

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILTON

MINUTES

Regular Meeting

January 14, 2015

7:00 p.m.

Present:

Reeve: Rodney Wood

Councillors: Pat Garside

Dianne Holt

Dave Leask

Robert Jerrard

Road Superintendent: Lyn Garside

Clerk Treasurer: Valerie Obarymskyj

Absent:

The Clerk confirmed that Councillor Jerrard had taken his oath of office on January 13, 2015 as he was not present at the inaugural meeting of Council on December 13, 2014.

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

Moved by Robert Jerrard

2015-01

Seconded by Dianne Holt

Resolved that we do accept the Agenda as presented. * Carried *

Reeve Wood welcomed invited guests, Pat Brown and Donna Smith, two of the Township's community representatives on the Hilton Union Public Library Board. The Township's third representative, Shirley Pollock, was unable to attend. Council confirmed the intent behind the invitation was to ensure the lines of communication between the council and its board representatives remain open. Discussion took place on the recent efforts by volunteers from both the Village and Township, and donation of materials from Timbr-Mart, to complete work on the library building to help reduce future heat loss. There still remain some unresolved issues regarding ownership of books and the eligibility of tax rebates that will be addressed prior to this year's budget. Board members were encouraged to contact any member of council or request a meeting with Council should they ever have questions or concerns regarding any council decisions. Reeve Wood extended Council's appreciation for the efforts put forward by its community representatives on such boards, as well as, the mutual respect that exists between members and council.

Moved by Pat Garside

2015-02

Seconded by Dave Leask

Resolved that we do approve the Minutes of the meeting of December 3, 2014, as presented. *Carried*

Moved by Dianne Holt

2015-03

Seconded by Dave Leask

Resolved that we do approve the Minutes of the Closed Meeting of December 3, 2014, as presented. *Carried*

Lyn Garside, Road Superintendent, provided an update on road issues in the Township. Gravel was deposited to Neal Drive in mid-December due to a break in the weather, however, there will still be additional work required in the spring of 2015.

Council was advised that resolutions for the amalgamated tender will be required for the February 2015 meeting so decisions need to be made as to what surface treatment will be applied in 2015. The Road Department's Five Year Plan, along with the Asset Management Plan, were reviewed in terms of previously proposed projects. It was noted how the priority of certain projects can change due to a number of circumstances. Surface treating Neal Drive will definitely be done in 2015, although the reconstruction and surface treating of Hamilton Bay Road, originally scheduled for 2015, may be pushed back as the condition of the road has not deteriorated to the point where it appears necessary. Work on Garside Road West including surface treatment will be weighed against the issue of ongoing maintenance requirements to Hilton Road. The planned reconstruction of Hilton Road will be time consuming and costly and consideration must be given to the use of additional funding such as accumulated Federal Gas Tax funds and the new annual OCIF grant of \$25,000 (to be received for the first time in 2015). The Road Superintendent also noted that work to widen and build up Milford Haven Road had been postponed from last year due to funding and time allocations and if such work was scheduled for 2015, the costs would not include surface treatment. The Clerk and Road Superintendent will meet to discuss the financial and timing implications of various combinations of the above noted projects and recommendations will be submitted to Council at the February 2015 meeting.

Correspondence was received from Algoma Power Inc. regarding its Vegetation Maintenance Program. API plans to work within its right of way along Reid Road and Hilton Road to remove trees and brush near its power lines to avoid future interruptions to the electrical service. To prevent rapid re-growth of vegetation under the power lines, a government-approved herbicide may be applied by trained and licensed personnel. The herbicide will be selected based on safety and environment criteria such as, but not limited to: the safety of workers and the general

public, the type of vegetation to be controlled, terrain and proximity to open water, and selective application techniques and timing. The Road Superintendent confirmed that such herbicides are applied sparingly to stumps and such efforts assist the Roads Department significantly when doing its own roadside brushing. Authorization was given to submit the Property Owner Reply Card and advise we had no objection to the use of herbicide as outlined. The Clerk advised that API representatives have requested attending the March 4, 2015 council meeting for their annual presentation.

The Clerk presented a summary of Road Contracted Services for 2014 provided to the Village of Hilton Beach. The work included the plowing and sanding of all Village roads, as well as the landfill, and totaled \$10,362. This is approximately \$1,000 greater than 2013 which was another significant year for snowfall.

The Clerk advised the Road Superintendent had reduced his outstanding vacation in December by an additional six days resulting in a payout of only four days with one week carried forward to 2015. The Clerk advised Council that the 2015 budget will need to include a payout figure for vacation as there is little likelihood the one man Roads Department will be able to take the full six week entitlement plus the week carried forward from 2014.

Council was advised that the annual inspection for the plow truck completed in November had resulted in an invoice of \$4,734. This included the charge for the emissions test, as well as, replacement of the air tank and other miscellaneous repairs. The final maintenance costs for the truck will be approximately \$2,000 greater than what was budgeted in 2014.

The Clerk asked those council members that sit on the Fire Board to propose a date for the next meeting. The date of January 21, 2015 will be suggested to the Village representatives.

The Clerk advised she had been contacted by a resident questioning the issue of abutting properties in the same ownership being considered one lot. This individual owns two 100 acre abutting lots; receives a separate tax bill for each; each is registered identically in his name and he wants to ensure they remain two separate lots. Only one PIN number is shown for the two lots. The resident was advised to contact his lawyer to confirm whether the two lots are considered one parcel under the Planning Act, which is different to how they may be considered by MPAC. If the two lots are considered one joint parcel, the owner will need to apply for a severance to separate them. The Clerk was asked to contact the Planning Board and ask that the matter be added to its next agenda.

The Clerk provided a summary of building permit fees collected and the associated building inspection costs incurred for 2014. Permit fees collected were \$2,185 and building inspection costs were \$7,437: resulting in an overall cost of \$5,252. Council continues to consider the professional service received from Tulloch Engineering to be worth the cost. The Building Inspector provided a summary of building permits issued during 2014 which showed a total of fifteen permits were issued for an estimated increased assessment value of \$373,000.

Moved by Robert Jerrard
Seconded by Dave Leask

2015-04

Resolved that we do give first, second and third and final reading and pass By-Law No. 1120-15 being a by-law to appoint officers, servants, boards and commissions for the year 2015. *Carried*

The Clerk provided information on how the Workers' Safety Insurance Board (WSIB) rate will increase significantly in 2015. The rate increased for all Local Government bodies to reflect the increased benefits being extended to fire fighters for new coverage for various forms of cancer. In addition, the Township no longer qualifies for its previous 5% decrease to the rate as the result of a recent claim, and is now forced to pay a 10% penalty. The overall rate increase from \$2.13 per \$100 of earnings will increase to \$3.17 resulting in increased WSIB charges for all municipal departments.

In preparation for issuing the 2015 interim taxes, the Clerk asked that the following by-laws be passed. The interim taxes will be mailed the beginning of February with a due date of February 28, 2015.

Moved by Pat Garside
Seconded by Dave Leask

2015-05

Resolved that we do give first, second and third and final reading and pass By-Law No. 1121-15 being a by-law to provide for an interim tax levy for 2015 and for the payment of taxes and for penalty and interest of 1.25% per month after the due date. *Carried*

Moved by Dianne Holt
Seconded by Robert Jerrard

2015-06

Resolved that we do give first, second and third and final reading and pass By-Law No. 1122-15 being a by-law to establish tax ratios for the Township of Hilton for the year 2015. *Carried*

The Clerk reported on the BDO workshop she had attended regarding new reporting requirements in terms of PSAB budgets. This reporting requirement does not affect our municipality as our budget is prepared in compliance with PSAB requirements and presented in that form to Council. There were additional benefits to the

workshop including topical discussions regarding the abandonment of contaminated sites and recommendations for municipalities in that regard.

The following by-law was passed to confirm amendments to vacation benefits that were authorized in 2014 including an additional week of vacation for full-time staff following 20 years of service and one week of vacation for the Road Superintendent in recognition of call-out responsibilities throughout the year.

Moved by Dianne Holt 2015-07
Seconded by Dave Leask
Resolved that we do give first, second and third and final reading and pass By-Law No. 1123-15 being a by-law effecting certain conditions for the good and welfare of the Employees and Officers of the Corporation. *Carried*

Council received information from the Trefry Centre requesting financial assistance from area municipalities to cover its anticipated \$20,000 deficit for the 2014 year. The Centre is funded through the NE LHIN, however, the cost of services provided has exceeded the funding which has not increased in the last four years. The Township of St. Joseph covered a deficit of \$5,000 in 2013. The recommendation now is for the \$20,000 to be divided among those municipalities that receive services from the Trefry, including St. Joseph Island and Echo Bay to Plummer Additional. The shares would be allocated according to the percentage/population of seniors in each community. This method would result in a contribution of \$1,419 from Hilton Township. The Clerk advised that the Program Coordinator of the Trefry Centre would be attending the February 4, 2015 council meeting to discuss this and other issues. Council deferred a decision until that time.

An invitation was received from Central Algoma Freshwater Coalition, in conjunction with Bruce Mines and District Chamber of Commerce, advising they would be sponsoring a workshop for non-profit organizations to address “Best Practices in Board Governance”. Councillor Holt indicated an interest in attending.

Moved by Pat Garside 2015-08
Seconded by Robert Jerrard
Resolved that we do enter Closed Meeting at 10:15 p.m. in accordance with the Municipal Act 2001: Section 239 (2) (b) that a meeting may be closed to the public for the purpose of discussing personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees. *Carried*

Moved by Robert Jerrard 2015-09
Seconded by Dianne Holt
Resolved that we do return to Open Meeting at 11:15 p.m. *Carried*

Moved by Robert Jerrard 2015-10
Seconded by Pat Garside
Resolved that we do authorize the payment of Township bills for the month of December 2014 in the amount of \$129,299.39 as per Voucher 12-2014: Administration - \$6,226.61; Algoma District School Board - \$34,789.47; Algoma District Services Admin - \$21,346.17; Algoma Public Health (Qrtly) - \$1,909.00; Building - \$998.36; Fire - \$5,877.93; Miscellaneous (Employee/ Employer Payroll Deductions/Benefits) - \$4,293.32; Policing - \$2,645.00; Roads – \$49,831.63; WSIB (Qrtly) – \$1,381.90.*Carried*

Moved by Dave Leask 2015-11
Seconded by Robert Jerrard
Resolved that we do pass By-Law No 1124-15 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of this meeting.*Carried

Moved by Dave Leask 2015-12
Seconded by Dianne Holt
Resolved that we do adjourn at 11:23 p.m Council to meet again at the Hilton Township Municipal Office at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 4, 2015 or at the call of the Reeve. *Carried*

Reeve, Rodney Wood

Valerie Obarymskyj, Clerk Treasurer



***** Building Inspection *****
Ron LeBlanc – Building Inspector - Call 1-800-797-2997
Email: ron.leblanc@tulloch.ca

**IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE OWNER TO OBTAIN A BUILDING PERMIT
IT IS ILLEGAL TO START WORK WITHOUT A PERMIT**



WINTER Hours in Effect from Sept 15/14 – May 15/15:
 Saturday: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
 Sunday: 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Please ensure you do not dispose of energy-saving compact fluorescent light bulbs at the landfill. These bulbs contain small amounts of mercury which can leach into the soil or enter the atmosphere. If a bulb gets broken in your home, you should open your windows and leave the room for 10 - 15 minutes to allow the vapours to clear. Use disposable gloves when handling the broken pieces. Any bulbs you wish to discard should be kept separate and disposed of at the Hazardous Waste Depot in Sault Ste. Marie.
 For more info visit: www.healthy Canadians.gc.ca



FIRE - 911 for Emergencies

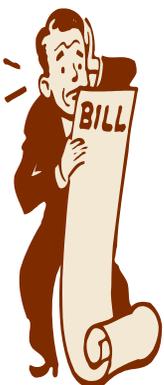


WINTER STORMS

- Listen for the warnings: Environment Canada monitors the weather 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If a severe storm is coming, the weather service issues advisories through national, regional and local radio and television stations.
- Be Prepared:
 - Pack an emergency kit - this should include food, clothing, blankets, medication, water purification tablets and first-aid and tool kits as well as flashlights and a battery-powered radio - with extra batteries for both.
 - Reduce the hazards - trim dead or rotting branches and cut down dead trees to reduce the danger of these falling on your house.
 - Choose a place to meet - when a severe storm strikes, members of your household may be at work, school or a friend's place. To avoid unnecessary worry, plan a meeting place or some system of communicating with one another to check that everyone is safe.
- When a Severe Storm is Forecast: make sure you have a battery-powered radio on hand as the electricity frequently fails during a severe storm.

"FAMILY DAY" FUN! (February 16, 2015) in HILTON BEACH

The Village of Hilton Beach is inviting everyone to attend their "Hilton Beach Snow Day" to be held at the All Season Sport Surface located in front of the Waterfront Centre on Bowker Street. **Tentative** start time: 12 Noon (watch for further details or call 705-246-2242)



The INTERIM instalment of this year's property tax bill will be mailed February 1, 2015 with a due date of February 28, 2015.

A reminder for those residents that wish to pay their taxes electronically: we have agreements with the following banking institutions: ASCU, CIBC, MCAP, Northern Credit Union, Royal Bank, Scotiabank and TD Canada Trust. Your customer identification number will be your "Roll Number" that appears on your tax bill.

Please ensure when choosing the "Payee Name" that you select:

HILTON (TOWNSHIP) - TAXES
and not
HILTON BEACH (VILLAGE) - TAXES

Thank you!