

REGULAR MINUTES
TOWNSHIP OF MACDONALD, MEREDITH & ABERDEEN ADDITIONAL
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 20, 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.

Mayor: Lynn Watson

Council: Derek Hansen, Adam Chevis, Parker Brockelbank, (Shelly Bailey absent -vacation)

Staff: Lacey Kastikainen, Catie Stevens, Cody Jarrell

1. Call Meeting to Order

#24-68

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that we open our Regular Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.”

CD.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

3. Adoption of Agenda

#24-69

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we adopt the agenda as presented.”

CD.

4. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

#24-70

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that the Minutes of Council held on February 6, 2024, be accepted as presented.”

CD.

5. Delegations/Public Presentation

6. Staff & Committee Reports

a) Road Supervisor

- Winter Works – 360 tonnes of sand used this year so far compared to 750 last year, Cottage Road has been plowed 11 times.
- EARS Meeting – Last meeting took place on February 14th. Amalgamated tender was submitted. Tender results will be at the April 17th meeting at Echo Bay Hall.
- Spring Equipment Rentals – the sweeper attachment for the backhoe has been booked from April 22-26. The 10 ton wheeled excavator booked for the month of May into the first week of June with a brushing attachment for the first week and ditching bucket for the remainder.
- Landfill
 - Bulldozer cost analysis: rent vs. own vs. contract. – Hiring a contractor (if available) to come and do a push once a month would cost approximately \$36,000.00 per year. Renting a piece of equipment would cost approximately \$156,000.00 per year. To purchase a used dozer there are options for a 2017 used dozer for \$170,000.00 which spread over a useful life of 20 years would cost approximately \$8,500.00 per year plus repair and maintenance costs.
 - Bulldozer prices
 - Road Super to present recommendation on which piece of equipment to purchase at the next Council meeting and proposal on what to do with the old dozer.
- 2025 Surface Treatment Discussion
 - Cemetery Road from Watson to Bar River road needs to be rebuilt this year to be ready for surface treatment next year. It is believed that Dam Road can be saved with cold patching at this time. There are sections of Bar River Road from Cemetery to the Village that are also due for a single next year in coordination with Lard.
 - McCarrel lake road has some ditching, widening, and culverts that will need to be completed before the entire road can be rebuilt. We will look to complete these items this year and do a complete rebuild in 2025, with surface treatment to follow in 2026.

b) Leisure Services Coordinator

- Sportsplex
 - Resignation from part-time caretaker.

#24-71

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we accept the letter of resignation from Nicholas McClelland as part-time arena caretaker, last day February 9, 2024.”

CD.

- Sportsplex coverage will be taken care of by Facilities Operator and one part-time caretaker over the next 5 weeks. We will have increased overtime costs during this time.
- Part-time hall caretaker will cover some of the canteen time.
- Special exception request from Child Care Algoma to purchase advertising space in advance.

#24-72

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that we approve a special exception request from Child Care Algoma to purchase 3 years of advertising space at the Sportsplex arena at the current fee schedule rate of \$300.00 per year.”

CD.

- Sylvan Valley Hall – Sylvan Valley Retro Ride Cancelled – Received letter of thanks from Committee.
- Summer Students 2024

#24-73

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Clerk and Leisure Services Coordinator to post summer jobs for three Recreational Assistants, one Parks Maintenance Labourer, one Office Assistant and one Museum/Lending Library assistant.”

CD.

- Tower Lake Cabin – 1st Bar River Cub Scout pack Mike & Mel Bringleson would like to continue to oversee the Tower Lake Cabin for local Cub Scout packs including Sault Ste. Marie.

#24-74

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Mayor and Clerk to enter into an agreement with Mike Bringleson and Mel Bringleson from the 1st Bar River Cub Scout Pack for the care of use of the Tower Lake Cabin for 2024.”

CD.

- Winter Carnival – Winter Carnival had a good turnout with approximately 150 in attendance.
- Operation Actively Aging
 - Programs that will remain as self-sustaining include the book club, the coffee club, bingo, games club, yoga and seniors lunches.
 - Donations collected at seniors' events amount to \$3,284.65 to date. Council will look to make a donation to food bank with some of these funds, staff to develop a possible plan to distribute these funds back to the Seniors Committee to use for their luncheons & events.
- Museum/Lending Library
 - Committee Meeting scheduled for Thursday February 22, 2024, at 10:30am at the Museum/Lending Library
 - Council would like to advertise to the public to see if there are any member of our community interest in sitting on this committee.

c) Fire Chief

- Emergency Calls -MVC at highway 17 & 638. Burning complaint – Laird Township.
- Fire Hall Maintenance - Garage door seals and truck bay cleaning, circulating fan replacement and roof patching.
- Equipment Maintenance – Pumper truck #10 has a deteriorated tank connection which will be replaced this week in house. This part does not affect the operation of the pump or vehicle.
- Training – February will start with First Aid and CPR updates then move in Advance life support training.
- Personnel – Nothing new to report
- New Business – After the replacement of SCBA units we will reach out to surrounding departments to see if any would benefit from purchasing some of our old equipment.

#24-75

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 – Next Meeting February 27th

g) Police Services Board – Budget submission request from the board for 2024 is \$1,500.00.

h) Algoma District Services Administration Board – Next meeting February 22nd.i) Algoma District Municipal Association – Next meeting April 20th in Blind River

j) Landfill/Recycling – Discussed above.

k) Sewer and Water

7. By-Laws**8. Unfinished Business****9. New Business**

- a) Council Remuneration – Treasurer’s Report 2023 – Treasurer’s Statement of Elected Officials was presented to Council with a total for 2023 of \$54,479.82 which includes honorariums, CPP, EHT, Mileage, conferences, flights and business cards. Total paid to the cemetery board for 2023 was \$660.00 and total remuneration and expenses for the Police Service Board members was \$1,258.89.

#24-77

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that we accept the Treasurers’ Statement of Elected Officials summarizing council remuneration and expenses for 2023.”

CD.

- b) United Way Free Income Tax Clinic – Wednesday March 27, 2024, Echo Bay Hall

#24-78

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we make the Echo Bay Hall available on Wednesday March 27, 2024, for the United Way to offer a free income tax session. No charge.”

CD.

- c) Request for Proposals – Professional Engineering Services – Due March 1, 2024

- d) Procurement Policy Review – Our procurement policy has been in place since December 2004. Updates to this policy include allowing purchasing between \$0-\$2,000.00 by direct acquisition. The department head will be permitted to purchase these goods or services approved in their budget. Purchases between \$2,001.00 and \$10,000.00 will require informal quotations. These items must be approved by council through the budget process and department heads will be required to obtain a minimum of 3 verbal quotations. Purchases made for items between \$10,001.00 and \$50,000.00 will require the department head to obtain 3 quotations, quotations will be presented to Council and Council will make the final decision. For purchases above \$50,001.00 Council approval must be received, however, Council may authorize this purchase by way of a Request for Tender, a Request for Quotation or a Request for Proposal. Request for Proposals can be used when Council sees fit.

#24-79

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that after review of our current policy we update our Procurement Policy for the procurement of goods and services as presented.”

CD.

- e) Budget 2024 Discussion

10. Presenting, Referring or Passing of Account

#24-76

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Treasurer to pay bills for the month of January 2024:

Invoices: \$348,955.28

Payroll: \$46,849.67

Total: \$395,804.95”

CD.

11. Closed Session-Permissive

#24-81

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that this Council proceed into Closed Session at 8:20p.m. to consider the following subject matter in accordance with the Municipal Act Section 239 (2):

- b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees;
- c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board;”

CD.

- Discussed personnel & training opportunity.
- Discussed a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality.

#24-82

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we come out of Closed session at 9:16p.m. and continue our Regular Council Meeting.”

CD.

#24-83

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Facilities Operator/Parks & Rec employee to register for DZ Training with Z-Air Endorsement through Northern Safety & Training, contingent upon employee accepting training offer. Total cost for DZ training, Z-Air endorsement training, practical training and textbook \$2,600.00 + HST.”

CD.

12. Correspondence

- a) Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry – RE: Crown Land Disposition in Northern Municipalities – Staff to look further into this initiative to see if there are any Crown Lands located in our Municipality that Council would like to pursue.
- b) Ministry of Northern Development – RE: Modernization of the Northern Services Board Act (NSBA) – Received as information.
- c) Algoma Public Health – RE: Invitation Community Action on Toxic Drugs Workshop: Where do we go from here? – February 27, 2024 – 9am-4pm.

#24-80

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we authorize Mayor Watson to attend the Algoma Public Health Community Action on Toxic Drugs Workshop on February 27th, from 9am-4pm at Algoma Public Health in Sault Ste. Marie.”

CD.

- d) The Corporation of The Municipality of Wawa – RE: Resolution Opposition of merger of Algoma Public Health & Public Health Sudbury District. – Received as information. Earlier in the day it was announced that Algoma Public Health board voted against the merger with the Sudbury health unit.

13. Mayor & Councillors Comments

14. Passing of Confirmatory By-law

#24-84

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we pass By-law #24-2211 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the meeting of Council held on February 20, 2024.”

CD.

15. Adjournment

#24-85

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that this Council shall now adjourn to March 5, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. or until the call of the chair.”

CD.

THAT we accept the minutes this 5th day of March 2024.

MAYOR

CLERK ADMINISTRATOR