

TOWNSHIP OF MACHAR
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
Monday, October 23, 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 Pearl Ivens, and Blair Flowers. Councillor Neil Scarlett absent with notice. Staff present: Treasurer Deputy Clerk Angela Loney and Administrative Assistant Taylor Boden.

BUSINESS

1. Adoption of Oct 10, 2023 minutes, Resolution

208-23 Ivens, McLaren

THAT we adopt Oct 10, 2023 minutes. CARRIED

2. Rogers Communications Inc reply on Proposed Telecommunications Tower 2-046

Telecommunication towers are regulated by the federal government, and there are specific policies and procedures. Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED) of Canada default process has three steps: 1- written notification to the public 2- engages the public & 3- provides an opportunity to the public and the land-use authority to formally respond in writing to the proponent regarding measures taken to address reasonable and relevant concerns. ISED Canada also dictates which comments and questions are considered reasonable and relevant, and notes the whole process should be completed in 120 days.

3. Ontario's Broadband and Cellular Strategy, Administrative Penalties Regulation

The Building Broadband Faster Act, 2021 was enacted to help expedite the construction of provincially funded broadband projects. Among other things, the BBFA gives authorities to the Minister of Infrastructure to reduce barriers to the deployment of broadband-related infrastructure. This includes the ability to make orders that impose administrative penalties for non-compliance with prescribed provisions of the BBFA and related regulations. Administrative penalties are intended to serve as a deterrent to non-compliance with certain provisions of the BBFA to help ensure the provincially funded broadband projects can be completed by the end of 2025.

COMMITTEES

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

The Arena report seems very comprehensive this month. Items provided: Arena Chief Operator report for Sep 2023 (waiting for a plumber to install new septic pump and floats, Spartans practices for 3 weeks in Sep while they waited for Sundridge to be ready for them, North Bay teams requesting ice time on weekends), AP Ledger for Sep \$15,472.18 Total Expenditures, Income Statement for Sep (Revenue at 82.84% and Expenses 75.56%), Fire Chief's monthly report for Oct 2023, AP Ledger for Sep \$46,358.70 Total Expenditures, Income Statement for Sep (Revenue 243.8%, Total Expenses 145.22%).

- a. Municipality of Powassan letter re: re-alignment of CACC (Central Ambulance Communication Centre) Borders effective Jan 30, 2024 from North Bay requests changes be reconsidered to provide a longer time frame for the transition and to ensure that all options have been fully investigated to the benefit of both the Parry Sound and Nipissing Districts, impacts on employment, resources and efficiencies are important to all levels of government and to the residents in our communities**
- b. Township of Nipissing letter re: re-alignment of CACC Borders notified of a change to the 911 call taking and dispatching agreement effective Dec 31, 2023 requests a consideration be made to allow this working relationship to continue**

The South River Machar Fire Dept is self dispatching. The Central Ambulance Communication Centre serves as a backup dispatch, so we are not affected by the change in border realignment.

5. South River Machar Ad Hoc Recreation Committee minutes of Oct 16, 2023, Resolution

Mayor Carleton and Councillor Ivens attended the Village Council Chambers to discuss arena usage with SR Councillors Brooks and Brandt. Councillor Brooks was very keen on converting the community centre (upstairs of the arena) to a fitness facility. Mayor Lynda Carleton expressed concern for the service groups that use the hall for events and its role as an emergency shelter. The status of the outdoor facilities around the arena was discussed: resurfacing the Tennis/Pickleball courts, assessing the lights and scoreboard of the ball field. Pavilion marketing, usage and booking was discussed, could a \$50 fee be charged for people to reserve it for events? Discussions about staffing; SR CAO advised that the Arena does not employ a manager or a recreation coordinator that specialises in programming work. New software is anticipated to assist with booking and marketing the arena, particularly for summer camp and next fall's ice season.

209-23 Ivens, Flowers

THAT we acknowledge South River Machar Ad Hoc Recreation minutes of Oct 16, 2023. CARRIED

6. Machar Public Works minutes of Oct 12, 2023, Resolution

210-23 Ivens, McLaren

THAT we accept Public Works minutes of Oct 12, 2023. CARRIED

7. Machar Recreation updates;

Candle Light Vigil Oct 20, 2023 - It was nice to see a turn out. Thank you to guest speakers Randy Robb and Mel Jolliffe for taking time to address the issue of Mental Health.

Halloween Walk 3 - Volunteers met at the Park after season closing to do a walk about, test the distance of the new Scare Trail route. The Scare Gate will be to the left of the beach this year. The Candy Trail remains the same.

8. South River Machar Union Public Library; Beer and Books Oct 19, 2023 event poster

Entrance fee donations were enough to cover the charcuterie snack costs. Local authors were able to share their books, some also made a few sales.

9. Central Almaguin Planning minutes of Aug 2 and Sep 6, 2023, Resolution

211-23 Flowers, McLaren

THAT we acknowledge Planning minutes of Aug 2 and Sep 6, 2023. CARRIED

10. District of Parry Sound Munic Assoc minutes of May 5 and Sep 29, 2023, Resolution

212-23 Ivens, Flowers

THAT we acknowledge Municipal Association minutes of May 5 and Sep 29, 2023. CARRIED

11. District of Parry Sound Munic Assoc; Candle Light Vigil for Mental Health Oct 20, 2023

The Munic Assoc sharing the poster with are municipalities was very thoughtful.

12. Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce; Red Gala Oct 27, 2023, invitation

Acknowledged.

13. Muskoka Algonquin Health Care Local Share Financing Plan Achieved for Hospital Redevelopment, Collaborative Commitment to Our Communities' \$225 Million Local Share

Very exciting that the financial commitments are adding up and the project should succeed.

14. District of Parry Sound Social Service Admin Bd CAO Report Oct 2023 AVAILABLE

INFORMATION

- 15. City of Burlington Resolution,** Calls on the Provincial Government to move forward as soon as possible to legislate all third-party short-term rental brokerage companies, for example Airbnb and VRBO

213-23 Flowers, Ivens

Whereas the demand for alternative accommodations has resulted in an increased prominence of residential properties being advertised for short term accommodations through third party companies such as Airbnb and VRBO; a shift from the 'traditional' cottage rental historically managed by a property owner; and

Whereas over the past decade a flood of properties have been removed from the ownership and long-term rental market (Canada Research Chair in Urban Governance at McGill University) contributing to housing shortages, increased housing demands and increased housing costs resulting in housing affordability issues, including affordable rentals; and

Whereas short term rentals (STR) can be beneficial, when operated appropriately, by providing solutions for the accommodation industry that supports local tourism and small businesses as well as providing an opportunity for property owners to generate income from their residence (permanent or seasonal) using a convenient third-party system; and

Whereas STR's can create nuisances including noise, parking, high volumes of visitors attending a property, septic capacity and fire safety, for adjacent residential property owners who wish to experience quiet enjoyment of their property; and

Whereas research indicates that demand for STR's is increasing, in part due to vacationers choosing domestic travel options as well as the financial benefits to property owners, demonstrating that STR's are here to stay; and

Whereas there are no Provincial regulations in place governing third party STR companies resulting in a variety of regulations/guidelines being implemented at the local municipal level which creates inconsistencies, confusion and frustrations for both consumers and residents across the province; and

Therefore, be it resolved that Township of Machar Council calls on the Provincial Government to move forward as soon as possible to legislate all third-party short-term rental brokerage companies, for example Airbnb and VRBO, requiring them to:

- appropriately manage and be responsible for their listings, and to compel compliance; and
- establish a registry system, making it mandatory for each rental listing to register and pay an appropriate annual fee, with the requirement that STR companies are to provide the registry and collected fees to the municipality in which the STR properties are located, allowing municipalities to be aware of all registered STR properties and to have access to funds to assist with the response and enforcement of issues surrounding STR properties; and
- de-list/remove a property from the STR company's listing when a municipality has identified and verified life, health and/or nuisance infractions including noise, fire safety, septic, etc. to ensure a property cannot be rented; and

That a copy of this resolution be sent to all Ontario municipalities for support as well as to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Graydon Smith, MPP. CARRIED

- 16. Township of West Lincoln Resolution,** Recommend that the decision-making process for future planning applicants be allowed to be guided by a balanced approach that takes into account market conditions, historical precedence, and resource conservation
- 17. Municipality of Bluewater Resolution,** Concerned about the critical issue of childcare availability in our province and how it is linked to educational requirements and low wages within the childcare sector, the Municipality urges to consider the following actions: Review and Reform Educational Requirements, Invest in Professional Development, Increase Wages, Expand Funding, and Promote Public Awareness
- 18. Town of Cobourg Resolution,** Council receive the correspondence from the Township of Puslinch regarding Illegal Land Use Enforcement for information purposes and endorse and support the

resolution and direct staff to send a duplicate resolution to associated ministries and Ontario municipalities

- 19. Village of South River Resolution**, Respectfully endorses the request of the Municipality of Magnetawan that the Ministry of Transportation reconsider their policy and legislation regarding having Ontario Provincial Police Officers in attendance at Provincial Highway temporary closures for community events which includes parades in the Almaguin Region and to authorize the OPP to grant the authority for a temporary road closure to a member of the Fire Department and/or Roads Department
- 20. Township of Archipelago Resolution**, Requests the Province of Ontario to include cigarette manufacturers within the scope of producer responsibility regulations and programs and that the Ontario Government takes necessary steps to develop and amend legislation to ensure cigarette manufacturers are responsible for the collection, recycling, and proper disposal of cigarette waste
- 21. Township of Archipelago Resolution**, Receives and supports the Town of Aurora's resolution declaring gender-based and intimate partner violence and epidemic in the Province of Ontario
- 22. Township of Howick Resolution**, Supports Items 9.5 of correspondence from the Town of Midland regarding the current "catch and release" justice in the Ontario legal system
- 23. Township of East Hawkesbury Resolution**, Support 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
- 24. AMO Watchfile Oct 5, 2023, In This Issue**
 - AMO's Healthy Democracy Project update
 - Local Government Week - October 15-21
 - New Baseline Waste & Recycling Report released
 - 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
 - Municipal Cybersecurity 101 forum
 - 4S Webinar: Double WSIB rebates for Municipal Health & Safety Programs
 - LAS at the Energy Symposium
 - Canoe webinars
 - Reminder - CFTA Compliance Notice
 - Changes to SaveONenergy incentives
 - SaveOnEnergy Energy Management and Efficient Electrification webinars
 - Fleming College seeking municipal partnership projects
 - Solar eclipse planning webinar for municipalities
 - Ontario Nature's Wetland Conservation and Offsetting webinar
 - Careers: Oakville
- 25. AMO Watchfile Oct 12, In This Issue**
 - Local Government Week - October 15-21
 - New Baseline Waste & Recycling Report released
 - ROMA 2024 Conference: Registration and hotel information
 - ROMA 2024 Conference: Exhibitor and sponsorship opportunities
 - AMO training - Understanding Competing Human Rights
 - AMO-LAS Energy Symposium program release
 - Councillor training is not just for new councillors!
 - Land Use Planning: Strengthen your planning prowess through AMO training
 - 4S Webinar: Double WSIB rebates for Municipal Health & Safety Programs
 - LAS IPE Risk Symposium
 - Upcoming Canoe Fall webinars
 - Energy reporting deadline approaches
 - SaveOnEnergy Energy Management and Efficient Electrification webinars
 - Ontario Nature's Wetland Conservation and Offsetting webinar
 - Release of public information service
 - Careers: Brampton, Hamilton, and Simcoe
- 26. AMO Watchfile Oct 18, In This Issue**
 - AMO 2024 Youth Fellowship applications now welcome!
 - Local Government Week - October 15-21.

- New Baseline Waste & Recycling Report released.
- ROMA Conference - *Close to Home*: Registration and hotel information.
- ROMA 2024 Conference: Exhibitor and sponsorship opportunities.
- New AMO training - Understanding Competing Human Rights.
- AMO-LAS Energy Symposium November 2-3: Still time to register!
- Councillor training is not just for new councillors!
- Land Use Planning: Strengthen your planning prowess through AMO training.
- 4S Webinar: Double WSIB rebates for Municipal Health & Safety Programs.
- SaveOnEnergy Energy Management and Efficient Electrification webinars.
- A conversation of what it takes to be an effective CAO.
- Fleming College seeking municipal partnership projects.
- Invasive spotted lanternfly sightings in Ontario.
- Careers.

- 27. AMO Communications, Policy Update, Register Today for the AMO LAS Energy Symposium!**
- 28. AMO Communications, Policy Update, Social and Economic Prosperity Review**
- 29. AMCO The Municipal Experts, Legislative Express, Introduction & Highlights, Policy Spotlight, Policy Updates, Bills and Lawmaking, Resources**
- 30. AMCTO The Municipal Minute, Oct 4, 'We need this': Burlington supports updated funding model for municipalities, Town of Cochrane and municipal employees agree on deal, ending strike action, Greenbelt 2.0? Why Doug Ford's boundary changes in Ottawa and Hamilton could make developers rich, Residents in northern Ontario township present petition to Queen's Park after 34% tax hike, Brockton actively seeking federal funding for 3 major projects, Greenstone votes to terminate agreement with Ontario Parks, City donates land for affordable housing project, Davis requests provincial facilitator to resolve Brantford land-use impasse, City of Greater Sudbury appeals mining companies property assessments, Ontario government promises affordable housing if new legislation approved, Sault councils from both sides of the U.S./Canada border get together, AMO forms new Indigenous advisory Council, adding Wawa mayor to their ranks, City committee shoots down developer's desire to demolish historic barn**
- 31. AMTCO The Municipal Minute, Oct 11, Ontario spending \$7.8M for 34 beds at the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre, Penalties for municipal misbehaviour 'toothless,' experts say as calls for change persist, Ontario to develop new safety protocols for drug consumption sites after shooting: associate minister, Bracebridge general committee moves towards new accommodation tax, Waterloo bylaw against offensive speech imitates Edmonton, TDF protests, 'Things are changing': Council rookies push for city hall lobbyist registry, Fort Frances standing behind Emo to put pressure on rail, power for better tax deals, Councillor calls for updates on heritage items pledged for re-use, Blue box uncertainty ahead, North Bay council rebuffs committee request to make presentation on domestic violence, Lakeshore's speed limit lowering on the radar, Defeated clear-cutting bylaw targeted farms**
- 32. AMCTO The Municipal Minute, Oct 18, Ontario tables bill to return lands to the Greenbelt, Are fourplexes an answer to the local housing crisis? These 2 mayors think so, How to fix the housing crisis? Experts, mayors bring ideas to annual Ontario summit, Ontario announces \$20.5M for wildland fire management, How Dryden is preparing for a mining boom, Ontario funding mobile crisis response team in Dryden, London politicians say no to 'political theatre' of proposed lobbyist registry, Ontario court grants municipalities group intervener status in Milton's CN intermodal appeal, Kingston city council to consider electricity support motion, Supervised consumption site in Sudbury, Ont. losing staff as future funding is uncertain, Chatham-Kent development charges prompting home builders association to take action, North Bay pledges to build 1,000 houses by 2031, Recycling changes approved for CK**
- 33. Pierrette Desrochers, Sudbury East, Nipissing & Parry Sound AgNews, Governments Investing in Ontario's Maple Syrup Sector, Biosecurity Enhancement initiative Guidelines, Honey Bee Health Initiative, Increasing Deadstock Capacity Initiative**
- 34. IESO Community Engagement, IESO at the Ontario Municipal Administrators Association (OMMA) Fall Workshop 2023**
- 35. Bereavement of Ontario (BAO), Lifeline: Continuing Education, Licensees Resource Hub, Career Fair, Beyond Magazine**
- 36. BAO, Notice to the Profession: Contact the BAO for support concerning disruptive issues at your facilities**
- 37. Federation of Ontario Cottagers Association (FOCA), Special FOCA Elert, Early Oct 2023, Pictures from the 60th Anniversary Event, Register Now: FOCA Fall Seminar for Associations, FOCA Cottage Succession Webinars, Final Thoughts, Happy Thanksgiving!**

- 38. **National Defence**, Reminder: National Veterans Week Speakers Program 2023
- 39. **Prime Minister's Awards**, Congratulations 2023 PMA Recipients for Teaching Excellence, Teaching Excellence in STEM, and Excellence in Early Childhood Education
- 40. **Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare (MAHC), News Release, High Patient Volumes Posing Gridlock Challenges**, MAHC is feeling the pressure of capacity challenges at both sites and is taking steps to address to gridlock
- 41. **Ombudsman Ontario**, Ontario Ombudsman Paul Dube release his Annual Report today
- 42. **Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA)**, Training Session Nov 2, 2023: What you need to know about uses in Prime Agricultural Areas
- 43. **Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)**, ROMA 2024 Annual Conference, Closer to Home Jan 21-23, 2024
- 44. **Labour Market Group**, Labour Market publication for the month of Sep and the Jobs report for Aug
- 45. **The Friends**, Friendly Focus Fall 2023

INFORMATION – COVID-19

- 46. **MAHC, News Release, No Visiting to SMMH North Wing Due to COVID-19 Outbreak**, Visiting the North Wing inpatient unit at the SMMH Site has been suspended after a unit-specific COVID-19 outbreak was declared in collaboration with the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit
- 47. **MAHC, News Release, Mandatory Masking Returns to Muskoka's Hospitals**, MAHC has returned to mandatory masking requirements in most areas of the hospitals in response to rising rates of respiratory illness

214-23 Flowers, McLaren

THAT we support Agenda Item(s) 15 & 23. CARRIED

ADDITIONAL/ROUND TABLE/NOTICE OF MOTION

MAHC, News Release, SMMH North Wing COVID-19 Outbreak Declared Over, The outbreak lasted 12 days, and in total 13 patient cases and seven staff cases were attributed to the outbreak. Visiting to North Wing has resumed in line with MAHC's current visiting policy that allows an inpatient to have two visitor per day between 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

215-23 Flowers, McLaren

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; information explicitly supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board by Canada, a province or territory or Crown agency of any of them; a request under the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, if the council, board, commission or other body is the head of an institution for the purposes of the Act. Time 7:30 pm. CARRIED

216-23 Ivens, McLaren

THAT we come out of Closed Session. Time 7:50 pm. CARRIED

ADJOURN

217-23 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 Tue, Nov 14, 2023. CARRIED

Mayor Lynda Carleton

Treasurer Deputy Clerk Angela Loney

AL/BP/tb