

**CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ARMOUR
CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF BURKS FALLS
CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RYERSON**

TRI-COUNCIL MEETING

Monday October 26, 2015 –7:00 p.m.

NOTES

Hosted by the Township of Ryerson at the Yonge at Heart Senior Centre.

A meeting of the Councils of the Township of Armour, the Village of Burks Falls and the Township of Ryerson was held Monday evening October 26, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance list attached.

Reeve Glenn Miller chaired the meeting and opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Moved by Reeve Still, seconded by Councillor Smith that the minutes from the last Tri-Council meeting August 24, 2015 be approved as circulated. (Carried)

Guests

Bruce Campbell, Chair of the Almaguin Highlands Health Centre Committee (AHHCC) presented information on the history of the formation of the AHHCC. When the hospital closed the AHHCC was formed to keep services in the area. The Committee was incorporated in 2011, Rob Ward volunteered to write the business plan (a copy of the Business Plan was provided with this meeting package). The buildings were returned to the Village of Burks Falls October 2011. The Committee has been successful adding services since then. In January 2015 the AHHCC Committee decided they wanted to continue, with Mr. Campbell as Chair.

Mr. Campbell commented that he has heard there is talk of combining the Steering Committee (now called LINK) with the AHHCC. His opinion was that the Steering Committee was formed on a completely different mandate and is not incorporated. If the group is not incorporated the LHINs won't work with them.

The AHHCC is continuing to work for better health care in the area and are lobbying for a Health Hub. The system is difficult to navigate with changes in primary care and funding models.

Reeve MacPhail asked whether the current system is structured to deal with this, and that Councillor Hayes is concerned if the Committee is structured right. Mr. Campbell noted that Councillor Hayes only attended one meeting of the AHHCC last January, and further stated that the Committee is not happy with the system either, but they do care about and want to deal with one issue, that being health care in the area.

It was further stated that it wasn't the intent to have the Committee give up. A presentation was made at AMO by Reeve Still regarding a Health Hub and Urgent Care. It is frustrating, but it is most important to keep getting the message out to the LHINs and the Ministry so that we don't lose our services. In addition, the public need to continue to use the local services.

(Post Script: Please note that after the meeting an email was sent to the AHHCC committee members dated October 28, 2015 about links to Community Information Sites, copy attached to these notes).

Dawn Corless spoke on behalf of a delegation from the Armour, Ryerson Burks Falls Agricultural Society including Wilma Roberts and Coral Mason. They have read a statement that there may be plans to build a sportsplex at the Armour, Ryerson, Burks Falls Memorial Arena and they are concerned about the future of the annual fair held on Labour Day weekend. Also they have heard about the possibility of a Junior A hockey team. They asked if that date is in jeopardy for the fair.

Councillor Osbourne explained that Burks Falls owns the Arena and the Agricultural Society has a 99 year lease. There was an agreement dated 1974 and one dated 1982, however copies of the agreements have not been found. The representatives from the Agricultural Society want an agreement for the use of the Arena for the fair, in writing. Reeve Still stated that she will look into it and get back to everyone about this.

Shared Service Reports and Draft 2016 Budgets

Armour, Ryerson, Burks Falls Memorial Arena

Nicky Kunkel presented the written arena report and provided information on the Junior A team proposal. Many details need to be discussed before a final proposal can be drafted by August 2016 for the 2016 – 2017 season. Since this is a big project affecting the arena, Reeve Still noted that Burks Falls won't be making this decision on their own, but will put the information together and bring it back to the Tri-Council meeting.

The draft budget is up one percent. Generally across Almaguin there is a decline in hockey registrations. There were no further comments on the draft budget.

Burks Falls and District Fire Department

Chief's Report

Dave McNay presented the written Chief's report and the draft budget was reviewed in detail. There are items unknown in the budget at this time and a more complete draft will be provided in January. Mr. McNay is intending to present a more complete draft to the Councils in advance of the next Tri-Council meeting.

Regional Fire Training Officer's Report

Mr. McNay read the report provided by Gary Courtice.

Fire Prevention Officer's Report

Martyn Payge provided highlights from his written report.

Burks Falls and District Historical Society

No one was able to attend from the Historical Society, however a written report was provided.

Burks Falls, Armour, Ryerson Union Public Library Board

Councillor Weddel presented the Strategic Plan for the Library. The Board members sent a message to thank the three municipalities for their continuing support of the Library.

The draft 2016 budget was reviewed.

The Library Board has many successes to report and encourage all to go to visit the Library to see the many improvements.

Community/Economic Development

Dave Gray presented his written report providing up-dates on the many activities underway. The very preliminary budget was reviewed. It was noted that many of the budget items are a requirement of the CIINO funding agreement, which is very detailed as to what expenses are eligible for funding or not. A further draft will be provided in January.

Rabies Clinic

2016 draft budget provided.

Tri-R Waste Management

Amy Tilley reviewed the waste management written report. Highlights from the 2016 draft budget were discussed in detail. The capacity of the landfill site was discussed. All present agreed in principle that Armour should move forward with the application for expansion and that they would draft a resolution and circulate it.

A concern was raised about the proposed capital expenditure on the building at this time, while we are waiting to hear about an expansion. Ms. Tilley responded that even if we had to go to a transfer station for the garbage, the building would still be required for recycling.

It was suggested that Ms. Tilley start researching where the garbage will go if the expansion isn't approved.

The draft budget will be finalized for January.

Councillor Osborne inquired if the fourth quarter payments between each shared service could be handled differently. For example, with landfill there has usually been a large surplus, however the final quarter is paid in advance and then it is some time before the year-end audit is complete before the surplus is returned. It was requested that Marjorie Robinson be contacted to review this process and see if the timelines for invoicing each municipality and any effect on budgets could be streamlined.

The letter from Burks Falls dated August 26, 2015 regarding concerns about clear bags in relation to curb side pick-up and the response from Armour dated October 9, 2015 were noted by Ms. Tilley.

Old Business: None brought forward.

New Business

Correspondence dated October 26, 2015 (copy attached) regarding the Burks Falls and Armour restructuring discussions, was received from Judy Ransome, a ratepayer from all three municipalities.

Reeve Miller commented that Ryerson was not invited to the meetings and that Ryerson would have liked to be invited in order to keep informed.

Mrs. Ransome asked why the three municipalities can't work together.

Reeve MacPhail had no comment.

Reeve Still commented that all the meetings have been public and there was no intent to show animosity to another municipality.

Reeve MacPhail stated that he knows Ryerson didn't want to participate in economic development but noted that Ryerson was welcome to attend a walk about on the 19 acres that Armour owns on Hwy. 520 on October 28, 2015. Dave Gray and Rick Evans will be on the tour to look at options available. It was further noted that Armour would not be looking for any financial contribution.

Councillor Weddel noted that more needs to be done to promote the 211 Services available. It is disappointing that so few people know about this service. It has been in the area for two years and is a live service available to direct people to services.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9: 25 p.m.

Next meeting

Monday January 25, 2016, Burks Falls host.