

REGULAR MINUTES
TOWNSHIP OF MACDONALD, MEREDITH & ABERDEEN ADDITIONAL
TUESDAY JANUARY 14, 2025
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

1. Call Meeting to Order

#25-1

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

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

CD.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

3. Adoption of Agenda

#25-2

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we adopt the agenda as presented.”

CD.

4. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

#25-3

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that the Minutes of Council held on December 17th, 2024, be accepted as presented.”

CD.

5. Delegations/Public Presentation

6. Staff & Committee Reports

• Road Supervisor

- Winter Works – All equipment in working order. 500 tonnes of sand used to date. Cottage Road plowed and sanded 14 times this winter season.
- EARS Meeting – Meeting held Jan 14th to discuss preparation of the amalgamated tender.
- Amalgamated Tender
 - Surface treatment discussion this year: Looking at doing single layers on Cemetery Road from Watsons Road to Ritter Bridge, Mccarrel Lake Road from Highway 638 to Watson Road and Maple Leaf Road from highway 17B to the Cul-de-sac. Double layer surface treatment on Cemetery Road from Ritter Bridge to Bar River Road and joint with Laird Township Bar River Road from train tracks to a point still TBD.
 - Ice Cube – Construction started for winter 2025, should be open soon.
 - Grader Repair – Grader needs repair. Parts have been ordered.

b) Leisure Services Coordinator

- Sportsplex – Minor issues with the Olympia & ECO Ice system over the holidays
- Proposed 2025 Activities/Events – Not finalized.

c) Fire Chief

- Emergency Calls – Vehicle Fire & Structure Fire, Echo Bay; MVC, Laird Twp.
- Fire Hall Maintenance – additional dryer unit for bunker gear storage area. Training area painting in the spring and a deep clean are on the list for this year.
- Equipment Maintenance – All equipment in working order
- Training – First Aid and CPR Recerts and BLS training for the department.
- Personnel – Nothing new
- New Business – Received various specs from suppliers for the new fire truck. Deciding which design and features best suit our department going forward. Will have package together next month.
- Fire Protection Grant: Successful funding application for cancer prevention \$8,230.40

d) Treasurer’s Report

#25-4

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Treasurer to pay bills for December 2024:

Invoices: \$416,423.20
Payroll: \$57,311.58
Total: \$473,734.78.”

CD.

Councillor Hansen declared a conflict and left Council Chambers.

#25-5

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we authorize to pay Tiffany Fleming \$500.00 for the 2024 CEMC Honorarium.”

CD.

Councillor Hansen returned to the Council Chamber.

#25-6

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Treasurer to pay all outstanding 2024 invoices.”

CD.

#25-7

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we accept the reports from the Treasurer’s Statement of Elected Officials summarizing council remuneration and expenses for 2024.”

CD.

#25-8

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

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

CD.

e) Cemetery Board – Next meeting January 27th at 7:30pm

f) Planning Board

- E2024-15 - Applicant Walling

#25-9

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that this Council recommends approval of the lot addition for Application #2024-15, Applicant Walling.”

CD.

g) Police Detachment Board – Next meeting January 27th at 7:00pm

h) Algoma District Services Administration Board – Meeting January 9th – moving forward with two 5-unit seniors complexes in Blind River.

i) Algoma District Municipal Association

j) Landfill/Recycling

k) Sewer and Water – Next OCWA Quarterly scheduled for January 29th at 10:30am.

7. By-Laws

#25-2239 Borrowing By-law

#25-10

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Clerk to draft By-law #25-2239 being a by-law to authorize temporary borrowing to meet expenditures of the Township of Macdonald, Meredith & Aberdeen Additional for the year ending December 31, 2025.”

CD.

#25-11

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we give By-law #25-2239 its first and second reading.”

CD.

#25-12

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“RESOLVED that we give By-law #25-2239 its third and final reading.”

CD.

#25-2240 Procedural By-law

#25-13

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that we authorize the CAO/Clerk to draft By-law #25-2240, cited as the Procedural By-law, being a By-law to establish rules governing the proceedings of Council, the calling of Meetings and the conduct of Members, Staff and the Public.”

CD.

#25-14

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we give By-law #25-2240 its first and second reading.”

CD.

#25-15

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we give By-law #25-2240 its third and final reading.”

CD.

#25-2241 Interim Tax By-law

#25-16

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“RESOLVED that we authorize the CAO/Clerk to draft By-law #25-2241 being a By-law to levy certain interim rates, taxes and charges for the year 2025.”

CD.

#25-17

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that we give By-law #25-2241 its first and second reading.”

CD.

8. Unfinished Business

9. New Business

- 2025 Council Meeting schedule

#25-18

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we approve the Council meeting schedule for 2025 as presented.”

CD.

- Strategic Plan Alignment: Priority Projects Discussion – All member happy with the direction we are heading as a municipality. Will continue to evaluate opportunities with our Sportsplex property. We will also look at a comprehensive review of job descriptions.
- Officers & Servants – Midterm Review & Discussion – Discussed a possible shuffle of Council reps to different departments. No changes made at this immediate time.
- Council Remuneration – Treasurers Report 2024 – See above
- Joint Meeting with Laird – Looking at late February – Exact date yet to TBD.
- AMCTO Employment Law & Human Resources Course

#25-19

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“RESOLVED that we authorize the CAO/Clerk to participate in the AMCTO Employment Law and Human Resource Course, registration fee \$1,669.00.”

CD.

- High powered rifle ban – Discussion about whether to look at implementing a by-law to address.
 - CAO/Clerk to reach out to neighboring municipalities to see if they have a similar by-law and how they enforce it. Will follow up with more information at future meeting.
- Building Permits

#25-20

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that we acknowledge the Chief Building Official approved building permits to Chris Alton to build a single-family dwelling with attached garage and to the Cooperative Regionale Denipissing – Sudbury to replace soffit and fascia.”

CD.

10. Presenting, Referring or Passing of Account

11. Closed Session-Permissive

#25-23

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that this Council proceed into Closed Session at 8:45 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;
- c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board;”

CD.

- Discussed a potential land acquisition and a Human Resource issue.

#25-24

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we come out of closed session at 9:20 p.m. and continue our Regular Council meeting.”

CD.

12. Correspondence

- FONOM – RE: Statement of Remuneration and Expenses for Lynn Watson

#25-21

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“RESOLVED that we accept the statement of remuneration and expenses paid to FONOM Board Member Lynn Watson for the year ending December 31, 2024, as presented.”

CD.

- FONOM – RE: Financial Sustainability in Child Welfare

#25-22

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“WHEREAS the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) has passed a resolution advocating for financial sustainability in child welfare to address critical funding challenges facing Children’s Aid Societies across Ontario;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Macdonald, Meredith & Aberdeen Additional Council supports the FONOM resolution regarding financial sustainability in child welfare and its call for the Government of Ontario to address funding shortfalls, undertake a service review, and develop a Northern Strategy for child welfare;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution, along with FONOM's original resolution (attached), be forwarded to the Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, and other relevant stakeholders.”

CD.

- MNR – RE: Decision on Discussion Paper: Regulating Commercial Scale Geologic Carbon Storage
- Matthew’s Memorial Hospital Association – RE: Thank you for support
 - Items c & d – received as information.

13. Mayor & Councillors Comments

- Mayor Watson – send letter to MTO, MOI & other agencies looking for support to replace the Echo Lake Road bridge that services the unincorporated area.

14. Passing of Confirmatory By-law

#25-25

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we pass By-law #25-2242 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the meeting of Council held on January 14, 2025.”

CD.

15. Adjournment

#25-26

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that this Council shall now adjourn to February 4, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. or until the call of the chair.”

CD.

THAT we accept the minutes this 4th day of February 2025.

MAYOR

CAO/CLERK