

TOWNSHIP OF MACHAR
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
Monday, November 27, 2023

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, and Pearl Ivens. Councillor Blair Flowers absent with notice. Staff present: Treasurer Deputy Clerk Angela Loney and Administrative Assistant Planning Teresa Coombs

Guest observing: John Kellough, Mary and John Gunn, John Kelly, Mark Smuck, Lanny Dennis, Elizabeth Bradley.

PUBLIC MEETING

6:30-6:40 pm Zoning By-Law Amendment; Broadway St 1-001, Resolution

Public Meeting held under Section 34 of the Planning Act to inform the public of a proposed Zoning By-law Amendment application. Notice of a Public Meeting was provided by 1st class mail on Nov 3, 2023. The subject lands are located within the Rural (RU) and Environmental Protection (EP) Zone in the Zoning By-Law. The Zoning By-Law Amendment is required to rezone the shoreline residential lots to the Shoreline Residential (SR) Zone and to implement new Environmental Protection (EP) mapping in accordance with the recommendations contained within the Environmental Impact Study that was submitted with the Consent application. Comments were requested; 3 written notices received: 1 from MTO (Ministry of Transportation Ontario) that the MTO has no comments; 1 notice received by a neighbour with concerns (Council will forward the concern to staff to prepare a final Recommendation Planning Report), 1 written notice was another neighbour request to be notified of the decision. Lanny Dennis, on behalf of the applicant, expressed his expectation that with the exhaustive reporting that was done and the nature of the improvement to the Environmental Protection Zoning to result, that this would have been easily approved. Mayor understood his views and explained that per process, all comments received before the deadline are to be considered and a updated report will be presented.

231-23 Scarlett, McLaren

THAT Council receive the Planning Report dated Nov 27, 2023 regarding the proposed Zoning By-Law Amendment application for the subject property located on Broadway St, Part Lot 1, Con 1; and THAT Council direct staff to prepare a final Recommendation Planning Report that responds to the comments provided on the application to be presented at a subsequent Council meeting. CARRIED

GUESTS

6:45-7:00 pm Mark Savill, President ELCA; Presentation ELCA Request

Items provided:

1. ELCA 2023 Council Request letter received Nov 22, 6 pages
2. Consolidated Official Plan (Machar)
3. Invasive Species Act, 26 pages
4. Property Standards By-Law, 21 pages
5. Eagle Lake Site Visit Report (FOCA), 8 pages
6. Water Hazard Markers, 1 page
7. 2020-2021 An Owner's Guide to Private Buoys, 25 pages

Additional attachments received Nov 22

1. Eagle Lake Marking Upgrade (North End), 2 pages
2. Eagle Lake Marking Upgrade (South End), 2 pages

Presentation dated Nov 27 presented at meeting, 3 pages

From the letter:

The Eagle Lake Conservation Association (ELCA) was formed in 1979. Its founding objective was *"To promote, foster, and improve the quality of the air, water, flora, fauna, and the community in and around the region of eagle lake, Machar township in the district of parry sound Ontario and to provide a vehicle in which*

persons living on or within property on said lake may make their interests and views known to all municipal and other governmental authorities and each other for the mutual benefit of the community..”

The association has focused on four areas over the last 40 plus years. Education, water testing, Phragmites control, and the lake marker buoys.

The association has renewed its focus on Education. Information from Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association (FOCA) <https://foca.on.ca/> The Ministry of Natural Resources, Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries, the North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority <https://nbmca.ca/> and others is shared. This information is disseminated via our newsletter, the eagle eye, and in the future through an anticipated welcome package that would be provided for new residents, of Eagle Lake. This program of education is funded entirely by ELCA members.

Water quality testing. The association has been testing (using the prescribed testing methods) and sending water samples to the province for almost 40 years. The ministry, then records and publicizes these results http://www.muskokawaterweb.ca/images/mnr/eagle_lake.pdf. ELCA would request funding from the township in the amount of \$1500.00 per year to continue the water sampling and reporting.

One of the very labour-intensive activities that the association focusses on is the removal and control of phragmites. Non-native phragmites result in a super dense growth that kills any and all animal and plant life that enters its growth area. This is a multi-day activity involving many volunteers from the association, and the community at large. This activity is not without significant expense for specialty tools, correct disposal of phragmites debris and the required liability insurance to protect both volunteer's and the association.

ELCA would request funding from the Township in the amount of \$3500.00 per year to continue the phragmites control.

The other labour-intensive activity that the association has taken on is the Lake Marker Buoy program. While the current marker program is providing guidance, it is not up to the standards required by Transport Canada https://tc.canada.ca/sites/default/files/2021-03/2020-2021-MARINE-06%20PRIVATE%20BUOYS%20GUIDE_EN-access.pdf and comments by FOCA <https://foca.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Water-Hazard-Markers.pdf>. The marker system is in need of updating, provided is a document including existing markers, and suggested new markers. The anchors and anchor chains are all in need of replacement. The spherical markers are not to regulation either. ELCA's projected budget for this upgrade of the marker program to be compliant with Transport Canada's guide to private buoys is approximately \$50,000 or \$500 per buoy. This is obviously beyond the financial capacity of ELCA.

ELCA are looking to partner with the Township on a dollar-for-dollar basis on the marker program. The resulting commitment would be \$25,000. This likely to be a 3-year project, resulting in a \$8,300 commitment for the next three years.

ELCA has been and continues to be active. Membership ebbs and flows from 120-150 properties per year resulting in a membership of 200-300 committed Township of Machar voters, who care very much for the health and management of Eagle Lake. The municipality has and continues to benefit from the thousands of volunteer hours that members of ELCA have contributed to the Township of Machar. It is now time to financially partner on various projects to leverage the knowledge and talent that the volunteers of ELCA continue to offer. It should be understood that none of these projects will be finalized until they have been supported by the membership at our AGM in July. We are however looking for a commitment from Council as to their level of support, so that it can, and will be, shared with our membership.

As indicated at the beginning, please note the above excerpts are taken from the ELCA letter.

Mr. Savill asked if Council had any questions and said that he hoped to get this request into Council for consideration for 2024 Budget. Councillor Scarlett suggested the partnership would be more wholesome if Bray Lake and King Lake were considered within the proposal, that the budget process should be looking at the Township as a whole. Savill clarified that the ELCA's objectives focus on Eagle Lake. Mayor Carleton suggested that the water study Hockey Opportunity Camp does could be shared to replace the study that ELCA budgets \$1,500 annually for. Mayor Carleton also suggested Admin could look into the Twp's insurance policy to see if the Phragmites volunteers could be covered to save that expense, and possibly helping to source materials to make homemade buoys to make the project more economical. The Township has assisted in the initiative by supplying staff to pick up and dispose of the debris in the Landfill.

BUSINESS

1. Adoption of Nov 14, 2023 minutes, Resolution

232-23 Ivens, Scarlett

THAT we adopt Nov 14, 2023 minutes. CARRIED

2. Short Term Rental By-Law comments received

Council expressed the feedback received so far has been refreshing; after 2 years of hearing from a select group for the regulation of Short Term Rentals that we are finally hearing from the opposition. The topic has been in the minutes 11+ times since Sep 2020 by either guest (also with a petition listing approx. 100 names) or correspondence (not incl informational) with very little counter discussion. Since the By-Law's debut Nov 14th 14 people have reached out to the office for a copy of the STRA By-Law 1st & 2nd. 17 emails have been received with comments. 4 of those from 1 person, 1 with 19 attached screenshots of online comments from persons who have yet to submit comments. 2023 Fall Economic Statement Sec 1.3 Cracking Down on Non-Compliant Short-Term Rentals information provided. Cottage Life article provided: Cottage country municipality holds short-term rental owner responsible for bonfire fine incurred by guests The By-Law has been sourced and tailored to the Township by the BLEO, reviewed for initial fines and short form verbiage by the Ministry. BLEO requested the By-Law be read a 1st & 2nd time to allow for a review by Council and residents for any changes before sending to the Ministry for a final review. The By-Law is now on the table for questions and comments by email/letter to the Office.

3. Near North Crime Stoppers declare Jan 2024 as Crime Stoppers Month

Reviewed.

COMMITTEES

4. Shared Services Monthly Reports for Oct, Arena and Fire

Items provided: Fire Chief's monthly report for Nov 2023, Income Statement for Oct (Revenue 263.0% and Expenses 152.25%), AP Ledger for Oct \$8623.76 Total Expenditures. Arena Chief Operator report for Oct 2023, Income Statement for Oct (Revenue 99.59% and Expenses 79.77%), AP Ledger for Oct \$21,608.14 Total Expenditures.

a) Arena/Community Center as an evacuation centre, South River Resolution

The Village has passed a resolution to adopt the following guiding principles for the South River Machar Arena use as an evacuation centre: 1) People requiring emergency shelter will be accommodated to the best of SR ability based on a first come, first served basis until the facility is deemed full; 2) South River Machar Arena staff, led by the Chief Arena Operator and assisted by South River administrative staff will be responsible for all maintenance, allocating space and resources within the Arena and Community Centre; 3) All emergency expenses will be shared 50/50 between the Village of South River and the Township of Machar. After the emergency has passed or at a suitable time in a very lengthy emergency (beyond thirty days) every effort will be made to recover costs from wherever is deemed appropriate and those revenues will be shared 50/50 between the Village of South River and the Township of Machar.

5. Joint Building minutes of Nov 16, 2023, Resolution

233-23 Scarlett, McLaren

THAT we acknowledge Building minutes of Nov 16, 2023, including Resolutions contained therein; approval of agenda, adoption of minutes, expenses for Sep/Oct and Financial Report for Sep/Oct, operating and capital budget changes, receive 2022 Audited Financial Statements, JBC Agreement does not require a review at this time, Christmas Hours: Dec 22 closed at noon, Closed Dec 25-Jan 1, Christmas Bonus for the CBO in the amount of \$500 and the Building Inspector in the amount of \$300, closed session, the Building Inspector receive an increase of \$4 per hour effective Jan 1, 2024, meet again on Jan 18, 2024 at 6 pm... CARRIED

a) JBC resolution 2023-038 in relation to South River resolution 280-2023

Councillor Scarlett advised of the discussions that took place around the resolution, South River is very keen on changing the agreement wording to allow the return of excess funds back to the member municipalities. The rest of Committee was not in agreement.

6. FONOM (Fed of N ON Munic); Project ECHO Ontario Skin and Wound is designed to train wound care teams across the Province of ON, special target population of Indigenous, North, isolated and remote communities

Mayor Carleton said ECHO would like the information to be shared with Health Professionals in our community, ie North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit.

7. FONOM (Fed of N ON Munic); support NOSM (N ON School of Medicine) request to the Province of ON for a permanent increase in annual base funding of \$4.0 m before the end of the fiscal year

Council sent a Resolution and letter of support to the Premier in Oct 2023 though we do not appear on the FONOM list.

8. FONOM; GO NORTH Video Project series, featuring the Agricultural area in the Temiskaming Distr

Noted. The FONOM videos are very well done.

9. District of Parry Sound Social Serv Admin Bd; National Housing Accord report to recognize the importance of affordable housing by supporting and endorsing the resolution

Reviewed.

10. District of Parry Sound Social Serv Admin Bd; CAO Report Nov 2023 AVAILABLE

11. NBPSDHU (N Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit) Board of Health meetings Nov 22 & Nov 29 agendas have been posted on Health Unit website

Board of Health meeting can be viewed live at www.myhealthunit.ca.

INFORMATION

12. Councillor Ivens, Lake of Bays to allow short term camping on developed lands, Huntsville Doppler ATTACHED

13. Municipality of Wawa Resolution, Supports the Township of McKellar and request the Provincial Government to make an amendment to the Legislation Act, 2006 to include digital publications as an acceptable means of publication and notice requirements for Provincial acts and Regulations

14. Municipality of Wawa Resolution, Call upon the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act in order to increase the amount of the tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000

15. Municipality of Temagami Resolution, Support Bill amendment to the 'Residents' Bill of Rights set out in Section 3 of Fixing Long-Term Care Act'. Temagami whole heartedly supports the right for residents to not be separated upon admission

16. Municipality of Shuniah Resolution, The Province of Ontario be requested to enhance enforcement for deficient muffler systems to address concerns around excessive and unnecessary noise from engine brakes

17. County of Prince Edward Resolution, Join other municipalities across Ontario, including Belleville, Napanee to urge the Federal and Provincial governments to establish a Guaranteed Livable Income program

18. County of Prince Edward Resolution, Supports the concerns outlined by Quinte Conservation Authority and urges the Provincial governments to stop the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) proposal to expand the use of the permit-by-rule to waste management systems, stormwater management systems, and certain water taking activities

- 19. Municipality of Coleman Resolution**, Support the Ontario Conservation Officer's Association (OCA) in their efforts to have Conservation Officers in the Province of Ontario reclassified as Enforcement Officers and be compensated fairly
- 20. Elgin County Resolution**, Support the resolution from the Council of the City of Cambridge regarding support of Bill 21, Fixing Long-Term Care Amendment Act
- 21. Town of Aylmer Resolution**, Requests provincial consideration for amendments to the Residential Tenancies Act, 2006, to ensure that all tenants benefit from protections intended to preserve affordability
- 22. Municipality of South Bruce Council re:** Ontario Association of Sewage Industry Services, Lack of Proper Hauled Sewage Disposal locations, privately owned or Municipal Wastewater Plants
- 23. AMO Events, Online Training**, New Dates for Indigenous Community Awareness Training Feb 27, 2024 and Apr 2, 2024 (space is limited)
- 24. AMO Communications, Policy Update**, 2023 Federal Fall Economic Statement
- 25. AMO Communications, Policy Update**, Planning Statute Law Amendments and Ontario Child Care Workforce Strategy
- 26. AMO Watchfile Nov 9, 2023 In This Issue**
- AMO survey - Mapping Diverse Experiences Running for Municipal Office
 - Complete and share our Municipal Employee Survey
 - AMO 2024 Youth Fellowship applications now welcome!
 - Community Emergency Preparedness Grant
 - Pilot vehicle questionnaire now open
 - Volunteer firefighter recruitment and retention
 - Ministry finds six species at risk of endangerment
 - ROMA Conference: *Closer to Home* - Request for delegation meetings
 - ROMA Conference: Exhibitor & sponsorship opportunities going fast
 - Important new training: Understanding Competing Human Rights, Dec. 12
 - New training: Navigating Conflict as an Elected Official 2.0 - Complex Situations
 - Indigenous Community Awareness Training - New dates
 - 4S Webinar: Double WSIB rebates for Municipal Health & Safety Programs
 - Blog: LAS Natural Gas Program price change notice
 - Plan now for a 2024 road/sidewalk assessment
 - Webinar: LED Lighting Success Stories
 - SaveOnEnergy Energy Management and Efficient Electrification webinars
 - Canoe Fall webinar series: Registration open!
 - Fleming College seeking municipal partnership projects
 - Careers: AMO/LAS, Durham, Asphodel-Norwood, Rainy River DSSAB, Hamilton
- 27. AMO Watchfile Nov 16, 2023 In This Issue**
- Complete and share our Municipal Employee Survey
 - Community Emergency Preparedness Grant
 - Pilot vehicle questionnaire now open
 - ChargeON funding webinars
 - Volunteer firefighter recruitment and retention
 - ROMA Conference: Delegation requests deadline is Nov 20, 4pm
 - ROMA Conference: Exhibitor & sponsorship opportunities are going fast
 - Important new training: Understanding Competing Human Rights, Dec. 12
 - Elevate your skills: Navigating Conflict as an Elected Official 2.0 Complex Situations
 - Indigenous Community Awareness Training – new dates
 - ONE Investment webinar: Equity Investing
 - LAS webinar: LED Lighting Success Stories
 - ClearRisk risk management webinar for AMO members
 - SaveOnEnergy Management and Efficient Electrification webinars
 - Canoe Fall webinars: Navistar, Uncrewed vehicles
 - Upcoming event by CAMH's Provincial System Support Program
 - Funded assistance for accessibility and disability management
 - Enbridge Gas' Integrated Resource Planning regional webinars
 - Fleming College seeking municipal partnership programs
 - Careers: AMO/LAS, Toronto, MoECP, Peterborough and ORFA
- 28. AMTCO The Municipal Minute, Nov 8**, Statue of Queen Elizabeth unveiled on grounds of Ontario legislature, Modernizing consumer protection laws in Ontario, Ontario scraps its portion of HST on

purpose-built rentals, Ontario to table legislation around pay transparency in job ads, Police offer safety tips to drivers, pedestrians with clocks falling back, Private clinics will not reduce wait time in Ontario: Study, How the City of Hamilton transformed its air quality with active monitoring, Law designed to protect workers could backfire, say business owners, Stakeholders find lots to like in Ontario Economic Outlook, New development plan for old Barrie fairgrounds could be on fast-track, Government Adds Municipalities to Strong Mayor Regulation

29. **AMCTO The Municipal Minute, Nov 15**, Ontario investing in critical infrastructure, Ontario Tech researchers exploring healthy, active transportation strategies and solutions for urban spaces, Provincial workplace safety fines have increased, Road salt – a scientific, environmental, and labour issue with a legislative solution, Ontario to ban requirements for Canadian work experience in job postings, Arch-i-text: The good, the bad and the ugly of development, Ontario to ban unpaid restaurant trial shifts as part of new labour law coming today, Ontario plunges \$1.3M into Lake Simcoe cleanup, Municipal owners are also ‘employers’ under OHS law
30. **AMCTO The Municipal Minute, Nov 22**, ON tables bill to reverse city, regional land boundary changes, City asks for help as asylum seekers add to shelter system strain, Paying ransom for data stolen in cyberattack bankrolls further crime, experts caution, Well on our way, city selling surplus lands for residential use, Mayor asks ON for emergency action plan on homelessness, N Bruce Peninsula fire department seeks grant money for drones, Be careful what you say and do, governance trainer tells CK council, Local MPP supports bill to make passing on a double line illegal, It’s a life sentence, On Festive RIDE campaign targets rise in impaired driving, Buttonville closure felt strongly by other ON airports, City of Hamilton reveals Woodward Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrades, Energy companies seek city support for storage systems in Hamilton, Toronto city councillor asking ON where additional promised cannabis tax revenue went, Upcoming municipal events, Municipal Career Opportunities...
31. **Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)**, 2024 Conference, Closer to Home Jan 21-23, 2024
32. **ROMA 2024 Annual Conference**, Closing Keynote Speaker Announcement: Althia Raj-The Impact of Polarization on Public Decision Making, Award Winning Journalist
33. **Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH)**, Municipal Election Email Reminder: Single Register
34. **MPAC**, Farm Forestry Exemption Update, Farm Property Class Tax Rate Program
35. **Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce**, Nov Monthly Newsletter, Upcoming Events/Opportunities
36. **Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare (MAHC) News Release, MAHC Receives Additional Bed Funding**, MAHC is pleased to have received \$14 million in provincial funding to cover the operating costs of 22 additional beds that will enhance the care provided to patients in Muskoka and the surrounding areas

INFORMATION – COVID-19

37. **MAHC (Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare)**, Facility Wide Covid-19 Outbreak Declared at SMMH (South Muskoka Memorial Hospital), Bracebridge
38. **MAHC**, Covid-19 Outbreak Lifted at SMMH (South Muskoka Memorial Hospital)

ADDITIONAL/ROUND TABLE/NOTICE OF MOTION

ADJOURN

234-23 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, Dec 11, 2023

AND FURTHER THAT per normal procedure, the 2nd Regular meeting in Dec be cancelled due to Christmas. CARRIED

Mayor Lynda Carleton

Treasurer Deputy Clerk Angela Loney

AL/tb