

**TOWNSHIP OF MACHAR**  
**MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING**  
**Monday, September 25, 2023**

**Call to Order, Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof: Councillor Flowers in item 2. as he has been doing work for this project.**

Council present: Mayor Lynda Carleton, Deputy Mayor Ron McLaren, Councillors Neil Scarlett, Pearl Ivens and Blair Flowers. Staff present: Treasurer Deputy Clerk Angela Loney and Administrative Assistant Taylor Boden.

Guest observing: Mark Savill.

**BUSINESS**

**1. Adoption of Sep 11, 2023 minutes, Resolution**

**184-23 Scarlett, Flowers**

THAT we adopt Sep 11, 2023 minutes. CARRIED

**2. Planning Updates; Broadway St 1-001 & Leighton Rd 2-011, Resolution**

Central Almaguin Planning Board has provided a copy of the Notice of a Public Meeting (Oct 4) for Consent Application B019/23 (1-001).

The Planners memo after reviewing the latest submission from the proponent indicates, there remains concerns with the information and the land use planning justification that has been provided. These concerns have been provided and discussed with the proponent previously, and the outstanding concerns are not new. The main concerns relate to 1) The classification of s Settlement Area within the Township of Machar; 2) Determination of what is appropriate for locally appropriate development and; 3) Utilization of a local growth management concept vs. a regional growth management concept. In addition to the concerns above, the following information was not provided in the latest submission: - Comment on the potential of phasing a new Plan of Subdivision in order to demonstrate that development could occur in a manner that meets the intent and anticipated growth of the rural designation in the Official Plan, and to demonstrate that the proposed development is not premature and is in the public interest – Address the requirements of Section 51(24) of the Planning Act – Provide examples of other subdivisions where similar number of lots were created within a rural area.

**185-23 Scarlett, McLaren**

THAT we acknowledge Planning updates: Broadway St 1-001 & Leighton Rd 2-011. CARRIED

**3. Ontario Provincial Police gradual reduction of the revenue provided to municipalities**

Historically the revenue generated from detachment staff completing record checks for municipal residents has been credited back to the applicable municipalities. In Jun 2022, the OPP centralized the police record check process by transferring the responsibility for the process from detachment staff to an Online Police Record Check Unit (OPRCU), eliminating the need for detachment staff to perform duties associated, with the exception of fingerprinting. With the reassignment of the police record check workload to the OPRCU, there will be a gradual reduction of the revenue provided to municipalities. OPP policed municipalities will continue to receive police record check revenue in 2023 and 2024. Commencing in 2025 the revenue will be reduced by 25% per year. In 2028, municipalities will cease to receive police record check revenue associated with police record checks processed by the OPRCU but will continue to receive revenue for fingerprinting services provided at the detachment.

**4. Important Message from Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Paul Calandra, Housing Affordability Task Force's Recommendations**

Affordable housing barriers were discussed. Some of the 74 unique recommendations apply to all communities in Ontario while others are more specific to large and urban municipalities. Mayor Carleton requested we revisit the Report and bring back Recommendations for Response for admin to submit prior to deadline of Oct 16<sup>th</sup>.

## COMMITTEES

### 5. Shared Services Monthly Reports for Aug; Arena and Fire

Council and CA were invited to the BBQ lunch Fri, Sep 22 in honour of Jamie Payne's retirement, Mayor Carleton and Councillor Ivens attended. Council is optimistic the arena staffing changeover will allow the Village the opportunity to remedy the heavy salaries load and remain status quo with the 2 full time and 1 part time employees as was prior to the Spartans contract. Councillor Ivens is not available for the Ad Hoc Rec Com proposed date of Sep 27<sup>th</sup> and Mayor Carleton is not available until Oct 16<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Carleton noted a \$6,000 charge on A/P ledger to Arena – Plant Maintenance (1-80-081-210-210) for Emergency Repair; Chief Operator's Report noted "replace the Controller for the new condenser unit as it got shorted out by a spray of water" leaving the account line \$5,200 over budget. Fire Chief's Monthly Report indicates Licensed marijuana grow operations as a Discussion Point, TDC to inquire for further details.

Items provided: Chief Operator Report for Aug 2023, AP for Aug \$147,583.65 Total Expenditures, Income Statement reflecting Revenues 77.10% and 65.68% Expenses, Fire Chief's Monthly Report Sep 2023, AP Ledger for Aug \$9,941.22 Total Expenditures, Income Statement reflecting Revenues 242.68% and 131.76% Expenses, New Volunteer Firefighter applicant Karine Dobbs, will be reporting to FPO Watson.

#### 186-23 Scarlett, Flowers

THAT we acknowledge Arena Manager's Report of Aug 2023, A/P ledger total Expenses \$147,583.65, Income Statement balance \$270,230.65 and \$401,511.47 total expenses, Fire Chief's Monthly Report, A/P ledger total expenditures \$9,941.22, Income Statement total expenditures \$682,150.82 total revenues \$732,436.10. CARRIED

#### a. Fire Marshal's Communique 2023-09; Interpretation of s. 6(3) of the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, Fire Chiefs' roles and responsibilities, reporting to Council

##### *Responsibilities to council*

*6(3) A fire chief is the person who is ultimately responsible to the council of a municipality that appointed him or her for the delivery of fire protection services.*

While a municipality may choose to have the fire chief report through an administrative organizational structure, the fire chief remains accountable directly and individually to council for all aspects of fire safety and the delivery of fire protection services within the municipality.

### 6. Machar Public Works minutes of Sep 14, 2023, Resolution

#### 187-23 Ivens, McLaren

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

#### a. Park Rd Culvert engineering quote

SPW was unable to source any additional engineering quotes for the Park Rd culvert replacement, GHD indicated they were swamped. Council feels the Tulloch quote is quite costly (\$66,700 + HST) and would like to give SPW more time to source alternatives.

### 7. South River Machar Medical Centre minutes of Aug 22 & Sep 19, 2023, Resolution

#### 188-23 Flowers, Ivens

THAT we support motions in Medical minutes as follows: adopt the minutes, Pay Lists/Budgetary Control, adjourned until Oct 17, 2023. CARRIED

**8. South River Machar Library minutes of Jul 13, 2023, Resolution**

**189-23 Scarlett, Ivens**

THAT we acknowledge Library minutes of Jul 13, 2023. CARRIED

**9. Joint Building Committee Permit Summaries for Jul & Aug, Resolution**

Machar remains the lead on building permits, fees and values.

**190-23 Scarlett, Ivens**

THAT we accept Building Permit summaries for Jul & Aug, 2023. CARRIED

**10. FONOM (Fed of N ON Munic) Policy Documents; Mental Health & Addictions Crisis, School Board Trustee Elections in 2026, Provincial Grants Provided to N ON Health Units**

The Health Care System needs secure beds for individuals to stabilize/detox safely for 24-48 hrs, FONOM would work with the Province to secure additional funding from the Federal Government, as they have a significant role in addressing this issue across the country.

Municipal Staff oversees the Municipal and multiple School Board elections. 31 municipalities in 2022 had Councils that were acclaimed, they still had to prepare and operate School Board Elections at ratepayer's expense (\$3,000-\$30,000). FONOM believes the School Boards operate their own elections or financially compensate the municipality for the costs incurred.

FONOM requests that the Government of Ontario increase the grant they provide today by moving back to funding levels for Northern Ontario Health Units to the 2018 75%. Further, the Province again assumes 100% funding for those programs identified as such in the public health budget 2018/19 (0.96% increase to Machar in 2023, \$27,060.82 representing 1.15% of Twp Budget).

**11. FONOM Multi-Ministry Notices; Employment Services System, Centre of Excellence & N ON School of Medicine, Homelessness, Mental Health & Addictions Series Upcoming Publication**

Reviewed.

**12. FONOM Support for Northern School of Medicine**

Mayor Carleton would like to send the prepared resolution and mayor letter to the premier.

**13. FONOM GoNORTH Video Project; Hockey Opportunity Camp, Machar**

Mayor Carleton spoke with Kevin of HOC, he's thrilled with the FONOM video. FONOM also feels it's one of the best videos they've done.

**14. DSSAB (Distr of Parry Sound Social Services Admin Bd) CAO Report for Sep 2023 AVAILABLE**

Noted.

**INFORMATION**

**15. Town of Grimsby Resolution,** Circulate correspondence to Ontario municipalities encouraging them not only to collect data of their housing and poverty statistics, but also to examine their pending economic vulnerability as a result

**16. City of Hamilton Resolution,** Requests the Province of Ontario abandon its plan to develop the Greenbelt and that all lands within the City of Hamilton removed from the Greenbelt be reinstated and this resolution be circulated to all Ontario municipalities where Greenbelt lands were slated for development for support and a similar declaration to the Province of Ontario

**17. Municipality of Magnetawan Resolution,** Respectfully asks the Ministry of Transportation to 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

- 18. AMO Communications, Policy Update, Toronto New Deal Working Group, Provincial Request for Housing Affordability Task Force Responses**
- 19. AMO Watchfile, Sep 7, In This Issue**
- The Future of Municipal Liability and Risk Management
  - Ontario Anti-Hate Security and Prevention Grant
  - Release of public information service
  - Register for the October Risk Management Symposium
  - Municipal Cybersecurity 101 forum
  - FOI program automation: Save time and money with AMO's new partner
  - Canoe Webinars are Back!
  - Blog: Experience as a Business Development Intern at LAS
  - Register for OMSSA's 2023 Forum
  - Careers
- 20. AMO Watchfile, Sep 14, In This Issue**
- New Baseline Waste & Recycling Report released
  - The Future of Municipal Liability and Risk Management
  - Fire Chief responsibility to Council
  - Release of public information service
  - AMO 2023: Give us your feedback on your conference experience
  - Register for the AMO-LAS Energy Symposium
  - Councillor training is not just for new councillors!
  - Municipal Cybersecurity 101 forum
  - FOI program automation: Save time and money with AMO's new partner
  - 4S Webinar: Double rebates from WSIB for Municipal Health & Safety Programs
  - LAS now has an Instagram account!
  - Gravel Road Assessments available through LAS
  - Learn with Canoe webinars
  - SaveOnEnergy Energy Management and Efficient Electrification webinars
  - Careers: BPS, Newmarket, Muskoka District, Oro-Medonte and Toronto
- 21. AMCTO The Municipal Minute, Sep 13, Ontario may not move forward with facilitators for regional governments, 'We're not going to relent': Hamilton public meeting over Greenbelt land development gets heated, Fort Frances mayor looks for infrastructure funding eligibility to be broadened, Housing corporation opens Windsor's first affordable housing development in 30 years, New rules for short-term rentals in Orillia, Emerald ash borer invades northern Ontario, destroying ash trees along the way, Hamilton declares 'high' level of West Nile Virus risk, communities seeing disease uptick, Councillors, residents push back against proposed Thunder Bay outdoor rink cuts, City of Brampton announces climate-friendly retrofits to Susan Fennell Sportsplex, Aurora to declare gender-based and intimate partner violence 'epidemic', Guelph city staff want historic trestle bridge removed: Report**
- 22. AMCTO The Municipal Minute, Sep 20, Ontario housing minister asks standing committee to assess 2-tier regions, no separate facilitator, Ontario must prepare for growing threat of extreme heat: Report, Metroland to cease print publication of dozens of community newspapers across Ontario, Municipalities can't solve homelessness without more federal and provincial aid, experts say, Dryden council votes against updating harassment legislation, Ontario's 2018 infrastructure minister told to sell or donate 'inefficiently used properties', Ontario farmers group speaks out on Greenbelt, saying 'farmland needs to be protected', Sudbury looks at lowering threshold for traffic calming devices, Wasaga Beach officials look to put brakes on unsanctioned car rallies, New pavilions at Grey Highlands libraries built with provincial cash, donations, KHA seeks additional funding from the city**
- 23. ROMA Update, Aug ROMA Board Meeting Highlights, Trains and Drains, The OGRA examines risk management and road maintenance, 2023 ROMA Conference, Teeny Tiny Summits**

**191-23 Scarlett, Ivens**

THAT we support Agenda Item(s) 17. CARRIED

**INFORMATION – COVID-19**

**ADDITIONAL**

**Original Shore Road Allowance advertising 4-241**

Several newspapers in the Metroland Media group will no longer be publishing newspapers and will be digital format only. This may affect our municipality in the way that it utilizes newspaper advertising. Upon reviewing our notice by-law, a resolution to allow digital newspaper advertising is appropriate.

**192-23 McLaren, Ivens**

THAT the Council of the Corporation of Township of Machar approves an amendment to the requirements of By-law No. 11-95 and By-law No. 23-11 to provide that where notice of an application to purchase and close an original 66 foot lakeshore road allowance (also known as a shore road allowance) is required to be provided by publishing in a local newspaper (also referred to as a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality) this requirement shall be deemed to include a local newspaper which is only published in digital form. The herein approved amendment shall immediately apply to the notice requirements for all existing applications to purchase and close an original 66 foot lakeshore road allowance, whether or not publishing pursuant to the notice requirements has already commenced, and to all future applications to purchase and close an original 66 foot lakeshore road allowance. CARRIED

**Halloween Haunted Walk** Mayor Carleton spoke with Kevin of HOC and he is agreeable to utilizing the HOC for parking, shuttling participants to Mikisew and back.

**Candlelight Vigil** Councillor Scarlett heard back from Canadian Mental Health Association, they would love to work with him to host a Candlelight Vigil for mental health trauma and awareness "Always someone listening, always someone there". Kidd's Home Hardware is on board to donate 200-500 candles. Scarlett would like to see it partnered with South River and held at Tom Thomson Park on a Friday evening soon. Scarlett will contact the Village.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**193-23 McLaren, Flowers**

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, labour relations or employee negotiations. Time 7:50 pm. CARRIED

**194-23 Ivens, Flowers**

THAT we come out of Closed Session. Time 8:15 pm. CARRIED

**ADJOURN**

**195-23 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 TUE, Oct 10, 2023. CARRIED

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Mayor Lynda Carleton

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Treasurer Deputy Clerk Angela Loney

**AL/tb**