

REGULAR MINUTES
TOWNSHIP OF MACDONALD, MEREDITH & ABERDEEN ADDITIONAL
TUESDAY JANUARY 23, 2024
7:00 P.M. –Council Chambers

Land Acknowledgement: We acknowledge, with respect, that we are in Robinson-Huron Treaty territory, that the land on which we are gathered is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe and known as Bawating. Bawating is the home of Garden River First Nation, Batchewana First Nation, and the Historic Metis Council.

Acting Mayor: Shelly Bailey (Mayor Watson – at ROMA Conference)

Council: Derek Hansen, Adam Chevis, (Parker Brockelbank absent due to bereavement)

Staff: Lacey Kastikainen, Catie Stevens, Cody Jarrell, Matt Jarrell

1. Call Meeting to Order

#24-31

Moved by: Derek Hansen

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

#24-32

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we adopt the agenda as presented.”

CD.

4. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

#24-33

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that the Minutes of Council held on January 9, 2024, be accepted as presented.”
CD.

5. Delegations/Public Presentation

6. Staff & Committee Reports

a) Road Supervisor

- Winter Works – all equipment in working order. Winter sand use is down to approximately half compared to this time last year. Cottage Road has been plowed 9 times this season to date. Road Super is satisfied with the response time & service from the contractor for the winter maintenance.
- EARS Meeting – Amalgamated tender due at the next EARS meeting on February 14, 2024. The surface treatment tender will be re-written to follow new OPSS standards that were updated in November 2022. There has also been some interest in adding a fog seal to the new surface treatment. Fog seal applications can provide the following benefits: Stone retention by sealing in the loose aggregate normally encountered with surface treated roads. Winter Maintenance – dark surface creates a higher road temperature allowing roads to bare quicker and increased public relations by avoiding dust, windshield/vehicle damage reduced due to less flying aggregate when traffic use resumes.
- Amalgamated Tender – Decision for surface treatment for the amalgamated tender deferred to February 6th meeting. Looking at doing a single layer application on Echo Lake Road from 638 to Gordons, and a double layer from Gordons to Iron River Road. Looking at adding an additional fog seal to the surface treatment.
- Landfill – Road Super presented prices on landfill equipment such as a garbage compactor and bulldozer. If we purchased a compactor, we would still need a piece of equipment to complete pushing and cover. Road Super recommends we purchase a used bulldozer. Will look further into pricing to be discussed at future meetings.
- Ice Cube – Ice Cube is open for the 2024 season.

b) Leisure Services Coordinator

- Sportsplex – Schedule has been quite busy this season. LSC to present comparison at next months meeting. Hockey program very well received as is the free skates and additional shinny’s added to this years compliment of events. Council okay with staying open an additional week with April 20th being the last weekend open for 2024.

- Hall Caretaker

#24-37

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we hire Kara-Lee Kelly and Samantha Cunningham as our part-time hall caretakers.”

CD.

- Sylvan Valley Hall – We need to purchase and install a filter for our UV system to operate as per manufacturer’s recommendations. APH is satisfied with this approach.
- 2024 Training & Conference Opportunities – Discussed membership with Parks & Recreation Ontario and the Parks and Recreation Expo that will take place at Blue Mountain in April. Council would like more information on what our return on investment would be for this expenditure.
- Part-Time Arena Caretaker
- Part-Time Canteen Attendant

#24-38

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we authorize the CAO/Clerk to hire a part-time arena caretaker and part-time canteen attendant.”

CD.

c) Fire Chief

- Emergency Calls – Medical Assist, Echo Bay – MVC, Laird Township
- Fire Hall Maintenance – Full cleaning top to bottom including pressure wash of exterior. New ceiling fan, man door replacement that was bumped from last year and paint for interior.
- Equipment Maintenance – All equipment in working order.
- Training – January training will focus on Auto extraction and chimney fire operations. February will move into more advanced medical and first aid training.
- Personnel – Nothing new to report.
- New Business – SCBA upgrade – required to meet minimum NFPA safety standards. Fire Chief to order 12 new units at a price of \$2500.00 per unit – These units are typically \$9800.00 per unit for a cost savings upwards of \$87,600.00.
- Training Nights – Training nights have been moved from Monday’s to Tuesday’s to accommodate the needs of firefighters.

#24-34

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Fire Chief to purchase 12 new SCBA units, to be included in the 2024 budget. These units are a requirement of meeting the NFPA safety standards to have the minimum amount of personnel able to operate at a structure fire.”

CD.

#24-39

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

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

CD.

d) Treasurer’s Report

e) Cemetery Board

f) Planning Board – Meeting postponed, no new date selected at this time.

g) Police Services Board

- Next meeting January 29, 2024 – 7p.m.
- Victim Services Grant – Progress update – this grant has been approved and the upgrades to the detachment interview rooms will be completed and the training conference is being organized to take place in March 2024.

h) Algoma District Services Administration Board

- Next meeting Thursday January 25th

i) Algoma District Municipal Association

j) Landfill/Recycling

- We had another break-in at the landfill over the weekend, between closing at 5pm on the 20th and opening at 12pm on the 23rd. Items taken include the broom, vacuum, phone charger, misc. tools, and damage to the attendant shed door. We will look into cameras that provide real time updates.

k) Sewer and Water

7. By-Laws

#24-2208 Interim Taxes By-law

#24-40

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Clerk to draft By-law #24-2208 being a By-law to levy certain interim rates, taxes and charges for the year 2024.”

CD.

#24-41

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOVLED that we give By-law #24-2208 its first and second reading.”

CD.

8. Unfinished Business

9. New Business

- a) 2024 Meeting Schedule Amendments –May 7th scheduling conflict with FONOM Conference
 - May 7th meeting cancelled. Will look to add in special meeting if necessary.
- b) AMCTO Annual Clerks Conference – June 9-12, 2024, Blue Mountains

#24-42

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Clerk to attend the AMCTO Annual Conference in Blue Mountains from June 9-12, 2024. Registration Fee \$850.00 + HST.”

CD.

- c) Volunteer Appreciation - Deferred
- d) Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund – There are current opportunities for funding for sewer & water expansion directly related to housing development.

10. Presenting, Referring or Passing of Account

#24-35

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Treasurer to pay bills for the month of December 2023:

Invoices:	\$511,613.43
Payroll:	<u>\$66,200.15</u>
Total:	\$577,813.58”

CD.

#24-36

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Treasurer to pay all outstanding 2023 invoices.”

CD.

11. Closed Session-Permissive

12. Correspondence

- a) Reese Basawa (Age 8) & Her Friends – Thank you for all new equipment at Hurley Park
- b) Rena Retallick & Jean Cousineau RE: Letter of Concern Regarding Regional Public Health Ontario Laboratories
- c) Todd Doherty MP – RE: 988 Suicide Crisis Helpline Posters
Items A, B & C – received as information.
- d) AORS – Minister of Labour Supporting Motion to fund the Municipal Equipment Operator Course in 2024 Through the Skills Development Fund

#24-43

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

WHEREAS, municipal public works departments from across the Province of Ontario provide invaluable services to our communities ensuring the health and safety of all residents;

AND WHEREAS, if it was not for our municipal public works employees from across the Province of Ontario maintaining our public roads systems, our communities would not be able to function as emergency personnel could not respond to calls, school buses could not get our children to school, residents would not be able to get to work, school or appointments and many more basic functions would not be able to happen;

AND WHEREAS, municipal public works departments are already feeling the impacts of a labour shortage, which will only be exasperated over the next three to five years, which will cause levels of service municipalities are able to provide to ensure the health and safety of our residents to decrease;

AND WHEREAS, there is currently no provincial-wide course that properly trains potential municipal public works employees, specifically relating to municipal heavy equipment.

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, that the Township of Macdonald, Meredith & Aberdeen Additional supports the work of the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors to develop a Municipal Equipment Operator Course to address this issue;

AND THAT, the Township of Macdonald, Meredith & Aberdeen Additional calls on the Province of Ontario's Ministry of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades to fully fund the Municipal Equipment Operator Course in 2024 through the Skills Development Fund;

AND THAT, a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades David Piccini, the Township of Macdonald Meredith & Aberdeen Additional's Member of Provincial Parliament Mike Mantha and the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors."

CD.

13. Mayor & Councillors Comments

**14. Passing of Confirmatory By-law
#24-44**

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

"RESOLVED that we pass By-law #24-2209 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the meeting of Council held on January 23, 2024."

CD.

**15. Adjournment
#24-45**

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

"RESOLVED that this Council shall now adjourn to February 6, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. or until the call of the chair."

CD.

THAT we accept the minutes this 6th day of February 2024.

MAYOR

CLERK ADMINISTRATOR