



Minutes of a **Regular Council Meeting** held on Tuesday, November 16th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m in the Council Chambers and via electronic attendance, Virginiatown, Ontario.

PRESENT:

MAYOR: Matt Reimer

COUNCILLORS: Councillor Louanne Caza
Councillor Bonita Culhane
Councillor Wendy K. Weller

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Councillor Annie Toupin-Keft

ALSO PRESENT:

CLERK-TREASURER: Karine Pelletier

AUDIENCE: 8 Members of the Public

1. Opening of Regular Meeting by the Head of Council.

The Mayor opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and took a roll call.

2. Additions/Deletions/Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Louanne Caza
Seconded by Bonita Culhane

**276/2021
Agenda**

THAT the agenda for the Regular Council Meeting of November 16th, 2021 be adopted with additions in New business #9 (f) use of gym or meeting room for foods hampers, in close session use of Tourist Centre and in closed session request for a personal matter as per Council's request.

Carried

3. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

- Councillor Weller declared a conflict of interest on Item #9 (d) – Request for a donation for Christmas hampers.

4. Minutes of Previous Meetings

Moved by Louanne Caza
Seconded by Bonita Culhane

277/2021
Council Meeting

THAT the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on October 12, 2021 be adopted.

Carried

Moved by Bonita Culhane
Seconded by Louanne Caza

278/2021
Special Meeting

THAT the minutes for the Special Council Meeting held on October 20, 2021 and October 28, 2021 be adopted.

Carried

5. Matters arising from the minutes: None

6. Deputation

Erin Reed from J.L. Richards & associates Limited – Made a presentation to Council regarding a Minor Variance application that was received on September 29th, 2021 and was seeking direction from Council. Council requested more time and more information before making a decision.

7. Correspondence & Information

- a) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Enhanced Vaccine Certificate with QR Code.
- b) Tribunals Ontario / ARB Digital Delivery Initiative.
- c) Minister of Finance - 2022 Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund.
- d) MPAC – Operating Budget 2022.

8. Council Reports

Councilor Wendy Weller

The next Strategic Committee Meeting will be held on November 23, 2021.

Councilor Bonita Culhane:

Recreation Committee:

Good evening,

Thank you for attending.

The Recreation Committee is looking forward to seeing all enjoy family fun night Saturday November 20, 2021. Time to start will be at 5:00 p.m. at McGarry Tourist Centre. Enjoy hot dogs

and s'mores with the Recreation Committee. Cozy fire pits thanks to McGarry Volunteer Fire Department and hot chocolate thanks to our local Legion the Tree lighting and Memory Tree dedication thanks to the Tourist Committee and have an enjoyable visit with Santa. A Box will be available to drop off all non-perishable goods to help everyone have a Merry Christmas.

Fire:

Thank you to all our Volunteer Fire people who took the time and effort to attend the local Remembrance Day Service. We as residents of McGarry are very fortunate to have the Volunteers who give their time so freely.

Please be careful and cautious around the holidays so that they can spend time with their families.

The turnout for the Halloween trick or treat was once again appreciated by all.

Councilor Louanne Caza

Tourism:

Good evening, everyone,

The Tourist Committee have been busy planning our McGarry Tree Lighting / McGarry's Children Christmas Party event being held this Saturday November 20th, 2021 at the Tourist Centre. This event is being held in partnership with the Recreation Committee.

The festivities start at 5:00 p.m. with hot dogs provided by the Recreation Committee, hot chocolate provided by the Legion Branch 384. There will also be 3 fire pits for s'mores provided by the McGarry Fire Department. The firemen and firewomen will be manning the fires. The firewood has been donated by Kearns Cartage. (Mr, Justin Blueman).

The Tree Lighting will take place at 5:30 p.m. The memory angels received to date will all be placed in the kiosk before the tree lighting ceremony. Angels can be purchased at the township or from any member of the Tourist Committee or the Recreation Committee. The deadline to purchase angels is December 20, 2021. All donations will be going to the McGarry Christmas Food Hampers.

Following the Tree Lighting the Children will enjoy a visit from Santa.

The Library will have a mailbox for the little ones to leave their letters for Santa. They will also make sure they are mailed out.

All residents are welcome to attend.

From my family to yours, we wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Mayor Reimer:

Mayor Reimer announced to all that the Office Staff did a wonderful job at rectifying all of the water billing corrections. All of the adjustments are complete and most of the refunds have been issued.

Mayor also informed everyone that the Staff was now working on tax arrears collections.

9. New Business:

- a) Moved by Bonita Culhane
Seconded by Louanne Caza

279/2021
Recreation Meeting

THAT the minutes for the Recreation Committee meeting held on September 21, 2021 be approved.

Carried

- b) Moved by Louanne Caza
Seconded by Bonita Culhane

280/2021
Eye Care

WHEREAS routine eye care is critical in early detection of eye diseases like glaucoma, cataracts, and macular degeneration, and the health of eyes is critical to overall health and quality of life; and Whereas conditions that may be detected with an annual eye exam include Diabetes mellitus, Glaucoma, Cataract, Retinal disease, Amblyopia (lazy eye), Visual field defects (loss of part of the usual field of vision), Corneal disease, Strabismus (crosses eyes), Recurrent uveitis (an inflammation of the uvea, the middle layer of the eye that consists of the iris, ciliary body and choroid), Optic pathway disease; and

WHEREAS payments from OHIP have only increased 9% over the last 30 years, which has not come close to matching inflation of costs (which include rent, staff, utilities, equipment, taxes and supplies); and

WHEREAS the lack of funding makes it difficult to invest in modern technology, and newer technology means earlier detection of eye disease; and Whereas the Provincial government's refusal to formally negotiate with Optometrists for more than 30 years has forced the Optometrists to absorb approximately 173 million dollars annually in the cost to deliver eye care to Ontarians; and

WHEREAS the 2021 Ontario Budget did not address OHIP-insured eye care, Ontario Optometrists took action and voted to withdraw OHIP services starting September 1, 2021, unless the government agrees to legally-binding negotiations to fund these services at least to the cost of delivery; and

WHEREAS this job action will jeopardize good eyecare for those who need the care of an optometrist the most and will have the greatest impact on the most vulnerable groups. Children, who's lifetime ability to learn and develop depends on good vision and to the elderly, who are at the greatest risk for vision threatening ocular diseases;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Council of the Township of McGarry requests that the Provincial government recognize the value that access to quality eye care brings to all Ontarians and act now to protect it;

AND FURTHER that the Provincial government address the OHIP-insured eye care immediately and enter into legally-binding negotiations with Ontario Optometrists to fund these services at least to the cost of delivery, prior to any job action taking place;

AND FURTHER that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Premier Ford, Ontario Minister of Health Christine Elliot, MPP Dave Smith, MPP David Piccini, MPP Laurie Scott, to the Ontario Association of Optometrists, and to all municipalities in Ontario.

Carried

- c) Moved by Wendy K. Weller
Seconded by Louanne Caza

281/2021
X-Mas Hours

THAT Council has received, read and approves the memo from the Clerk-Treasurer in respect to Christmas hours of operations for the Municipal Office, Public Works Department and the Landfill site.

Carried

- d) Councillor Wendy K. Weller declared a Conflict of Interest on item #9 (d) and left the Council Chambers.

Moved by Bonita Culhane
Seconded by Louanne Caza

282/2021
Donation

THAT Council give a donation of \$500.00 to Wendy K. Weller and Ivan Pike towards the Christmas hampers for the less fortunate in our community.

Carried

Councillor Weller returned to the Council Chambers and took her seat.

- e) Moved by Wendy K. Weller
Seconded by Bonita Culhane

283/2021
Tourist Minutes

THAT the minutes for the Tourist Committee meeting held on October 6, 2021 be approved.

Carried

- f) Moved by Bonita Culhane
Seconded by Wendy K. Weller

284/2021
Tourist Minutes

THAT the minutes for the Special Tourist Committee meeting held on October 18, 2021 be approved.

Carried

g) Moved by Louanne Caza
Seconded by Bonita Culhane

285/2021
Use of Gym

THAT Council approve to let Wendy K. Weller & Ivan Pike use the gymnasium for the storage of all non-perishable items and to sort items for distribution and that all Covid-19 regulations will be followed.

Carried

10. Passing of Accounts

Moved by Wendy K. Weller
Seconded by Bonita Culhane

286/2021
Accounts

THAT the following accounts be approved for payment:

OCTOBER 2021:

Payroll: \$ 26,278.93
General: \$ 108,591.97

Carried

11. Passing of By-Laws: None

12. A) Submitted Questions: None

B) Audience Questions

- Francine Plante asked Council why she was not asked to be part of the report regarding the water billing corrections. She also asked Council why she received a response from the Lawyer to the letter she sent the Mayor, Clerk and Council. Councillor Weller responded that this was new information to her and Councillor Culhane had no comment. The Clerk responded that a Third-Party Review of the Water billing was conducted by a Firm and a report was approved by Council as well as letters sent out. The Clerk advised the resident that any further requests is to be sent in writing to the Office.
- Muriel Rose asked why there was not meeting in December and the Clerk responded that as per the last few years there is no meeting in December. If a meeting is necessary Council will hold a Special Meeting.

13. Closed Meeting

Moved by Bonita Culhane
Seconded by Wendy K. Weller

287/2021
Closed Session

THAT Council goes into closed session at 8:02 p.m. Under the Ontario Municipal Act 239 (2) (a) the security of the property of the municipality or local board; (b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees; (e) litigation, including communications necessary for that purpose;

Carried

Moved by Wendy K. Weller
Seconded by Bonita Culhane

288/2021
Out Closed

THAT Council come out of closed session at 9:34 p.m.

Carried

Moved by Wendy K. Weller
Seconded by Louanne Caza

289/2021
By-Law Officer

THAT Council has read the report regarding the By-Law Officer and directs the Clerk-Treasurer to re-advertise with changes.

Carried

Moved by Bonita Culhane
Seconded by Louanne Caza

290/2021
Library Separation

THAT Council directs the Clerk-Treasurer to inform the Chair of the Public Library that they are no longer a municipal agency therefore they are not incorporated under the Township's umbrella and that the McGarry Public Library must be incorporated.

Carried

Moved by Bonita Culhane
Seconded by Louanne Caza

291/2021
Kemp, Elliot & Blair LLP

THAT Council retain Kemp, Elliot & Blair LLP for a six (6) year term (2002 to 2025) for Municipal Auditing Services.

Carried

Moved by Louanne Caza
Seconded by Bonita Culhane

292/2021
Vacation Policy

THAT Council has read the Report regarding Vaccination Policy from the Health Unit and does not wish to implement a vaccination policy for the Township of McGarry at this time.

Carried

Moved by Bonita Culhane
Seconded By Wendy K. Weller

293/2021
Communications Committee

THAT Council act on the recommendation brought forward by the Communications Committee as per their discussion with Meunier Carrier Lawyers.

Carried

14. Confirmation By-Law

Moved by Bonita Culhane
Seconded by Wendy K. Weller

294/2021
By-Law 2021-56

THAT a By-Law to confirm the proceedings of Council be read three times and passed this 16th day of November and numbered By-Law 2021-56.

Carried

15. Adjournment / Cloture de Assemblée

Moved by Bonita Culhane
Seconded by Wendy K. Weller

295/2021
Adjournment

THAT this meeting be adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Carried

The next regular Council Meeting will be Tuesday, January 11th, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
La réunion du Conseil suivante sera le mardi le 11 novembre, 2022 à 19h00.


MAYOR


CLERK-TREASURER