

**REGULAR MINUTES**  
**TOWNSHIP OF MACDONALD, MEREDITH & ABERDEEN ADDITIONAL**  
**TUESDAY MARCH 5, 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

Staff: Lacey Kastikainen

Delegation: Algoma Power – Mike Degilio & Andrea Mattioli

Observer: Paul Young

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

#24-86

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

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

CD.

**2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest**

**3. Adoption of Agenda**

#24-87

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“RESOLVED that we adopt the agenda as presented.”

CD.

**4. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

#24-88

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that the Minutes of Council held on February 20, 2024, be accepted as presented.”

CD.

**5. Delegations/Public Presentation**

7:00 p.m. – Algoma Power Inc. – Mike Degilio & Andrea Mattioli

- API will be hosting their annual road super meeting in the fall this year.
- They will be hosting a contractor’s night in April with ESA at the Sault office.
- They’ve been working closely with Bell and community network partners addressing internet speed regulations required by the end of 2025.
- Major capital line projects this year include an off-road line from the transmission station on Birch Lake Road to Government Road. This will include pole changes off road. One of the main access points is from Findlay Hill Road. Permitting requirement with the MECP for woodpeckers may be required.
- They are looking to do SCADA upgrades over the next 5-10 years. This will assist with decreasing the amount of downtime and getting systems back online faster.
- Their vegetation management had a large presence in our community last year. They will not be doing any vegetation management in our area this year. API feels that overall last year’s project went well.
- Council discussed possible Lake Street rebuilding, work on Cottage Road, Mccarrel lake Road and our Road Super will reach out with future ditching plans to ensure API is aware of upcoming projects.
- There will be a new procedure in May for non-private Electric Vehicle plans.
- 2024 distribution rates will see a decrease in seasonal/streetlighting.

**6. Staff & Committee Reports**

a) Road Supervisor

- Winter Works – all equipment running well. 500 tonnes of sand compared to 800 last year. Cottage Road has been plowed/sanded 11 times.
- Landfill – Council reviewed quotations for used bulldozers required for the municipal landfill.

#24-89

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we authorize the purchase of a 2019 CAT D6K2LGP bulldozer from Toromont Cat in the amount of \$210,000.00 + HST.”

CD.

- Training – This year’s training budget will include Book 7 Training for traffic control either in person or online depending on availability.
- Half Loads – Hald loads are officially in place as of March 5, 2024.

b) Leisure Services Coordinator

- Sportsplex – Ice rentals revenue for January up \$1,430.00 over 2023. Increased bookings up 12 hours. Hockey program well received we will provide medals for all participants.
- Operation Actively Aging – Discussing proposal for possibly establishing a seniors committee. This item has been deferred for further discussion.
- Museum/Lending Library – Meeting held Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> – Appointments can be made to attend the Museum. Summer Hours will be Monday-Friday (operated by Summer Student). The committee will no longer be taking physical donations to add to the current museum items. The committee may look to donate some of the overflow items to other museums in the area. Next meeting will be held on May 14, 2024, at 10:30am at the Museum.
- Swim Program – LSC to try to bring this program back this year. Details to follow.
- Highway Corridor – Echo Bay Sign – this item to be looked at during budget discussion.
- Algoma Country Membership – To be included in 2024 budget request.

c) Fire Chief

- Emergency Calls – MVC – Garden River Area 17B, Medical Assist Lift in Laird
- Fire Hall Maintenance – Nothing new to report.
- Equipment Maintenance – Maintenance on pumper truck #10 has been completed.
- Training – March will focus on Wildland Forest Fire Operations. MNRF has scheduled an online session with our department for the last week of March.
- Personnel – Nothing new to report.
- New Business – Upgraded SCBA equipment is expected to arrive mid-April and will be put into service immediately. There is an additional 16 – 4500 PSI cylinders that have been ordered and are expected to arrive at the same time as the air packs. We were able to purchase these units with a discount of \$300.00 per unit (\$4,800.00 in savings) as we were able to get onto a large order with Barrie Fire Services.

#24-90

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“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

- February 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting Report – Our 2024 levy should be determined at the next meeting. It is expected that our levy amount will increase to close to \$11,500.00 for 2024. These increases are due to the Official Plan and the associated consultant and Secretary-Treasurer fees.
- Agricultural Land Designation – Map Review – Council was presented the preliminary mapping that will be used in determining the Agricultural Lands within our municipality. The LEAR will be discussed at the next agricultural advisory committee meeting. The only issue Council has at this time is that our Landfill was identified as a prime agricultural land, which does not coincide with its current use or zoning as an industrial zone.

g) Police Services Board

h) Algoma District Services Administration Board

- February 22<sup>nd</sup> Meeting Report – Final budget was adopted. Levy info/apportionment will be shared with all municipalities before our next Council meeting.
- Meeting Minutes January 25, 2024

#24-91

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“RESOLVED that we accept the Algoma District Administration Board Meeting minutes from January 25, 2024, meeting, as presented.”

CD.

i) Algoma District Municipal Association

j) Landfill/Recycling

- Circular Materials – Opt-In/Out-Out Discussion. Staff presented Council with information regarding the blue box program transition. Our transition date is October 1, 2025.

- Staff recommended withdrawal from the management of the blue box program beyond this date.

#24-92

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“RESOLVED that we opt-out of the blue box program upon our transition date of October 1, 2025.”  
CD.

- 2023 Annual Operations & Hydrogeological Report – Quote

#24-93

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOVLED that we authorize Tulloch Engineering to proceed with the landfill Annual Operations & Hydrogeological report for 2023.”

CD.

k) Sewer and Water

## **7. By-Laws**

## **8. Unfinished Business**

## **9. New Business**

a) OCWA – 2023 Annual & Summary Reports for the Echo Bay Water System

- These reports are available for public viewing in our office and on our website.

b) Community Emergency Preparedness Grant (CEPG) – Unsuccessful in grant application

c) Northern CAO/Clerk’s Forum – May 15-16, 2023 – Sudbury

#24-94

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we authorize the CAO/Clerk to attend the Northern CAO/Clerks forum hosted by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing from May 15-16 in Sudbury, registration fee \$100.00.”

CD.

d) Highway 638 Bridge Replacement – Meeting with Egis February 26<sup>th</sup> – Report. Mayor Watson, Councillor Brockelbank and the CAO/Clerk met with Egis about this project. It is expected that this project will take place over a 2-year time beginning in 2026. We discussed our concerns about the use of our roads for detouring, proper signage, wear and tear, and possibly utilizing an older portion of highway 638 as an alternative detour route. They will provide more information as it becomes available. Council would also like to put in a request to obtain excavated materials from ditching during this project to have as cover at our landfill.

e) RFP Engineering Services – Submission Review (In closed)

f) 2024 Budget Discussion – Final 2023 numbers will be presented at the next Council meeting.

Department heads will discuss their proposed budgets at this meeting as well. Council approved the expenditure for the bulldozer, which is a large capital expenditure in this year’s budget.

g) Building Permits

#24-95

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we acknowledge the Chief Building Official approved a demolition permit to Michelle Cunningham to demolish a barn.”

CD.

## **10. Presenting, Referring or Passing of Account**

## **11. Closed Session-Permissive**

#24-97

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“RESOLVED that this Council proceed into Closed Session at 8:19 p.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;

d) labour relations or employee negotiations;

i) a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of person, or organizations.”

CD.

-Discussed Human Resource Policy amendments and changes to be presented and adopted at future open meeting.  
-Discussed RFP submissions for Engineering Services  
-Discussed personnel issue  
#24-98  
Moved by: Adam Chevis  
Seconded by: Derek Hansen  
“RESOLVED that we come out of Closed session at 9:32 p.m. and continue our Regular Council Meeting.”

CD.

12. Correspondence

a) Autism Ontario – RE: Fly the Flag Campaign April 2, 2024 - We do not have any current policy to address these types of requests. Council would like CAO to research & develop a flag policy for future adoption.  
b) Algoma Public Health – Meeting Minutes November 22, 2023  
#24-96  
Moved by: Adam Chevis  
Seconded by: Shelly Bailey  
“RESOLVED that we accept Algoma Public Health meeting minutes from November 22, 2023, meeting as presented.”

CD.

13. Mayor & Councillors Comments

- Mayor Watson recently attended a workshop for Community Action on Toxic Drugs put on by Algoma Public Health. Discussions included collaboration among stakeholders to work in conjunction on area wide concerns.

14. Passing of Confirmatory By-law

#24-99  
Moved by: Derek Hansen  
Seconded by: Adam Chevis  
“RESOLVED that we pass By-law #24-2212 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the meeting of Council held on March 5, 2024.”  
CD.

15. Adjournment

#24-100  
Moved by: Shelly Bailey  
Seconded by: Adam Chevis  
“RESOLVED that this Council shall now adjourn to March 19, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. or until the call of the chair.”  
CD.

THAT we accept the minutes this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK ADMINISTRATOR