

REGULAR MINUTES
TOWNSHIP OF MACDONALD, MEREDITH & ABERDEEN ADDITIONAL
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 4, 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, Trisha Daynard

1. Call Meeting to Order

#25-27

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

#25-28

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we adopt the agenda as presented.”

CD.

4. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

#25-29

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that the Minutes of Council held on January 14th, 2025, be accepted as presented.”

CD.

5. Delegations/Public Presentation

6. Staff & Committee Reports

a) Road Supervisor

- Winter Works – 750 tonnes of sand used to date. Cottage road plowed 18 times.
- Amalgamated Tender
 - Surface Treatment – Single layer application on Cemetery Road from Watson to Ritter Bridge. Mccarrel Lake Road from 638 to Watson Road and Maple Leaf Road from the highway to the Cul de sac. Double layer on Cemetery Road from Ritter Bridge to Bar River Road. Joint with Laird: Bar River Road to Cemetery Road.

#25-30

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“RESOLVED that we authorize the Road Superintendent to submit the 2025 Amalgamated tender as presented.” See attached.

CD.

- Equipment Repair
 - Backhoe stabilizing arm needed replacement. Grader repair postponed until truck 12-5 is back from getting leaf springs replaced.

b) Leisure Services Coordinator

- Sportsplex
- Sylvan Valley Hall

#25-31

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that we authorize the use of the Sylvan Valley Hall on February 22, 2025, for the Sylvan Valley Retro Ride and plow a safe parking area for participants, no charge.”

CD.

- Proposed Activities/Events 2025 – Calendar of Events for 2025 presented.
- Echo Bay Hall Resignation – Posting for Hall Caretaker and Part-Time Arena Caretaker

#25-32

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we accept the resignation letter from Curt Silver as the Part-Time Echo Bay Hall Caretaker effective February 19, 2025;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that that CAO/Clerk be authorized to post and fill the Echo Bay Hall Caretaker and Part-Time Arena Caretaker positions as soon as possible.”

CD.

c) Fire Chief

- Emergency Calls – Gas Leak and CO Call in Echo Bay, Vehicle Fire on Highway 17 and Chimney fire in Laird.
- Fire Hall Maintenance - Ongoing
- Equipment Maintenance – All equipment in working order
- Training – February is continuing with Fire AID and CPR recertification and BLS training.
- Personnel – Nothing new
- New Business – New pumper package (deferred to next meeting)
 - Fire Agreement with Laird – draft agreement to be discussed with Laird Council.

#25-35

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that Council authorizes the Mayor and Clerk to enter into a Fire Services Agreement with Laird Township for the provision of fire suppression services. The initial term of the agreement shall be from January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, with all terms and conditions as outlined in the recently amended agreement.”

CD.

d) Treasurer’s Report

#25-34

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

- January 27th Meeting Update
- Cemetery By-law #25-2243 received from Board for Review – See below
- User Fee for Services By-law #23-2176 – Schedule “I” Cemeteries – Setting Niche pricing & fee review

#25-36

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that Council accepts the recommendation of the Cemetery Board and approves the update to Fee Schedule 'I' – Cemeteries, as an amendment to By-law #23-2176, being the Fees for Services or Use of Property By-law. This update reflects the addition of pricing for niches sales and interments. The revised fee schedule shall come into effect on March 1, 2025.”

CD.

f) Planning Board

- The January meeting was cancelled due to the weather. Rescheduled for February 5th.

g) Police Detachment Board

- January 27th Meeting Update
- R.I.D.E. Grant

#25-37

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that Council authorizes the CAO/Clerk to submit the R.I.D.E. Grant application on behalf of the Sault Ste. Marie O.P.P. Detachment Board, as required through the Transfer Payment Ontario (TPON) system.”

CD.

h) Algoma District Services Administration Board

- Meeting Minutes November 28, 2024

#25-38

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we accept the Algoma District Administration Board Meeting minutes from November 28, 2024, meeting as presented.”

CD.

i) Algoma District Municipal Association – Next meeting in April

j) Landfill/Recycling

- Groundwater & Surface Water Monitoring, Trigger Mechanisms and Contingency Plan

#25-39

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“RESOLVED that we accept the Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring, Trigger Mechanisms, and Contingency Plan as submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) by Kresin Engineering on behalf of the municipality.”

CD.

k) Sewer and Water

- OCWA Quarterly Meeting January 29, 2024 – Update
- Environmental Centre Condition Overview

#25-40

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that we accept the environmental Centre Condition Overview as presented by Kresin Engineering.”

CD.

- Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program – Health & Safety Water Stream -Webinar Cancelled until after Provincial Election

7. By-Laws

#25-2241 Interim Tax By-law

#25-41

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

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

CD.

#25-2243 Cemetery By-law

#25-33

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we give By-law #25-2243 its first and second reading.”

CD.

8. Unfinished Business

9. New Business

a) Joint Meeting with Laird – Proposed dates February 13th or 27th. Items for the agenda.

b) AMCTO – MFIPPA & Privacy Workshop

#25-42

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“RESOVLED that we authorize the Treasurer/Deputy Clerk to participate in the AMCTO MFIPPA & Privacy Workshop on April 15th, 2025, registration fee \$369.00. + HST.”

CD.

c) Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing – 2025 Northeast Municipal Finance and Administration Forum – March 19th & 20th, Azilda, ON.

#25-43

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that we authorize the CAO/Clerk to attend the 2025 Northeast Municipal Finance and Administration Forum on March 19th and 20th in Azilda, ON., registration fee \$75.00.”

CD.

10. Presenting, Referring or Passing of Account

11. Closed Session-Permissive

#25-46

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that this Council proceed into Closed Session at 8:23 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, Human Resource issue and a form 357 application.

#25-47

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“RESOLVED that we come out of closed session at 8:30 p.m. and continue our Regular Council meeting.”

CD.

#25-48

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“WHEREAS Council has received an application for the adjustment of taxes for the 2024 taxation year, accompanied by a letter from Agricorp confirming that the property in question has been approved under the Farm Property Class Tax Rate Program for the 2024 year;

AND WHEREAS the letter from Agricorp states that while the property has been approved for inclusion in the Farm Property Class Tax Rate Program, the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) does not have the authority to retroactively change the property classification for the prior tax year;

AND WHEREAS under Section 357(1)(a) of the Municipal Act, 2001, a municipality has the authority to adjust the property tax classification accordingly;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves the tax adjustment for the property in question for the 2024 taxation year to reflect its classification under the Farm Property Class Tax Rate Program;

AND FURTHER THAT the necessary adjustments be made by the municipal tax department in accordance with legislative requirements.”

CD.

12. Correspondence

- a) Algoma Public Health – Meeting Minutes October 23, 2024

#25-44

Moved by: Adam Chevis

Seconded by: Shelly Bailey

“RESOLVED that we accept the Algoma Public Health meeting minutes from October 23, 2024, as presented.”

CD.

- b) FONOM – RE: Expanding EPR to the ICI Sector

#25-45

Moved by: Parker Brockelbank

Seconded by: Derek Hansen

“WHEREAS under Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box, producers are fully accountable and financially responsible for their products and packaging once they reach their end of life and are disposed of, but only for ‘eligible’ sources;

AND WHEREAS ‘ineligible’ sources, for which producers are not responsible, include businesses, places of worship, daycares, campgrounds, public-facing and internal areas of municipal-owned buildings, and not-for-profit organizations such as shelters and food banks;

AND WHEREAS should a municipality continue to provide services to the ‘ineligible’ sources, the municipality will be required to oversee the collection, transportation, and processing of the recycling, assuming 100% of the costs;

AND WHEREAS these costs will further burden municipal finances and potentially divert resources away from vital infrastructure projects;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Macdonald, Meredith & Aberdeen additional hereby requests that the Province of Ontario amend Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box to ensure that producers are responsible for the end-of-life management of recyclable products from **all** sources;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, MPP Mike Mantha, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)."
CD.

13. Mayor & Councillors Comments

14. Passing of Confirmatory By-law

#25-49

Moved by: Shelly Bailey

Seconded by: Adam Chevis

“RESOLVED that we pass By-law #25-2244 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the meeting of Council held on February 4, 2025.”

CD.

15. Adjournment

#25-50

Moved by: Derek Hansen

Seconded by: Parker Brockelbank

“RESOLVED that this Council shall now adjourn to February 18, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. or until the call of the chair.”

CD.

THAT we accept the minutes this 18th day of February 2025.

MAYOR

CAO/CLERK