navigating Conflict Relationships: Transforming conflict into collaboration
  - AI cybersecurity webinar: Safeguard Your Digital Future
  - Blog: Boost your Asset Management with a Digital Twin
  - On-demand webinar: Group Benefits Program Overview
  - Fill out this survey for a chance to win eSignature software
  - IESO Municipal Series - Operating for Energy Efficiency - W/WW
  - Registration opens for Western Ontario Municipal Conference
  - ParticipACTION: Win \$100,000 for your community!

- Call for delegates to SIESLR Conference
  - Careers
30. **AMTCO The Municipal Minute**, Ontario West Municipal Conference returns after 6 years, First Nations video concerns over nuclear waste site in Ontario, What Ontario’s Working for Works Five Act, 2024 could mean for employers, Why preserving Ontario’s farmland is crucial for future generations, Ontario funding road, bridge repairs in 19 municipalities, City of London considers curfew for gas-powered lawn tools, Sudbury strengthens vicious dog bylaws to curb attacks, West Grey plans legal action to prevent hospital bed closure
  31. **ROMA**, Approving broadband projects will be a priority
  32. **Blue Sky Net**, May Tech Talk – AI Edition
  33. **MPAC**, May 2024 In Touch
  34. **Land Information Ontario**, South-Central Ontario Orthophotography (SCOOP) 2023 now available
  35. **GTA Strategies**, Dedication of Dec as Christian Heritage Month
  36. **OMAFRA**, Sweet Innovations Summer Tour & Conference – Jul 17-20, 2024 in N Bay
  37. **BAO**, Lifeline: The value of internships, OBIS guides and more
  38. **Ius Laboris Canada Global HR Lawyers, Mathews Dinsdale**, New Federal Ban on Replacement Workers
  39. **Ius Laboris Canada Global HR Lawyers, Mathews Dinsdale**, Ontario Court Denies Certification in “Misclassification” Class Action
  40. **Toronto Zoo**, Seeks Your Support regarding the lack of regulations related to the public display and keeping of exotic wild animal species and the (financial) burden this causes to municipalities
  41. **Plant Based Treaty**, Rainbow Lake in Alberta has become the first place in Canada to endorse the call for a Plant Based Treaty

**ADDITIONAL/ROUND TABLE/NOTICE OF MOTION**

**Canada Day Fireworks**

Councillor Ivens asked about the Fireworks approval from last meeting. TDC explained that no approvals were granted as the request stated “fired from a barge” and the Township has no jurisdiction over the water. TDC advised that correspondence has been received from the company and Council will have the opportunity to review at the next meeting.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**113-24 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. Time: 7:30 pm. CARRIED

**114-24 Flowers, McLaren**

THAT we come out of Closed Session. Time: 8:20 pm. CARRIED

**ADJOURN**

**115-24 Flowers, 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, Jun 24, 2024. CARRIED

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Mayor Lynda Carleton

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Treasurer Deputy Clerk Angela Loney

AL/BP/tb