

THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ARMOUR

MINUTES

April 28, 2015

The meeting of the Council of the Township of Armour was held on Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance were: Reeve Bob MacPhail; Councillors, Rod Blakelock, Jerry Brandt, Marina Hammond, Pat Hayes; Guests, Marie Stitt, Robert Miller; Delegations, Janice Bray and Jayme Young, Housing and Community Services; Staff, Wendy Whitwell, Clerk-Administrator, John Theriault, Treasurer and Melinda Torrance, Deputy Clerk.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

The minutes of the regular meeting held on April 14, 2015 were approved as circulated.

The minutes of the special meeting with the Ministry of Transportation held on April 17, 2015 were approved as circulated.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST: None

DELEGATIONS:

Janice Bray & Jayme Young, Housing and Community Services, DSSAB presented a PowerPoint presentation on the 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan which focuses on reducing homelessness and a stabilization strategy over the next five years, as well as developing housing alternatives and creating a housing risk database. Reeve MacPhail thanked Janice and Jayme for the informative presentation.

A staff report was provided from Amy Tilley, Landfill Administrator updating council on the 2016 CIF Project and a resolution was passed supporting submission of the application.

BUSINESS FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING:

The Fuel Tender (Tender No. 2015-05) was awarded by resolution to W.O. Stinson and Son. A letter from Bowman Fuels was considered by Council in relation to awarding the fuel tender.

APPLICATIONS: None

BY-LAWS:

By-law #15-2015, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its March meetings was read in its entirety and passed by resolution.

By-law #16-2015, being a by-law to create and confirm the reserves and reserve funds was read in its entirety and passed by resolution.

By-law #17-2015, being a by-law to enter an Agency Agreement with respect to The One Investment Program was read in its entirety and passed by resolution.

REPORTS:

Library, report provided.

District of Parry Sound Municipal Association, highlights of meeting provided in report.

Steering, report provided.

Fire Chiefs report for March and April were provided for review.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A request for support from the Women's Own Resource Centre was approved by resolution.

A request for support from the Almaguin Highlands Secondary School was approved by resolution.

A request to support the Katrine Family Baseball Club's annual tournament being held at the Katrine Community Centre was supported by resolution.

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A request to support a resolution from the Township of Ryerson regarding the draft Minimum Distance Separation was approved by resolution.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Treasurer's staff report on Employment Insurance – Reduced Rates, will continue to be discussed at an employment management committee meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Reeve MacPhail has agreed to host our local Cubs on May 6 in Armour Council Chambers to talk about local government.

A staff report was provided on the Environmental Assessment at Doe Lake Bridge. Tulloch Engineering will be hosting an Open House on May 4 to answer questions from the public.

A site inspection was held on First Ave. with representatives from Fowler Construction to assess the road as a result of water main pipelines being replaced last summer. Fowlers have agreed to repair those sections of the road that are causing problems.

A request for support to the Burk's Falls Historical Society was approved by resolution.

Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare is holding a meeting on May 14th to further discuss the future of the Huntsville and Bracebridge hospitals.

Council will be meeting on May 26 @ 6:15 p.m. at 12 Three Mile Lake to view the conditions of the current structures and assess possible repairs.

FedNor will be announcing CIINO funding on May 8 at 3:00 p.m. at the Burk's Falls Arena.

List of correspondence received and not on agenda was provided for review.

APPROVAL OF CLOSED MINUTES:

The minutes of the closed meeting held on April 14, 2015 were approved as circulated.

RESOLUTIONS:

Moved by Rod Blakelock, Seconded by Pat Hayes, That the Council of the Township of Armour approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 14, 2015, as circulated. Carried

Moved by Pat Hayes, Seconded by Jerry Brandt, That the Council of the Township of Armour approve the minutes of the special council meeting with the Ministry of Transportation held on April 17, 2015, as circulated. Carried

Moved by Pat Hayes, Seconded by Marina Hammond, That the Council of the Township of Armour support the submission of the application to the Continuous Improvement Fund (CIF). Carried

Moved by Pat Hayes, Seconded by Jerry Brandt, That the Council of the Township of Armour hereby award the Fuel Tender 2015-05 submitted by W.O. Stinson and Son, based on the bid unit price of \$0.02 over the Toronto rack price for clear and coloured diesel, including all terms and conditions set out in the tender. Carried

Moved by Marina Hammond, Seconded by Rod Blakelock, That the Council of the Township of Armour have read and approve By-law #15-2015 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its March meetings and that we authorize the Reeve and the Clerk to sign this by-law and affix the Seal of the Corporation thereto. Carried

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Moved by Rod Blakelock, Seconded by Jerry Brandt, That the Council of the Township of Armour have read and approve By-law #16-2015 being a by-law to create and/or confirm the reserves and reserve funds and their purpose for the Township of Armour and that we authorize the Reeve and the Clerk to sign this by-law and affix the Seal of the Corporation thereto. Carried

Moved by Rod Blakelock, Seconded by Marina Hammond, That the Council of the Township of Armour have read and approve By-law #17-2015 being a by-law to authorize the Municipal Corporation of the Township of Armour to enter into the Agency Agreement between CHUMS Financing Corporation and Local Authority Services Limited and Eligible Investors with respect to "The One Investment Program" and to authorize the Treasurer to execute the necessary documents from time to time for that purpose and that we authorize the Reeve and the Clerk to sign this by-law and affix the Seal of the Corporation thereto. Carried

Moved by Pat Hayes, Seconded by Marina Hammond, That the Council of the Township of Armour authorize a donation in the amount of \$372.30 to the Women's Own Resource Centre. Carried

Moved by Jerry Brandt, Seconded by Marina Hammond, That the Council of the Township of Armour authorize a donation in the amount of \$100.00 to the Almaguin Highlands Secondary School. Carried

Moved by Rod Blakelock, Seconded by Jerry Brandt, That the Council of the Township of Armour recognize that the Katrine Family Baseball Club will be hosting their annual Baseball Tournament on July 10, 11 and 12, 2015 and that Council consider this to be a community event. Carried

Moved by Jerry Brandt, Seconded by Marina Hammond, **WHEREAS** rural municipalities in Northern Ontario are struggling to fund the necessary infrastructure and municipal services to meet the needs of current and future residents and ratepayers, and are also struggling to make themselves competitive places to live and work;

AND WHEREAS prudent economic development and sound planning decisions are core concerns for all Northern Ontario Councils, given that sustainable property tax revenue is the only significant tool available to achieve municipal financial health;

AND WHEREAS Northern Ontario agriculture and its farmers make significant contributions to local economies, local food security, and community health, through a mix of large and small farms, with many smaller farms now moving toward a diverse combination of market gardens, small livestock holdings, and value-added products;

AND WHEREAS the Hon. Kathleen Wynne's mandate letter to the Hon. Jeff Leal, Minister of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), set priorities to:

- i. foster vibrant rural economies
- ii. explore opportunities to develop the agricultural sector in the north, and
- iii. prioritize opportunities on private land

AND WHEREAS most land use planning in Northern Ontario municipalities is regulated under the Planning Act, R.S.O., 1990, ensuring that an open public process is followed for proposed developments, ranging from individual residential severances to heavy industrial developments;

AND WHEREAS in addition to meeting the requirements of the Planning Act, Councils must ensure that planning decisions are consistent with the 2014 Provincial Policy Statement (PPS);

AND WHEREAS the 2014 PPS includes a planning tool, the Minimum Distance Separation (MDS) Formulae, which was *designed* to reduce concerns about odour from large livestock facilities (those having more than 60 cows, 600 hogs, or 15,000 chickens) by prohibiting:

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i. the expansion or construction of a barn within a calculated distance from another land use;

ii. non-agricultural development within a calculated distance from a barn;

AND WHEREAS the MDS Formulae is applied to every rural development in every Ontario municipality, overriding the public process that defines the Planning Act, and leaving a complicated calculation as the deciding factor in whether or not a farmer, large or small, can expand their barn and livestock operation, or whether or not that farmer's neighbour can develop their own land;

AND WHEREAS the MDS calculation is applied indiscriminately to every livestock facility in a blanket manner; and:

i. disregards the actual number of animals being housed in favour of a calculation of potential numbers of animals;

ii. relies on a default minimum number of animals (approximately equal to five cows, 15 hogs, or 500 chickens), regardless of the actual number of animals being raised;

iii. includes the number of hectares of tillable land surrounding the barn, whether or not that land is being used for livestock or other means;

iv. disregards local conditions such as wind direction for carrying odour or forested areas that may act as a buffer to odour;

v. bases most aspects of the calculation on *potential conditions*, which among other conditions disregards actual animal management practices;

vi. fails to consider the needs or the opinions of neighbours and the community.

AND WHEREAS the MDS tool is currently under review by OMAFRA, with comments being accepted from municipal and private stakeholders until May 20, 2015;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Armour request that OMAFRA amend the MDS Formulae to give Northern Ontario municipalities discretion with regard to responsible planning decisions involving small agriculture and rural development;

AND FURTHER that OMAFRA consider the following specific amendments in order to support small agriculture as an important driver of economic development, local food security and community health in Northern Ontario:

i. impose a minimum number of animals and a minimum size of barn that triggers the MDS formulae;

ii. re-open decision-making to the public, incorporating input from neighbouring land owners as with any other proposed development; and

iii. allow the local Council to override MDS under specific circumstances, which could require the inclusion of a relevant clause in the Official Plan and / or Zoning By-law. Carried

Moved by Pat Hayes, Seconded by Rod Blakelock, That the Council of the Township of Armour approve a donation in the amount of \$2,000.00 to the Burk's Falls Historical Society. Carried

Moved by Rod Blakelock, Seconded by Pat Hayes, That the Council of the Township of Armour hereby move into closed session at 8:54 p.m. as per Section 239(2)(b)(c) of the Municipal Act, personal matters about an identifiable individual and, a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality. Carried

Moved by Pat Hayes, Seconded by Jerry Brandt, That the Council of the Township of Armour hereby adjourn and move out of closed session at 9:34 p.m. Carried

Moved by Rod Blakelock, Seconded by Marina Hammond, That the Council of the Township of Armour approve the minutes of the closed session held on April 14, 2015, as circulated. Carried

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Moved by Jerry Brandt, Seconded by Pat Hayes, That the Council of the Township of Armour have read and agree to the terms identified in the Licence Agreement for Temporary Access on Ministry of Transportation property and authorize the Reeve and Clerk-Administrator to date and sign said agreement. Carried

Moved by Pat Hayes, Seconded by Rod Blakelock, That the Council of the Township of Armour adjourn this regular council meeting at 9:40 p.m. until the next regular council meeting scheduled for May 12, 2015, or at the call of the Reeve. Carried

Original Signed by Bob MacPhail
REEVE

Original Signed by Wendy Whitwell
CLERK ADMINISTRATOR