

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILTON

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
October 14, 2020
7:00 p.m.

Present: Absent:
Reeve: Rodney Wood
Councillors: Mike Garside
Pat Garside
Dianne Holt
Dave Leask
Road Superintendent: Lyn Garside
Clerk Treasurer: Valerie Obarymskyj

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

The Clerk requested the following items that had been received following distribution of the council meeting package be added to the Agenda: update re Q and R logging; request to plow Red Maple Drive; request to purchase unopened road allowance; update re Hallowe'en.

Moved by Dave Leask 2020-86
Seconded by Pat Garside
Resolved that we do accept the Agenda as amended. *Carried*

Moved by Pat Garside 2020-87
Seconded by Mike Garside
Resolved that we do approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 2, 2020 as presented. *Carried*

Lyn Garside, Road Superintendent, provided an update on road issues. The extensive damage left behind by the early 2020 ice storm has now been cleaned up along the P Line followed by roadside mowing with the tractor. Time was also spent on several township roads where beavers were causing problems. Mr. Garside advised he had met with the logger who had done work on a property off the Q and R and the damage done to the road will be fixed by the logger. Once the work has been completed, the Clerk was asked to send a letter to the property owners confirming the Township no longer had any issues with the road.

Council agreed to postpone construction of the driveshed on the municipal property given not only the questioned availability/increased cost of materials but also noting the wet weather has not been conducive to such work. Plans will be made to build the structure in the spring of 2021 and with alternate storage facilities for the tractor and/or excavator looked into.

Council discussed the W Line property the Township purchased a few years ago with thoughts of erecting a second firehall. Given the low number of fire calls received, as well as, the limited number of firefighters available, the second firehall plans will be put on hold. Council still has an interest in trail development on the 100 acre parcel but limiting it to walking and snowshoe/ski trails and not ATV use. The Clerk advised there may be grants available for such uses and would also look into the necessary guidelines regarding accessibility and new trail development. It was noted that this property should be added to our current by-law prohibiting the discharge of firearms in certain areas. A sign should also be posted on the property advising 'No Hunting'.

The Clerk advised correspondence was received from our sand provider, Ferrovia Services, stating it will no longer accept payment by cheque and instead, only wire or electronic fund transfer payments will be accepted. The change will involve an initial \$150 set-up fee with our bank and monthly service charges of \$25. The firm has linked the request to a number of issues including safety measures for its employees due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Council reviewed the request from residents on Red Maple Drive requesting the Township continue to provide winter maintenance services for this road zoned only for seasonal use.

Moved by Mike Garside 2020-88
Seconded by Dianne Holt
Resolved that we do agree to provide winter plowing services for the 2020-2021 season on a requested or 'as-needed' basis to be determined by the Road Superintendent for Red Maple Drive, with such services to be provided at an hourly rate of \$145. A minimum call out rate of \$145 will apply. Sanding to be charged extra. *Carried*

The Clerk advised Council a resident has inquired about purchasing acreage from an abutting landowner. In accordance with the Official Plan/Zoning By-law, there is a minimum lot size requirement of 2 hectares (5 acres) which will apply to the original lot being adjusted. The resident will need to submit a severance application to the St. Joseph Island Planning Board.

The owner of Block A, Plan H597, advised he had arranged for a surveyor to confirm boundaries of the irregular lot and position of existing structures to ensure they satisfied the 100' setback requirement from the High Water Mark. Determining that setback is considerably harder this year given the current high water levels. The owner also submitted a written request to purchase the abutting unopened road allowance to provide more area for construction of a future residence. Council noted it has always maintained that such road allowances should be preserved for future generations, however, the request will be added to the upcoming Planning Board agenda to discuss the matter further.

Council reviewed correspondence from a property owner requesting guidance on the possibility of building a cannabis and hemp cultivation facility, as well as retail dispensary within the Township. The cannabis industry is fairly new and is being addressed by the Planning Board with its current Official Plan review. A retail dispensary would require re-zoning given the property is located within the Rural designation. The Clerk was directed to advise owners they would need to do their own investigation by contacting both Federal and Provincial agencies regarding the licensing requirements.

It was confirmed that both municipal parks have been closed for the season. The Road Superintendent and Clerk will work together on the MNR's permit application to address a number of changes suggested for the Big Point Park as this park remains under MNR ownership and the Township only holds a licence of occupation. Given the large number of ash trees that are dead on this property and pose a safety issue for children, the MNR will be asked if it intends to remove these trees or if it prefers to have the Township do the work. A thank you note was received from an area resident complimenting Council and its volunteers on the improvements that had been made to the park this summer.

Several communications were received regarding both the need for, and work towards, improved and affordable broadband in Northern Ontario. The Official Opposition, including eight MPPs, wrote to the Premier confirming the Province has agreed there is no infrastructure project more important right now than broadband. The COVID-19 pandemic has forced a change in work operations that relies heavily on adequate broadband and the reality has shown how inefficient and limited the internet is outside of urban areas. The Opposition has asked that the Province works with them to provide improved access to modern digital technology. The estimated cost to install the infrastructure required to ensure internet access for the whole province is between \$10 billion to \$15 billion.

In addition to the above correspondence, updates were received from Huron North Community Economic Alliance Broadband Advisory Committee (HNCEA - BAC) advising there are multiple efforts being undertaken by different area groups to improve broadband and the outlook is any progress with Broadband is a step in the right direction despite the competing ideas. Updates were also received from H & M COFI (Huron Manitoulin Community Owned Fibre Infrastructure) confirming its Stage 1 grant request to the Improving Connectivity for Ontario (ICON) Program was selected to proceed to a Stage 2 submission which will seek up to 25% or \$37.5 million of the project's expected cost. A separate request has been made to Fed-Nor requesting federal funding up to 50% of the project cost.

The Clerk confirmed guidelines have been given by Algoma Public Health stating it is okay to hand out treats on Hallowe'en provided it can be done using COVID-19 safety measures. Hilton Township Recreation Committee will proceed with offering treats to area children this year but it will be restricted to the parking lot.

The Minutes of the September Hilton Union Public Library Board meeting were reviewed along with three quotes on replacement of the library roof. Council noted the Agreement between the Village and the Township states that all assets of the library belong to the Village and the Township only shares the operational costs of the library on a 50/50 basis. Council considered the proposed roof replacement a betterment and therefore a capital expenditure as it would increase the value of the building and extend its life. It was noted in the Library Board Minutes that the landfill bottle refund had netted \$4,305 and this would be put towards the roof replacement. Council agreed that had been the intention of diverting the bottle refund to the library but maintained the remainder of the cost of the roof replacement should be the responsibility of the Village alone as it does not fall under an operational expense.

Correspondence was received from the St. Joseph Island Lions Club asking about the possibility of renting a vacant lot from the Township for use in a fundraising event such as a drive-in. Council noted it has limited areas for such an event and more information would be required in order to make a decision.

Moved by Dianne Holt

2020-89

Seconded by Dianne Holt

Resolved that we do authorize the payment of Township bills for the month of September 2020 in the amount of \$240,172.82 as per Voucher 09/20: Admin - \$13,331.62; Algoma District School Brd (2nd/3rd Qtr) - \$64,844.31; Algoma District Services Admin (September) - \$24,300.33; Building - \$2,482.16; Fire - \$369.26; Miscellaneous (Employee/ Employer Payroll Deds/Benefits) - \$7,368.54; Policing - \$7,282.00; Roads - \$120,194.60. *Carried*

Moved by Mike Garside

2020-90

Seconded by Pat Garside

Resolved that we do pass By-Law 1283-20 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of this meeting. *Carried*

Moved by Dave Leask
Seconded by Mike Garside

2020-91

Resolved that we do adjourn at 10:35 p.m., Council to meet again at the Hilton Township Municipal Office at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 4, 2020 for the next regular meeting of Council. *Carried*

Reeve, Rodney Wood

Clerk, Valerie Obarymskyj



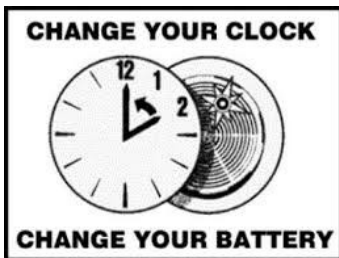
***** Building Inspection *****
Kevin Morris – Building Inspector - Call 705-842-3372
Email: kevin.morris@tulloch.ca

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

M and N Landfill/Recycling:



***WINTER* Hours in Effect**
September 16, 2020 to May 15, 2021
Saturday: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
Sunday: 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm



Time to Change your Clocks and the Batteries in all Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Clocks will fall back one hour at 2 am on Sunday, November 1, 2020 and the Hilton Union Fire Department is recommending residents install new batteries in their smoke and carbon monoxide alarms when they change their clocks.

In order to survive a fire, you need to be provided with an early warning and know what to do when the smoke alarms sound. Working smoke alarms are required on every story of the home and outside all sleeping areas. For added protection, it is recommended to also install smoke alarms inside all bedrooms.

Carbon monoxide alarms must be installed outside all sleeping areas if your home has a fuel-burning appliance, fireplace or attached garage.

Tampering with or removing the batteries from your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms is against the law. Failure to comply with the Fire Code can result in a ticket for \$360 or a fine of up to \$50,000.



Hilton Township Recreation Committee welcomes all children to the Hilton Township Office (at 2983 Base Line) for Hallowe'en treats on Saturday, October 31, 2020 from 5:30 - 7:30 pm.

Anyone who would like to drop off treats for the children is welcome to bring them to the Municipal Office on Monday to Friday from 9 am - 4:30 pm. As the office continues to remain closed to the public, please call the Clerk (705-246-2472) to arrange for your treats to be dropped off.

Due to COVID-19 guidelines, we can only accept unopened boxes or bags of treats in their original packaging so we can ensure our kids remain safe. We will be restricted to distributing the goodies outside in the parking lot adhering to COVID-19 recommendations and will not be able to take photos this year.

We are sure our kids will still enjoy their trick or treating at the Township!
Thank you and Stay Safe!