

REGULAR MINUTES
TOWNSHIP OF MACDONALD, MEREDITH & ABERDEEN ADDITIONAL
TUESDAY JANUARY 12, 2021
7:00 P.M. TELECONFERENCE
Conference # 1-855-343-6177 Conference ID 6677865

Mayor: Lynn Watson (Council Chambers)
Council: Lynn Orchard, Shelly Bailey, John Bucknell, Adam Chevis (Teleconference)
Staff: Lynne Duguay (Council Chambers), Matt Jarrell (Conference Call)
Delegations: Emilie Currie-HNCEA, George Chriss-Leep Frog

1. Call Meeting to Order
#21-01
Moved by: Shelly Bailey
Seconded by: Adam Chevis
“RESOLVED that we open our Regular Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.”
CD.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

3. Adoption of Agenda
#21-02
Moved by: Lynn Orchard
Seconded by: John Bucknell
“RESOLVED that we adopt the agenda as presented.”
CD.

4. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting
#21-03
Moved by: John Bucknell
Seconded by: Shelly Bailey
“RESOLVED that the Minutes of Council held on December 8, 2020 be accepted as presented.”
CD.

5. Delegations/Public Presentation

7:05 p.m. Emilie Currie-HNCEA & George Chriss-Leep Frog
HNCEA is supporting Leep Frog in an application to the Rapid Response Stream of the Universal Broadband Fund which is available until Jan.15, 2021. This is for shovel ready projects that can be completed by Sept. 2021. Leep Frog Telecom has proposed a solution that uses a combination of WIFI and new Television White Space technology bringing 50/10 Mbps broadband internet access to residences of a community. They have already put up a tower in Iron Bridge and are servicing that community. We discussed the need to service the rural area within our municipality more so than the Village of Echo Bay which already has decent internet service. Where we are underserved is in our outlying areas. The only way all 3 townships, Macdonald, Meredith & Aberdeen Additional can be serviced is by installing a number of towers or utilizing existing towers. It was discussed that a heat map be completed showing how many towers would be required based on the lay of the land (rocks, hills etc.) and whether or not existing towers could be utilized and put in an application under Round 2 of the Universal Broadband Fund which is due Feb. 15, 2021. This way we can look at a larger project which would provide increased internet service to our whole municipality. George Chriss is to work with the Clerk to come up the mapping and present it at the January 26, 2021 Regular Council Meeting where a supporting resolution can be passed and still meet the February 15, 2021 deadline. Under this funding there is no cost to the municipality.

6. Staff & Committee Reports
 - a) Road Supervisor
 - Plow Truck 12-5 Issues
Truck has been in and out of TMS (truck dealer) with several issues. Hopefully all issues from exhaust to intake have been dealt with. Truck had to go back up yesterday with another alarm and we got it back today. Hoping for no more problems.
 - Grader 08-2
A couple issues developed over the holiday season. First issue was the steering-CAT Tech made repairs and ordered new module which was replaced within 2 days. There was no down time. Second issue was the intake manifold module which was replaced within 2 hours of being called. Excellent service.
 - Possamai Truck Rental
Truck was kept on standby throughout the holiday season and was used when Plow Truck was in for repairs. Rental truck was returned on January 8, 2020.

-Winter Works

We have had not normal warm conditions so far this winter with very little snow. Has not been a struggle to keep caught up.

-Echo Lake Road Slope Stability Assessment

Everyone received a copy of this and it is very technical. Mayor Watson suggested we look at it closer in a month or so and discuss further. We cannot do anything right now anyway.

b) Leisure Services Coordinator

-Halls

Will remain closed.

-Light Contest & Scavenger Hunt & Parade of Lights

Feedback we have received has been very positive on all three of these activities that we had.

-Sportsplex

Part Time Arena Caretaker applications are on hold right now due to the Stay At Home Order.

-Winter Carnival-Cancelled

Looking at doing some things in the month of February

-Summer Student Grants

#21-04

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: John Bucknell

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Leisure Services Coordinator to apply through Young Canada Works for a Museum/Lending Library student for 2021.”

CD.

#21-05

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Lynn Orchard

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Leisure Services Coordinator to apply through Summer Experience Program for a Recreational Assistant for 2021.”

CD.

#21-06

Moved by: John Bucknell

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Leisure Services Coordinator to apply through Canada Summer Jobs for a Recreation Assistant, Office/Food Security Assistant, and Parks & Recreation Landscape Labourer for 2021.”

CD.

-Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) 2021 Webinar

-COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream Grant

Applied for rehabilitation of our Tennis Courts & Hurley Park with more playground equipment.

-Part Time Arena Caretaker Interviews-Date & Time-Hold off until Provincial Shutdown has expired.

c) Fire Chief

-Activity Report

-Echo Bay Fire Department Standard Operating Guideline-COVID-19 Response Guide

Will not be happening until after the Stay At Home Order expires.

#21-07

Moved by: Lynn Orchard

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we accept the reports from the Road Super, Leisure Services Coordinator and Fire Chief as presented.”

CD.

d) Treasurer's Report

e) Cemetery Board

-Resignation Letter from Jack Nicholson-Sylvan Valley Cemetery

#21-08

Moved by: Lynn Orchard

Seconded by: John Bucknell

“RESOLVED that we accept the resignation of Jack Nicholson as Caretaker of the Sylvan Valley Cemetery effective December 31, 2020 and thank him for his time & dedication.”

CD.

f) Planning Board

g) Police Services Board

-January 25, 2021

-Date for Community Safety & Well Being Plan to be adopted by Council-July 1, 2021

h) Algoma District Services Administration Board

i) Algoma District Municipal Association

j) Landfill/Recycling

-Landfill Punch Card for Trailer Loads

-Website Updated for individual trailer loads

People are asked to either bring their printed receipt to the landfill when disposing of their load of debris or show their receipt on their phone.

k) Sewer and Water

-2020 Management Review Minutes

#21-09

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we accept the 2020 Management Review Minutes for the Drinking Water Quality Management system from Ontario Clean Water Agency.”

CD.

7. By-Law

8. Unfinished Business

9. New Business

a) Business Continuity Plan Update & Discussion

To be updated based on the new Provincial Lockdown rules and Stay At Home Order that begins on Thursday January 14, 2021-February 11, 2021.

b) Meeting Dates for 2021

Dates will be first and third Tuesdays starting in Feb. with one meeting in August and one meeting in December to be decided at a future date.

c) Date for Round Table Meeting

Clerk to set aside time at the January 26, 2021 meeting for the round table discussion. Council members can send their “wish list” in to Clerk ahead of time in order for all of Council to have copies of it.

d) ROMA Virtual Conference January 25 & 26, 2021. Registration Fee \$550.00 + tax.

No one will be participating in the ROMA Conference this year. Too expensive.

e) OGRA Virtual Conference February 22-25, 2021. Registration Fee \$655.00 + tax.

No one will be participating in the OGRA Conference this year. Too expensive.

f) #21-10

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: John Bucknell

“RESOLVED that we hire Lacey Kastikainen as Assistant Treasurer/Administrative Assistant to begin January 1, 2021 at the top of the 5 step wage scale.”

CD.

g) #21-11

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Administrative Assistant register for the Primer on Planning on line course to begin January 2021-May 2021. Registration fee \$400.00 + tax.”

CD.

h) #21-12

Moved by: John Bucknell

Seconded by: Lynn Orchard

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Assistant Treasurer/Administrative Assistant register for the Municipal Administration Program-Unit 1 on line course to begin January 2021-May 2021. Registration fee \$400.00 + tax.”

CD.

i) Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program: COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream-Local Government Intake-Application Deadline January 7, 2021.

Applied for rehabilitation of the Tennis Courts and Hurley Park.

j) Military Service Recognition Book-Request for support and advertisement
#21-13
Moved by: Lynn Orchard
Seconded by: Shelly Bailey
“RESOLVED that we purchase a 1/10 Page Advertisement (Business Card) in the Military Service Recognition Book in the amount of \$290.00 in support of our Province’s Veterans and their Veterans Transition Program.”

CD.

k) Purchase of laptops with COVID-19 Funding
#21-15
Moved by: Shelly Bailey
Seconded by: Lynn Orchard
“RESOLVED that we purchase 5 laptops with the COVID-19 funding.”

CD.

l) Building Permits
#21-14
“RESOLVED that we acknowledge Chief Building Official approved Building Permit to Estate of Elizabeth Heywood-replace siding.”

CD.

10. Presenting, Referring or Passing of Account

11. Closed Session-Permissive

12. Correspondence

a) COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Task Force Letter-Information

b) Municipality of Charlton and Dack-Insurance
#21-16

Moved by: Lynn Orchard
Seconded by: John Bucknell

“RESOLVED that we support the Municipality of Charlton and Dack to call on the Province of Ontario to immediately review the seven recommendations to address insurance issues from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and to investigate the unethical practice of preferred vendors who are paid substantial amounts over industry standards, despite COVID-19 delays, as insurance premiums will soon be out of reach for many communities.”

CD.

13. Mayor & Councillors Comments

14. Passing of Confirmatory By-law
#21-17

Moved by: Lynn Orchard
Seconded by: John Bucknell

“RESOLVED that we pass By-law #21-2094 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the meeting of Council held on January 12, 2021.”

CD.

15. Adjournment
#21-18

Moved by: Shelly Bailey
Seconded by: Lynn Orchard

“RESOLVED that this Council shall now adjourn to January 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. or until the call of the chair.”

CD.

THAT these minutes be accepted this _____ day of _____ 2021.

MAYOR

CLERK ADMINISTRATOR