

THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ARMOUR

MINUTES

June 9, 2015

The meeting of the Council of the Township of Armour was held on Tuesday, June 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance were: Reeve Bob MacPhail; Councillors, Rod Blakelock, Jerry Brandt, Marina Hammond, Pat Hayes; Delegations, Judy Klenhuis, Grant Thornton LLP, Brad Laking and John McDonald, Tulloch Engineering, Amy Tilley, Landfill Administrator, Keith McCoy, Road Supervisor, 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 May 26, 2015 were approved as circulated.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:

Rod declared a pecuniary interest on the accounts for approval, general nature of which is an invoice payable to Councillor Blakelock for work completed at the Watt Farmhouse on behalf of the Historical Society.

DELEGATIONS:

Judy Kleinhuis, Grant Thornton LLP attended to review the 2014 audit. Judy read the Independent Auditor's Report which sets out exactly what they audited. Judy also reviewed the financial statements with Council. A resolution was passed to authorize the Treasurer to sign the letter of representation and Judy was thanked for attending.

Brad Laking and John McDonald from Tulloch Engineering attended the Council meeting to present the draft Class Environmental Assessment for the Doe Lake Road Bridge. A resolution was passed accepting the recommendation from Tulloch Engineering to replace the existing bridge with a single-span, slab-on-steel bridge and it was agreed to go ahead with the design bid build and tender process.

Amy Tilley, Landfill Administrator provided Council with an Administrator's report. Council directed Amy to submit application for amendment to the Certificate of Approval for the aerosol and propane project. Amy updated Council on the 2014 Annual Monitoring Report from the Ministry of Environment and response to MOECC comments from ResEnv Consulting Limited. Monitoring wells will be installed mid-July and the CIF fund application has been assigned a Project number.

Keith McCoy, Road Supervisor advised Council that the road operations continue and are on time. No questions from Council regarding the road accounts.

ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL:

The list of accounts for June 2015 were approved by resolution.

BY-LAWS:

By-law #24-2015, being a by-law to enter into an agreement with Her Majesty the Queen, as represented by the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs for the delivery of the Rural Economic Development Program Fund was read in its entirety and passed by resolution.

REPORTS:

Pat provided a written report on the MAHC Board of Directors meeting held in Huntsville.

Bob reported on the Provincial Offences Act meeting.

Fire Chief's June 2015 report was provided for review.

Library, no meeting.

Pat reported on the AHHC meeting.

Planning, no meeting.

THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ARMOUR

MINUTES

June 9, 2015

Economic Development, Wendy reported.

LINK, Jerry reported that the Economic Development Officer, Dave Gray gave a presentation on creating sustainability and building capacity through economic development.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Council supported the Township of Perry agreeing in principle to work on establishing a committee to draft a Memorandum of Understanding for the development of fire location / services study by resolution.

A request from Keep Hydro Public to express opposition to the privatization of Hydro One was supported by resolution.

A request from the Township of Greater Madawaska to support their resolution concerning rising hydro rates was supported.

Request from the Village of Burk's Falls to continue support for the Canada Celebrations was approved by resolution.

Request from the Village of Burk's Falls to donate to the Burk's Falls Summer Recreation was approved by resolution.

Belvedere Heights has invited council to their 50th Anniversary being held on July 25.

AMO update on key legislation for municipalities that is moving forward.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

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

CLOSED SESSION:

Council moved into closed session at 9:43 p.m. as per Section 239(2)(b) & (e) of the Municipal Act.

Council moved out of closed session at 10:41 p.m.

APPROVAL OF CLOSED MINUTES:

The minutes of the closed meeting held on May 26, 2015 were approved as circulated.

RESOLUTIONS:

Moved by Rod Blakelock, Seconded by Marina Hammond, That the Council of the Township of Armour approve the minutes of the regular council meeting held on May 26, 2015, as circulated. Carried

Moved by Jerry Brandt, Seconded by Pat Hayes, That the Council of the Township of Armour accept the draft financial statements for 2014 as presented in the Auditor's Report dated June 4, 2015. Council directs the Treasurer of the Corporation of the Township of Armour to sign the letter of representation and forward to Grant Thornton LLP. Carried

Moved by Rod Blakelock, Seconded by Pat Hayes, That the Council of the Township of Armour have reviewed the Doe Lake Road Bridge Class Environmental Assessment Study prepared by Tulloch Engineering and agree with the recommendation to replace the existing bridge over the Magnetawan River with a single-span, slab-on-steel bridge. Carried

Moved by Marina Hammond, Seconded by Jerry Brandt, That the Council of the Township of Armour approve the June 2015 accounts, in the amount of \$253,047.61 for payment, and the Reeve and the Treasurer are hereby authorized to sign cheques for same. Carried. Councillor Blakelock declared a pecuniary interest.

THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ARMOUR

MINUTES

June 9, 2015

Moved by Rod Blakelock, Seconded by Pat Hayes, That the Council of the Township of Armour have read and approve By-law #24-2015 being a by-law enter into an Agreement with Her Majesty the Queen as represented by the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs for funds under the Rural Economic Development Program 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 Marina Hammond, Seconded by Pat Hayes, Be it resolved that the Council of the Township of Armour agree in principle to work with the Town of Kearney, Township of McMurrich/Monteith, Township of Perry, Township of Ryerson and the Village of Burk's Falls to establish a Committee in order to draft a Memorandum of Understanding for the development of a Fire location / Services Study. Carried

Moved by Marina Hammond, Seconded by Jerry Brandt, **WHEREAS** the public electricity system in Ontario is a critical asset to the economy and vital to the living standard and well-being of all Ontarians;

AND WHEREAS it is essential that Ontarians maintain public control and public decision-making with respect to electricity;

AND WHEREAS experience in other jurisdictions shows that privatization typically means consumers pay more for electricity;

AND WHEREAS a privatized Hydro One will no longer be subject to scrutiny by the Auditor General, the Ombudsman, the Financial Accountability Officer, or the Integrity Commissioner, and will no longer be required to provide information or services to citizens under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, the *Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act*, or the *French Language Services Act*,

AND WHEREAS our public electricity system currently generates hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue for the provincial government every year to help pay for public services we all depend on;

AND WHEREAS the sale of shares in Hydro One will provide a short-term financial gain for the province in exchange for a much larger long-term financial loss;

AND WHEREAS the provincial government has no mandate from voters to sell any part of Hydro One;

AND WHEREAS opinion polls show Ontarians oppose the privatization of Hydro One by a significant margin in every part of the province;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Armour call on the provincial government to:

- Halt the sale of any part of Hydro One, and maintain Hydro One as a public asset for the benefit of all Ontarians;
- Strengthen Hydro One by investing in the next generation of workers and upgrading our electricity transmission infrastructure;
- Respect the autonomy and local decision-making powers of local distribution companies by not forcing these companies into mergers or sales;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township of Armour communicate this resolution to the Premier, with copies to the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Energy, area MPP and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO);

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township of Armour work through AMO to encourage other Ontario municipalities to express their opposition to the privatization of Hydro One. Carried

Moved by Jerry Brandt, Seconded by Rod Blakelock, **WHEREAS** the cost of hydro has doubled and in some cases more than doubled in the past five years; and

THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ARMOUR

MINUTES

June 9, 2015

WHEREAS the costs of electricity in the Province of Ontario is forcing businesses to consider leaving the area; and

WHEREAS many families are having difficulty keeping up with their monthly payments; and

WHEREAS the Province's Long Term Energy Plan anticipates that consumers will face hydro rates that will rise by 42% over the next five (5) years; and

WHEREAS it is essential that the residents and businesses of the Township of Armour have access to affordable hydro to thrive and prosper; and

WHEREAS Council urges Provincial relief to Ontario Hydro One customers to reflect the means of rural residents to reasonably access hydro through a review of Provincial policies and their agencies that set Ontario rates for electricity, distribution charges, debt retirement, global adjustments costs and carbon taxes. Council requests, that this review would include consultation with rural and urban municipalities; and

WHEREAS Council reminds rural municipalities to advocate the investigation by the Ontario Ombudsman regarding the major systemic issues identified by complaints involving overcharging of hydro, an explanation of line items on billing and, resolve of related matters; and

WHEREAS it is imperative that the Province of Ontario review their energy policies and utilize The Rural and Northern Lens advocated by the Rural Ontario Municipal Association to evaluate and assess the needs of rural municipalities so that they can succeed and thrive. Many rural municipalities have a population of 50% or more seniors on fixed incomes who are struggling to keep warm in low population density communities with colder temperatures that do not benefit from the heat retention in condominium residences and whom are challenged by geography and climate scales.

Our core sectors of economic development in our region, lumber mills and farming, are often under-employed and are subject to rates that are higher than other provinces due to impact of high delivery charges and global adjustment fees (that can be up to 2.5 times higher than the actual hydro used) and threaten the sustainability of families and agro-food sectors in rural Ontario; and

WHEREAS all municipalities should be encouraged to monitor, through specific data categories, smart meter electrical fires and/or smart meter malfunctions that have resulted in explosions, and further to better assess their impact and the potential need of CSA approved meters employing codes and standards used globally by regulators and industry to facilitate safer and more sustainable products.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Armour call on Premier Wynne and the Province of Ontario to take immediate action to prevent these and any other rate increase from being implemented; and

THAT Premier Wynne and the Province of Ontario be encouraged to do something to bring these rates down to a reasonable level and to do so as quickly as possible.
Carried

Moved by Jerry Brandt, Seconded by Marina Hammond, That the Council of the Township of Armour hereby agree to continue our support of the Burk's Falls Canada Day celebrations and agree to a contribution of 1/3 of the cost of fireworks for that purpose. Carried

Moved by Marina Hammond, Seconded by Pat Hayes, That the Council of the Township of Armour approve financial support for the Burk's Falls Recreation Committee in the amount of \$3,500. Carried

Moved by Rod Blakelock, Seconded by Marina Hammond, That the Council of the Township of Armour hereby move into closed session at 9:43 p.m. as per Section 239(2)(b) and (e) of the Municipal Act, personal matters about an identifiable

THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ARMOUR

MINUTES

June 9, 2015

individual, including municipal or local board employees and litigation or potential litigation. Carried

Moved by Pat Hayes, Seconded by Rod Blakelock, That the Council of the Township of Armour hereby adjourn and move out of closed session at 10:41 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 May 26, 2015, as circulated. Carried

Moved by Jerry Brandt, Seconded by Marina Hammond, That the Council of the Township of Armour adjourn this regular council meeting at 10:46 p.m. until the next regular council meeting scheduled for June 23, 2015, or at the call of the Reeve. Carried

Original Signed by Bob MacPhail _____
REEVE

Original Signed by Wendy Whitwell _____
CLERK ADMINISTRATOR