



Minutes of a **Regular Council Meeting** held on Tuesday, February 9th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m via electronic attendance or phone attendance in Virginiatown, Ontario.

PRESENT:

MAYOR: Matt Reimer

COUNCILLORS: Councillor Louanne Caza
Councillor Wendy K. Weller
Councillor Bonita Culhane
Councillor Annie Toupin-Keft

ALSO PRESENT:

CLERK-TREASURER: Karine Pelletier

AUDIENCE: 4 Members of the Public

1. **Opening of Regular Meeting by the Head of Council / Ouverture de la reunion par le Maire.**
2. **Additions/Deletions/Adoption of the Agenda/Ajouts/Suppression/Adoption de l'ordre du jour.**

Moved by Louanne Caza
Seconded by Annie Toupin-Keft

35/2021
Agenda Adoption

THAT the agenda of the Regular Meeting of Council held on Tuesday, February 9th, 2021 be adopted as presented with the additions #9 (e) resignation of Bookkeeper & #11 (b) borrowing By-Law.

Carried

3. **Disclosure of Conflict of Interest / Déclaration de conflit d'intérêt :**
 - Mayor Reimer declared a conflict of interest in Agenda #13 Closed meeting – Curling Club Letter
 - Councillor Louanne Caza declared a conflict of Interest in Agenda #13 Closed meeting – Cost of Living Increase for the employees for the year 2021.

4. Minutes of Previous Meetings / Procès-verbal des réunions précédente

Moved by Bonita Culhane
Seconded by Wendy Weller

**36/2021
Council Meeting**

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on Tuesday, January 12th, 2021 be adopted as presented.

Carried

Moved by Louanne Caza
Seconded by Bonita Culhane

**37/2021
Special Meeting**

THAT the minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on January 8th, 2021 be adopted as presented.

Carried

Moved by Wendy Weller
Seconded by Bonita Culhane

**38/2021
Special Meeting**

THAT the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on January 28th, 2021, be adopted as presented.

Carried

Moved by Bonita Culhane
Seconded by Louanne Caza

**39/2021
Emergency Meeting**

THAT the Minutes of the Emergency Management Meeting held on November 9th, 2020 be adopted as presented.

Carried

Moved by Bonita Culhane
Seconded by Louanne Caza

**40/2021
Emergency Meeting**

THAT the Minutes of the Emergency Management Meeting held on January 5th, 2021 be adopted as presented.

Carried

5. Matters arising from the minutes / Affaires découlant du process-verbal: None

6. Deputation / Délégations : None

7. Correspondence, Information / Correspondance, Information

- a) Medical Officer of Health – Covid 19 Vaccine Distribution
- b) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Declaration of Emergency under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection
- c) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing - 2019 Financial Information Return (FIR)
- d) Tribunals Ontario – Second Declaration of Emergency and Boards Updates / Tribunaux decisionnels
- e) Ministry of Transportation – The province has expanded the on-road opportunities for off-road vehicle
- f) FONOM – ROMA Conference
- g) Ministry of Finance – Status of Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) first quarter payment.
- h) Timiskaming Health Unit – Masking Requirements
- i) Tribunals Ontario – Digital approach to provide services

8. Council Reports / Rapports du Conseil

Mayor Reimer

1) Ministry of Transportation

Called the ministry 3 weeks ago to inform them of our concern about the condition of Highway 66 from the Quebec border to west of Larder Lake.

He was informed that 2 members were sent to inspect the highway and they reported that they did not see any potholes. They now understand the problem is with the resurface material used by the contractor. The supervisor said he will go and inspect it himself. I also asked if any chemical analysis was done on the material. My concern was that the spray was covering the bottom of vehicles and could this material enter the air intake for the interior heating system putting possible hazardous vapors into the vehicles.

He informed me that he would send a report when he gets results from his enquiries and testing. To this point I have not received any reports.

I will take samples to a lab and see if they can analyze the material.

He also informed me that if your vehicle suffers damage you can file a claim with the ministry. These claim forms are available on line at the Ministry and the Township will provide the claim forms at our office.

2) Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

At the ROMA conference I related to the ministry our concern about the lack of a water control agency in north east Ontario. Many years ago, the Ministry promised to replace the dam at Raven River with a weir. Should the dam break Both Virginiatown and the town of Larder Lake would suffer severe damage to docks, and boat launches. Fishing and shoreline wildlife would also be affected.

As you may know that at the South East end of Larder Lake we have The McGarry Township Forest Conservation Reserve. Although it is called the McGarry reserve we do not have the authority for controlling its use or enforcing rules and legislation that controls it. It is managed under the jurisdiction of the Kirkland Lake Area Supervisor of the Ministry of Natural Resources. Recently Premier Ford passed Bill 229 which gave him and his Party the authority to permit/stop development as they please.

3) ROMA Conference

At the Roma Conference I was fortunate to meet with the Minister of Infrastructure. Our Township has applied through the Green Stream project for a Program to upgrade our drinking water distribution system and sewage system upgrade. If the Township is successful in getting the funding the Township share would be \$628,354.00 of a total cost of \$2,356,033. Due to limited access to revenue, we asked the Ministry to minimize our cost and make this project a success. We will hear from them shortly.

4) Ministry of Energy

The Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines was another organization I had the privilege to meet with at the Roma Conference. It was a great opportunity to relate to the ministry about the problems we have experienced since the closure of the Kerr Addison mine. They were very interested about the discharge of water from the mine. Also of interest was the tailings that are in and around the east end of Larder Lake. They called the next day and requested a township map where we identified the location of the mine runoff and the tailings locations. We sent the map and several photographs taken along the 5-minute trail. We are also providing them with results of chemical tests that have been conducted over the past 20 years. They phoned the second day and informed us that they passed the information to the current mining rights owner and they immediately agreed to take action and hire an environmental firm to take samples of water coming from the drill casings. He also committed to hire a contractor to cap the casings to prevent water from flowing from the mine. The Ministry promised to forward any updates when they receive them.

Councilor Wendy Weller

1) Property By-Law

Good evening,

By-Law Officer report for Jan. 2021

Animal complaints – Dog caught in trap on Kearns beach -13/1/21 - under investigation- Animal complaint – Dog off leach-14/01/21 -resolved

Business complaint – Customer refuse to wear mask – 22/01/21 - resolved by direction from Timiskaming Health Unit

Clean & Clear By-Law complaint – By-Law No#2016-17 2.4 “Domestic waste” – Accumulation, deposits, leaving litter, remains, rubbish, garbage, trash. - Under investigation by the By-Law Officer

The committee has 2 opening for committee members please phone township office to receive form to apply.

The committee and building inspector have resolved the complaint for container. The committee asks the residents to please ask the town staff (Clerk) if there are any By-Laws or restrictions in a passed By-Law before you act.

The committee would like council’s permission to work with the Clerk on a By-Law for SEA/Can/Shipping containers.

Thank you

2) Strategic Planning

Strategic Planning Committee has 1 vacant seat, if you would like to apply to fill the seat please contact staff at municipal office for forms.

Strategic Planning Committee will be meeting on the fourth Tuesday of the month.

At present time the consultant hired to update Official Plan and Zoning By-Law will be setting up meetings for both public and Council. Will keep public up to date on when and how

Councilor Annie Toupin-Keft

1) Public Works

Good evening,

I only have one report tonight,

Besides the snow removal, Public Works has been busy working on the washrooms the Community Centre, they are in the middle of installing flooring and new bathroom stalls.

They have also been busy doing their day-to-day business.

Stay warm guys, its pretty cold out there.

Councilor Bonita Culhane

1) Recreation

Good evening,

Thank you for taking the time to attend this meeting virtually. Once we are out of lockdown, I do hope the Recreation Committee is able to meet. They are at a basic standstill at this time. We have a number of concerns for up coming events which needs to be discussed and also planned for. We welcome public input and will consider all ideas. Hopefully we can meet March 02, 2021 for our Regular monthly meetings.

2) Fire-Police

Lockdown has affected the McGarry Volunteer Fire Department. The meetings, training and practices are currently on hold. Public work employees are taking care of the maintenance and sanitizing of chatters and equipment. This group of volunteers have not nor will not hesitate to respond to a call. McGarry is fortunate to have dedicated men and women who give their time so freely.

Councilor Louanne Caza

1) Communication Committee

Good evening everyone,

I am reporting on the communication Committee tonight. We have had 2 meeting to date. One on January 28th, 2021 and the other one on February 3rd, 2021. Our committee consist of all member of council and our Mayor, the agendas are posted at least 48 hours in advance. Our first 2 meetings were Clerked by the Integrity Commissioner Peggy Lovelace and most of our meeting was conducted in closed session.

2) Tourism

The Tourist Committee has not had a tourist meeting in a while due to Covid-19. I am looking forward to having a regular meeting in March even if we have to do it by a telephone meeting like we are having now. I think we need to start moving forward.

9. New Business:

Moved by Louanne Caza
Seconded by Wendy Weller

41/2021
Grants Turn around time

WHEREAS we have been getting numerous announcements of available grants; and

WHEREAS we are very appreciative of the opportunity to apply for these grants; however, the turn around time for applications is very short and restrictive for small municipalities with few employees;

NOW THEREFORE we, the Corporation of the Township of McGarry, send a letter to the Hon. Steve Clarke, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing acknowledging the appreciation of the grant but requesting that the application deadline on any further grants have a longer turn around time; and

FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to A.M.O., F.O.N.O.M. and all municipalities in Ontario.

Carried

Moved by Wendy Weller
Seconded by Bonita Culhane

42/2021
Treasurer Report

THAT the report of the Treasurer prepared under section 284 of the Municipal Act be accepted.

Carried

Moved by Bonita Culhane
Seconded by Wendy Weller

43/2021
OFC

WHEREAS THE Ontario Fire College (OFC) is one of the primary sources of certified training for Ontario Firefighters; and

AND WHEREAS the OFC has built a reputation of integrity, credibility, and reliability in providing some of the best training to our Fire Services within the Province of Ontario; and

AND WHEREAS the OFC has been used to train and certify both Volunteer, Part-time and Career firefighters throughout Ontario; and

AND WHEREAS the OFC gives Ontario Firefighters another option other than Regional Training Centres to obtain national Fire Protection Association (NFPA) certifications; and

AND WHEREAS the OFC is the most cost-effective method to certify Firefighters to NFPA Standards in Ontario; and

AND WHEREAS the Ontario Government enacted and revoked Ontario Regulations 379/18: Firefighters Certification in 2018; and

AND WHEREAS when the Ontario Government enacted and revoked Ontario Regulation 379/18; Firefighters Certification, it was made known by the office of the Solicitor General that the act would be amended and brought back in the future; and

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McGarry hereby requests that the Province of Ontario reserve their decision to close the Ontario Fire College as the OFC is one of the best and most cost-effective methods for municipalities to train their firefighters which assists us in protecting our residents; and

AND FURTHER that this resolution be directed to the Premier of Ontario; and forwarded to the Solicitor General of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ontario Fire Marshall, and John Vanthof-MPP Timiskaming-Cochrane.

Carried

Moved by Louanne Caza
Seconded by Wendy Weller

44/2021
MIS Insurance

THAT Council accepts the Renewal Proposal from MIS Municipal Insurance Services for the renewal of the 2021-2022 Insurance at a cost of \$76,477.00 plus HST.

Carried

Moved by Wendy Weller
Seconded by Louanne Caza

45/2021
Resignation

THAT Council accept with regrets the resignation of the Bookkeeper – Francine Plante effective February 5th, 2021.

Carried

10. Passing of Accounts / Adoption des comptes

Moved by Wendy Weller

46/2021

Seconded by Bonita Culhane

Accounts

THAT the following accounts be approved for payment:

JANUARY 2021

Payroll	\$ 33,859.85
General	\$ 128,015.57

Carried

11. Passing of By-Laws:

Moved by Wendy Weller
Seconded by Louanne Caza

47/2021
By-Law 2021-13

THAT a By-Law of the Corporation of the Township of McGarry Respecting the Management, Protection and Identification of Animals be read three times and passed the 9th day of February and numbered By-Law 2021-13.

Carried

Moved by Wendy Weller
Seconded by Bonita Culhane

48/2021
By-Law 2021-01

That a By-Law to authorize the temporary borrowing be considered read three times and passed this 9th day of February and numbered By-Law 2021-01.

Carried

12. a) Submitted Questions / Questions soumises

b) Audience Questions / Questions de l'auditoire

- Mrs. Muriel Rose stated that she had not received a written answer on her questions she submitted to the Township on January 27, 2021 regarding the Tourist Centre and the students taking care of the private property owned by the Curling Club - The Clerk replied that she will be getting an answer in the coming days.

- Mrs. Evelyn Smith asked if the Financial Report from the 2019 Country Jamboree was available to the public – The Clerk replied yes it was.

13. Closed Meeting

Moved by Wendy Weller
Seconded by Louanne Caza

49/2021
Closed Meeting

THAT Council go into closed session at 7:57 p.m.

To discuss under the Municipal Act – Section 239(2) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees.

Carried

Councillor Caza left the meeting while a discussion took place for the Cost-of-living increase for the employees took place. She returned to the meeting after the discussion was over.

Mayor Reimer left the meeting while a discussion took place regarding the Tourist Centre and the Curling Club property. He returned to the meeting after the discussion was over.

Moved by Bonita Culhane
Seconded by Wendy Weller

50/2021
Out of Close

THAT Council come out of closed session at 9:18 p.m.

Carried

14. Confirmation By-Law / Confirmation des règlements municipaux

Moved by Bonita Culhane
Seconded by Wendy Weller

51/2020
Wishart Minutes

THAT Council purchases the Silver Package 2 from Wishart Law Firm for legal fees services for a cost of \$6,000.00 plus HST.

Carried

Moved by Bonita Culhane
Seconded by Wendy Weller

52/2021
By-Law 2021-11

THAT a By-Law to amend By-Law 2020-08 being a By-Law to establish pay grid's for employees be read three times and passed this 9th day of February and numbered By-Law 2021-11.

Carried

Moved by Bonita Culhane
Seconded by Wendy Weller

53/2021
By-Law 2021-12

THAT a By-Law to amend By-Law 2020-09 being a By-Law to establish remuneration and benefits for members of Council be read three times and passed this 9th day of February and numbered By-Law 2021-12.

Defeated

Moved by Wendy Weller
Seconded by Louanne Caza

54/2021
By-Law 2021-14

THAT a By-Law to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Meeting of Council be read three times and passed this 9th day of February and numbered By-Law 2021-14.

Carried

15. Ajournement / Clôture de l'assemblée

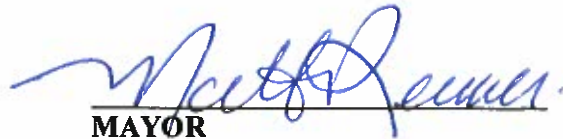
Moved by Wendy Weller
Seconded by Bonita Culhane

55/2021
Adjournment

THAT this meeting be adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Carried

The next regular Council Meeting will be Tuesday, March 9th, 2021 at 7:00p.m.
La réunion du Conseil suivante sera le mardi le 9 mars, 2021 à 19h00.


MAYOR
CLERK-TREASURER