

REGULAR MINUTES
TOWNSHIP OF MACDONALD, MEREDITH & ABERDEEN ADDITIONAL
TUESDAY AUGUST 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, Parker Brockelbank, Shelly Bailey, Adam Chevis

Staff: Lacey Kastikainen, Catie Stevens, Cody Jarrell

Delegations: Riki Olszewski & Michael Goodship – Auditors

Virtual Delegation: Egis Group, MTO – Christine Shillinglaw, Ken Huen, Derek Simms, Jennifer Cavanagh, Tommy Ma, Fadwa Hamdan, Heather Hamal

1. Call Meeting to Order

#24-251

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

#24-252

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we adopt the agenda as presented.”

CD.

4. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

#24-253

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that the Minutes of Council held on July 16th, 2024, be accepted as presented.”

CD.

5. Delegations/Public Presentation

7:00 p.m. Suraci & Olszewski Chartered Professional Accountants – 2023 Financials

Auditors presented our 2023 financial statements.

#24-254

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“RESOLVED that we accept the 2023 Financial Statements (Draft) from Suraci & Olszewski Chartered Professional Accountants, as presented.”

CD.

8:00 p.m. Egis Group – Bar River Bridge Replacement Project Highway 638 (ZOOM)

- Discussed MTO’s future plans to complete three bridge replacements on highway 638 using Municipal roads as a detour over a course of two years. Council made it very clear to Egis and the MTO that they are not willing to allow our municipal roads to be utilized for this purpose citing a number of factors such as; public endangerment due to increased traffic flows, speed and heavy commercial vehicles and the overall safety of our community as well as the adverse effects on our municipal infrastructure that are difficult to measure, even if restoration is offered in the contract. Council discussed alternatives such as detours to the North and South of highway 638 that would eliminate the need to detour on our municipal roads.

6. Staff & Committee Reports

a) Road Supervisor

- Equipment Maintenance – Truck 12-5 air bag air bag in the suspension replaced, Backhoe A/C recharged, One way snow plow gone for repair.
- Lake Street Paving – reviewed options presented by Avery for section near gazebo, will see what happens over the winter and follow up in the spring.
- Stone For Mccarrel Lake Swamp – purchased and placed stone, bought additional to stockpile

- Cottage Road Upgrade – planning for late fall will finish widening the rock pile section with road crossing culvert installation at civic number 140, road crossing culvert at civic 200 and looking at straightening and widening the big hill. Will take a look at this budget item next year to see what our long term plans are for this road now that we have a plowing contract in place.

#24-258

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that we hire Case Construction to continue into the next phase of maintenance and road improvements on Cottage Road as recommended by the Road Superintendent.”

CD.

b) Leisure Services Coordinator

- Parks – all playground inspections passed, grand opening at Hurley Park held on Aug 13th.
- Pick-up Teen Volleyball – only 2 attended first night
- Sylvan Valley Hall – dishwasher broken, waiting to hear if parts are available.
- Community Movie – Sing movie had approximately 50-60 in attendance.
- Bouncy Castle Day – Great turnout with approximately 80 in attendance
- “Discover Huron North” GeoTour Initiative (see attached letter)

#24-256

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we participate in the “Discover Huron North” GeoTour Initiative, annual cost \$500.00.”

CD.

- Sportsplex – still researching vending machine options. Board repairs scheduled for week of September 30th.

c) Fire Chief

- Emergency Calls
- Fire Hall Maintenance
- Equipment Maintenance
- Training
- Personnel
- New Business

#24-259

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

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

#24-257

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that we accept the quote from E.K.C. Inc. to form and pour three 5’ X 10’, 8” thick concrete foundations for Columbariums at all three of our cemeteries for a price of \$3,000.00 + HST per foundation, as per attached quote.”

CD.

- f) Planning Board
- g) Police Detachment Board
- h) Algoma District Services Administration Board
- i) Algoma District Municipal Association
- j) Landfill/Recycling
- k) Sewer and Water

7. By-Laws

#24-2227 Appointment By-law – Provincial Offences Officer

#24-260

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Clerk to draft By-law #24-2227 being a By-law to appoint Duncan Brodie as our Provincial Offences Officer/By-law Enforcement Officer.”

CD.

#24-261

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we give By-law #24-2227 its first and second reading.”

CD.

#24-262

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“RESOLVED that we give By-law #24-2227 its third and final reading.”

CD.

8. Unfinished Business

9. New Business

a) EMO Tabletop Exercise with Hydro One– Echo Bay Hall October 2, 2024 – Full Day

#24-263

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that we authorize the use of the Echo Bay Hall for Emergency Management Ontario tabletop exercise with Hydro One on October 2, 2024.”

CD.

b) MMAH – Council Training Dates – Review Options – None of these dates work, would like to look further into November.

c) Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command – “Military Service Recognition Book”

#24-264

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we purchase a business card size advertisement space in the Military Service Recognition Book from the Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command, for \$349.56 + HST.”

CD.

d) Outdoor Hockey Rink – Councillor Chevis tabled a discussion about the possibility of an outdoor hockey rink on the Sportsplex property, which sparked discussion about our long term plans on that property. Staff to begin steps in creating a recreational master plan guided by our Strategic plan and long-term goals.

e) Building Permits

#24-265

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we acknowledge the Chief Building Official approved building permits to Michael McIntyre to construct a Cottage, Allan Alexander to building a garage, Nicholas Tomberg to build a garage and Justin Hogsden to re-shingle dwelling.”

10. Presenting, Referring or Passing of Account

#24-255

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

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

Invoices: \$791,608.66

Payroll: \$51,870.99

Total: \$843,479.65”

CD.

11. Closed Session-Permissive

#24-266

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that this Council proceed into Closed Session at 9:04p.m. to consider the following subject matter in accordance with the Municipal Act Section 239 (2):

f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;”

CD.

Discussed legal recommendations given for Depot Operations Agreement with Circular Materials.

#24-267

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“RESOLVED that we come out of Closed session at 9:10p.m. and continue our Regular Council Meeting.”

CD.

#24-269

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Mayor and CAO to enter into a Depot Operations Agreement with Circular Materials Ontario.”

CD.

12. Correspondence

- a) MNRF – Proposal Regarding developing a commercial-scale framework for geologic carbon storage
- b) FONOM – RE: Request for Council Resolution Support a Set A Side for Northern Ontario within the OINP.

#24-268

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“WHEREAS employers across Northern Ontario are experiencing a critical shortage of skilled workers, contributing to a shrinking labour market with an estimated 50,000 newcomers needed by 2041 to sustain current Northern Ontario population levels;

and

WHEREAS, the labour shortage is causing significant economic hardship for Northern Ontario communities, including reduced productivity and business closures; and

WHEREAS population and migration trends to 2021 suggest that Northern Ontario needs 100,000 newcomers by 2041 to sustain current population; and

WHEREAS the success of the federal Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP) demonstrates the effectiveness of allocating nomination spots to address regional labour shortages in attracting newcomers to Northern Ontario; and

WHEREAS, the Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program has been expanded from 9,750 nominees in 2022 to a goal of 21,500 nominees in 2024;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY the COUNCIL of the Township of Macdonald, Meredith & Aberdeen Additional to:

Urges the Government of Ontario to address the critical market shortage of skilled labour in Northern Ontario by allocating 3,000 Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program spots to support the region's economic growth and development.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

Copies of this resolution be forwarded to: the Ontario Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training & Skills Development; local Members of Provincial Parliament; the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities; and the Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce”

CD.

- c) FONOM – RE: Sustainable Northern Economic Development Course
- d) Hydro One – RE: North Shore Link Notice of Commencement
- e) Norther Shore Agricultural Society – RE: Thank you for support letter
- f) 2024 Tax Rate Summary – Local Municipalities

Items – A, C, D, E, F – Received as information

13. Mayor & Councillors Comments

14. Passing of Confirmatory By-law

#24-270

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we pass By-law #24-2229 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the meeting of Council held on August 20, 2024.”

CD.

15. Adjournment

#24-271

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that this Council shall now adjourn to September 3, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. or until the call of the chair.”

CD.

THAT we accept the minutes this 3rd day of September 2024.

MAYOR

CAO/CLERK