

TOWNSHIP OF MACHAR
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, October 10, 2023

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

Guest observing: Mark Savill, Mark Smuck and Edmund Brooks.

GUESTS

6:30 pm Lakeshore Road Closing 4-241, Resolution

196-23 Scarlett, McLaren

THAT we read first, second, third and final time and pass By-Law No. 15-23; to deem Lot 18, Plan M48 not to be a Registered Plan of Subdivision. CARRIED

197-23 Ivens, McLaren

THAT we read first, second, third and final time and pass By-Law No. 16-23; to close and sell part of the original road allowance lying in front of the Lot 24, Con 4 (Lot 18 Plan M48). CARRIED

BUSINESS

1. Adoption of Sep 25, 2023 minutes, Resolution

198-23 Ivens, Scarlett

THAT we adopt Sep 25, 2023 minutes. CARRIED

2. By-Law to amend Procedures for Notice, Resolution

Formally changing the By-Law to allow for posting to the website now that the local newspaper has discontinued paper issues.

199-23 Scarlett, McLaren

THAT we read first, second, third and final time and pass By-Law No. 17-23; being a by-law to establish procedures for notices as required under the Municipal Act, 2001. CARRIED

3. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing responding to the Housing Affordability Task Force's Recommendations, 74 unique recommendations, some of which apply to all communities in ON, with others more specific to large and urban municipalities, with 23 implemented to date

The recommendations Council supported: #2 Amending the Planning Act, Provincial Policy Statement, and Growth Plans to set "growth in the full spectrum of housing supply" and "intensification within existing built-up areas" of municipalities as the most important residential housing priorities in the mandate and purpose, #5 Permit "as of right" secondary suites, garden suites, and laneway houses province-wide, #6 Permit "as of right" multi-tenant housing (renting rooms within a dwelling) province-wide, #13 Limit municipalities from requesting or hosting additional public meetings beyond those that are required under the Planning Act, #72 Purposefully upzone underdeveloped or underutilized Crown property (eg LCBO), #73 Sell Crown land and reoccupy as a tenant in a higher density building or relocate services outside of major population centres where land is considerable less expensive.

4. Proposed Telecommunications Tower Inquiry White Pine Dr 2-046

The inquiry for municipal protocol is currently being reviewed and answered by our planner, we're expecting the proponent will host a public information session in due course.

5. Ontario Provincial Police 2024 OPP Annual Billing Statement

Reviewed.

6. Kawartha Credit Union, South River Branch hours to 3 days per week

Effective Oct 23, 2023 the local branch hours will be Mon, Wed, Fri from 9:30 am- 5:00 pm. The ATM and Night deposit drop box will be available 24 hrs. The Burk's Falls branch, just a 20-minute drive, will remain open 5 days a week. Council suggested admin send a letter requesting they reconsider, or Fridays to remain open to 6:00 pm.

7. Pay List by Fund for Sep, Resolution

Typo found: medical reimbursement was mislabelled as phone allowance.

200-23 Ivens, McLaren

THAT we approve Pay List by Fund as of Sep 30, 2023: \$307,358.85 Grand Total. CARRIED

COMMITTEES

8. Machar Public Works; Parks, Eagle Lake Narrows Retaining Wall Project update

Councillor McLaren asked if adding an accessibility element would help the NOHFC funding application. TDC advised that the application has been submitted without accessibility because it is beyond the scope of the project to add a ramp, that we are hoping the built-in stone steps are more accessible than the wooden stairs we currently use. It is our hope the application will go before the board for approval in October.

9. Joint Building Committee minutes of Sep 21, 2023, Resolution

201-23 Scarlett, McLaren

THAT we accept Building minutes of Sep 21, 2023; including recommendation of a wage increase of \$3.00/hr for the Building Inspector effective immediately. CARRIED

a. Village of South River Resolution for an adjustment to the continuing bank balance surplus, excess funds to municipalities, be used for, but not limited to, insurance, legal, zoning compliance, and permit fee expenses, Section 6(3) be deleted (hold onto excess funds)

As JBC reserves are above \$400,000.00, South River is looking to forward excess JBC funds to the member municipalities based on an equitable formula of fees charged less expenses for each municipality and that the forwarded funds be used for the member municipalities, but not limited to, insurance, legal, zoning compliance, and permit fees expenses, and recommends committee review the fees schedule and make recommendations for an adjustment such that the fees do not produce a continuing surplus that exceeds annual operating expenses. *BURK'S FALLS, JOLY, MACHAR, SOUTH RIVER, STRONG AND SUNDRIDGE JOINT BUILDING COMMITTEE Note to the Financial Statements Year Ended December 31, 2022 #3 Deferred Revenue – Obligatory Reserve Funds Balance, end of Year \$585,086.

10. Joint Building Committee permit summaries for Sep 2023, Resolution

202-23 Ivens, Scarlett

THAT we accept Building Permit Summaries for Sep 2023. CARRIED

11. Armour Mayor Rod Ward update on MAHC (Muskoka Algonquin Health Care) Hospital Local Share...meeting Sep 28

12. NBPSDHU (N Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit) Board of Health meeting Sep 27 agenda posted on Health Unit website

13. NBPSDHU (N Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit) Board of Health meeting Aug 16, 2023 & Jun 28, 2023 minutes posted on Health Unit website

14. FONOM (Fed of N ON Munic) Support for Northern School of Medicine, Resolution

203-2023 Ivens, Scarlett

WHEREAS the Township of Machar recognized the urgent need for physicians in Northern Ontario as it is experiencing a shortage of trained physicians and specialist physicians

WHEREAS life expectancy of Northern residents is more than two years lower than the Ontario average, and mental health and addictions are at a four-times higher rate

WHEREAS one in eight Northern residents does not have access to a family doctor, and many must travel long distances to access healthcare services representing the failure of healthcare in Northern Ontario

WHEREAS communities in Northern Ontario require access to equitable health care, especially underserved rural, Indigenous, and Francophone communities

WHEREAS in April of 2022, the Government announced an unprecedented medical expansion for NOSM University's medical programs

AND WHEREAS the current base funding rates for the Northern School of Medicine University (NOSM) have not been increased sufficiently to accommodate growth and expansion

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Township of Machar strongly requests the Provincial Government grant NOSM University's request for a permanent increase in annual base funding by \$4.0 million before the end of this fiscal year so it can continue to deliver on the mandate that the Conservative Government initially established in response to the needs of Northern municipalities.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT a copy of this motion be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Health and Deputy Premier Sylvia Jones, Minister of Colleges and Universities Jill Dunlop, MPPs Greg Rickford, Vic Fedeli, George Pirie, Ross Romano, Kevin Holland, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Northern Ontario School of Medicine University, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Northern Ontario Academic Medicine Association and the leaders of the opposition parties of Ontario. CARRIED

15. 2024 Annual FONOM Conference May 6-8

The conference will be held at the Holiday Inn and Suites in Greater Sudbury, Council noted the date.

16. Machar Recreation; updates

Candlelight Vigil

Council approved mailing out invitations to neighbouring mayors to say a few words. Davey Meloy has agreed to perform. Councillor Scarlett has been in communication with CTV News, attendance unconfirmed. The OPP's Public Relations Officer plans to attend. CMHA felt that if this event garnered enough attention, the region could see an increase in grants/funding to aid in mental health supports. A poster, donated by Carly Paul, has been posted and being circulated.

Halloween Walk

The Halloween event has had their 1st group meeting, a walk about is scheduled for Oct 12th. The kids candy trail will have a new sensory element. The scare trail will open at 7 ish and is rerouted to the left this year, to avoid scaring the unassuming candy trail goers. Since the "gate" will be closer to the beach, more tiki torches will be required to light the way.

17. Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce Oct Monthly Newsletter

Upcoming events, also available on the Chamber Perk app: Ahmic Lake Resort Oktoberfest Bash Oct 7th, Celebration of Small Business Week Oct 17th 8-11:00 am, The 5th Annual Red Gala Oct 27th, Hospice Harvest Fest Nov 3rd and the Annual General Meeting Nov 15th.

18. Blue Sky Net Economic Growth Corp Sep 2023 Newsletter

Resources, tips and tricks that can help make your business or organization better prepared against cyber threats and learn more about how you can enhance your cybersecurity Strategy.

INFORMATION

19. **Town of Parry Sound Resolution**, Calls upon the Province of Ontario to work with municipalities to address situations in which long term housing stock has been lost to corporate ownership of short-term rental properties
20. **Municipality of Wawa Resolution**, Requesting that the Government of Ontario maintain OHIP coverage for chronic pain treatments and continue to provide much-needed care for the people of Ontario
21. **Town of Midland Resolution**, Send a letter to the Federal and Provincial Governments requesting meaningful improvements to the current state of “catch and release” justice in the Ontario legal system. Police Services across Ontario are exhausting precious time and resources having to manage the repeated arrests of the same offenders, which in turn, is impacting their morale, and the ultimately law-abiding citizens who are paying the often significant financial and emotional toll of this broken system
22. **Town of Grimsby Resolution**, Circulate correspondence to Ontario municipalities encouraging them not to only collect data of their housing and poverty statistics, but also to examine their pending economic vulnerability as a result and encourage these same municipalities to join us in advocating on behalf of our communities with this data, and by writing a letter to the Prime Minister, Premier, and local politicians calling for a united effort in establishing a Guaranteed Livable Income program
23. **Town of Greater Napanee Resolution**, Supports Municipality of Wawa requesting that the Government of Ontario maintain OHIP coverage for chronic pain treatments and continue to provide much needed care for the people of Ontario
24. **City of Waterloo Resolution**, Requesting support for Bill 21, Fixing Long-Term Care Amendment Act (Till Death Do Us Part), 2022, Bill 21 amends the Residents Bill of Rights set out in section 3 of Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021 by adding the right of residents not to be separated from their spouse upon admission but to have accommodation made available for both spouses so they may continue to live together
25. **Town of Wasaga Beach Resolution**, Requests that a provincial task force be assembled to create a municipal response framework to protect communities from unsanctioned car rallies
26. Almaguin Adult Learning Centre (AALC), Oct Calendar of Events
27. **N Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, News Release, Health Unit Relocating the Parry Sound Office to Better Serve the Community**, The Health Unit is excited to announce its move to 90 Bowes St, above Shoppers Drug Mart, effective Oct 4. This move comes as part of the Health Units commitment to meeting the evolving needs of the community and enhancing the quality of services provided
28. **N Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, News Release, Vaccines Available for High-Risk Individuals in Oct**, The Fall flu shot and COVID-19 vaccine campaign is ramping up for another respiratory season, Health Units will be first to offer both vaccines to high-risk individuals this Oct
29. **N Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, News Release, Breastfeeding in the Workplace**, The Health Unit is kicking off National Breastfeeding week by placing life sized cut outs of a breastfeeding parent and baby in businesses throughout the Nipissing and Parry Sound districts, aligning with the theme: Enabling Breastfeeding, Making a Difference for Working Parents
30. **Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare (MAHC), News Release, Housing for Healthcare Engages Community for Rental Opportunities**, MAHS is enhancing its Housing for Healthcare program by partnering with MedsHousing for a one-stop platform to bridge the housing gap for healthcare workers
31. **AMO Communications, Policy Update**, AMO Welcomes New Ministers, Legislation Introduced to Help Municipalities Build Transit Stations
32. **AMO Communications, Policy Update**, Affordable Homes and Good Jobs Act Introduced and Housing Affordability Task Force Recommendations Response
33. **AMO**, Latest report on the Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) is now available
34. **AMO Watchfile Sep 21, 2023; In This Issue**
 - New Baseline Waste & Recycling Report released
 - The Future of Municipal Liability and Risk Management
 - Release of public information service
 - AMO-LAS Energy Symposium program release
 - Navigating Conflict Relationships as an Elected Official training
 - Land Use Planning: Register for the foundations or deeper dive
 - The Risk Management Symposium is now virtual

- Municipal Cybersecurity 101 forum
- SaveOnEnergy Energy Management and Efficient Electrification webinars
- Ontario Nature's Wetland Conservation and Offsetting webinar
- Sewer Safety Week will take place September 18 - 22
- OTC Webinar: Administrative Penalty Systems and ASE
- Careers: Elliot Lake, Simcoe County, Deep River and Blandford-Blenheim

35. AMO Watchfile Sep 28, 2023; In This Issue

- New Baseline Waste & Recycling Report released
- Release of public information service
- ROMA 2024 Conference has launched: Registration and hotel information
- ROMA 2024 Conference: Exhibitor and sponsorship opportunities
- AMO 2023 mainstage programming videos now available
- AMO-LAS Energy Symposium program release
- Councillor training is not just for new councillors!
- Land Use Planning: Strengthen your planning prowess through AMO training
- Take advantage of LAS and IPE's Virtual Risk Symposium - October 4
- Municipal Cybersecurity 101 forum
- SaveOnEnergy Energy Management and Efficient Electrification webinars
- Solar eclipse planning webinar for municipalities
- Ontario Nature's Wetland Conservation and Offsetting webinar
- Careers: Rideau Lakes, Toronto, Markham, MOLTC, Niagara R. & Haldimand

36. AMCTO The Municipal Minute, Sep 27, Ontario to introduce new Greenbelt bill soon, housing minister says, A timeline of key events in Ontario's Greenbelt controversy, Rural Ontario mayors demand provincial action to address ER staffing crisis, Some councillors ask Ontario auditor general, integrity commissioner to review city's urban boundary expansion, Mass journalism layoffs don't just mean a gap in news coverage, Experts worry they'll hurt democracy too, Group wants more tools in place against councillor harassment, Encampment law in Ontario: Courts have ruled municipalities must truly help encampment residents or leave them alone, Report calls for more to be done to protect French language, Ottawa's municipal planning committee approves to restore, add to Somerset House, Sudbury to get 6 speed trap cameras by end of year, In historic exchange, Sault mayors get keys to each other's city

37. AMCTO, Looking Ahead to Local Government Week Oct 15-21, 2023

38. Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), ROMA 2024 Annual Conference, Closer to Home Jan 21-23, 2024, Early Bird registration deadline is Oct 27

39. ROMA Communications Update, Sep ROMA Board Meeting Highlights, Managing Homelessness Encampments, Access to Services

40. National Defence, National Veterans' Week Speakers Program 2023

41. Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO), Memo from the Chief Coroner for Ontario, Changes to Regional Boundaries

42. BAO, LifeLine: BAO answers questions on pet burials & more, COVID precautions

43. BAO, Notice to the Profession: BAO Board thanks outgoing directors and welcomes new ones

44. BAO, Memo from the Chief Coroner for Ontario Sep 29, 2023

45. Federation of Ontario Cottagers Associations (FOCA), Upcoming Events, Community Funding Opportunity, Cottage Closing Tips and more

46. Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario, Notice of public consultation, Revisions to code of procedure for FIPPA and MFIPPA appeals

47. IESO Community Engagement, Long-Term Electricity Procurement Update, Final LT1 RFP Posted

48. Ius Laboris Canada, Global HR Lawyers Mathews Dinsdale, Minimum Wage Increases Effective Oct 1, 2023 from \$15.50 to \$16.55 an hour, representing an approximate 6.8% increase

204-23 Scarlett, Ivens

THAT we support Agenda Item(s) 19. CARRIED

**INFORMATION – COVID-19
ADDITIONAL/ROUND TABLE/NOTICE OF MOTION**

205-23 McLaren, Ivens

THAT we proceed into Closed Session in order to address a matter pertaining to, labour relations or employee negotiations. Time 7:40 pm. CARRIED

206-23 Ivens, McLaren

THAT we come out of Closed Session. Time 7:55 pm. CARRIED

ADJOURN

207-23 Scarlett, 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, Oct 23, 2023. CARRIED

Mayor Lynda Carleton

Treasurer Deputy Clerk Angela Loney

BP/AL/tb