

#5(a)



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held on Tuesday, November 14th, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in person in the meeting room or by phone.

1. Opening of Meeting and Call to Order:

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

2. Roll Call: Mayor took a roll call:

<u>Attendance:</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Mayor Bonita Culhane	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Louanne Caza	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Francine Plante	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Clerk-Treasurer – Karine Pelletier
Scott Lemke – Massey Law
Public Works Superintendent – Mark Brown

Members of the audience present: 26

3. Adoption of the Agenda and Addendum:

Moved by Councillor Louanne Caza
Seconded by Councillor Francine Plante

318/2023
Adoption of Agenda

THAT the agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council held on November 14, 2023, be adopted with addition to:

#5 Delegation – Scott Lemke from Massey Law

New business #10 (v) – Request to Celebrate Christmas mass in meeting room, #10 (w) Municipal Finance Officer' association of Ontario – 2024 Municipal Membership and #10 (x) Filling of Council Vacancy.

Deletion of #10 New Business #10 (q) – Royal bank of Canada – Resolution of Banking

4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest: None

5. Minutes of Previous Meetings :

Moved by Councillor Louanne Caza
Seconded by Councillor Francine Plante

319/2023
Regular Minutes

THAT the minutes for the Regular Council Meeting held on October 10, 2023 be adopted.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Louanne Caza
Seconded Councillor by Francine Plante

320/2023
Special Minutes

THAT the minutes of the Special Meetings of Council held on October 16, 2023 and on October 18, 2023 be adopted.

Carried

6. Matters arising from the minutes: None

7. Deputations / Delegations:

Mr. Scott Lemke from Massey Law gave a brief explanation of the current election matters and explained the penalties set out in *Municipal Elections Act* when a candidate fails to submit a financial statement by the due date after an Election.

8. Correspondence / Information:

- a) Ministry of Finance – 2024 Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF)

9. Members Update Reports :

Mayor and Members of Council gave a verbal report.

10. New Business :

- a) Moved by Councillor Louanne Caza
Seconded by Councillor Francine Plante

321/2023
Recreation Minutes

THAT the minutes for the Recreation Committee meeting held on September 11, 2023 be approved.

Carried

- b) Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Louanne Caza

322/2023
Tourist Minutes

THAT the minutes for the Tourist Committee Meeting held on September 6, 2023 be approved.

Carried

- c) Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Louanne Caza

323/2023
Member Recreation Committee

THAT Council approves of the recommendation made by the Recreation Committee on the appointment of Alyson Nickel as a new committee member.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Louanne Caza
Seconded Councillor by Francine Plante

320/2023
Special Minutes

THAT the minutes of the Special Meetings of Council held on October 16, 2023 and on October 18, 2023 be adopted.

Carried

6. Matters arising from the minutes: None

7. Deputations / Delegations:

Mr. Scott Lemke from Massey Law gave a brief explanation of the current election matters and explained the penalties set out in *Municipal Elections Act* when a candidate fails to submit a financial statement by the due date after an Election.

8. Correspondence / Information:

- a) Ministry of Finance – 2024 Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF)

9. Members Update Reports :

Mayor and Members of Council gave a verbal report.

10. New Business :

- a) Moved by Councillor Louanne Caza
Seconded by Councillor Francine Plante

321/2023
Recreation Minutes

THAT the minutes for the Recreation Committee meeting held on September 11, 2023 be approved.

Carried

- b) Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Louanne Caza

322/2023
Tourist Minutes

THAT the minutes for the Tourist Committee Meeting held on September 6, 2023 be approved.

Carried

- c) Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Louanne Caza

323/2023
Member Recreation Committee

THAT Council approves of the recommendation made by the Recreation Committee on the appointment of Alyson Nickel as a new committee member.

Carried

- d) Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Louanne Caza

324/2023
Library Board

THAT Council have reviewed the financial quarterly report received from the Library Board.

Carried

- e) Moved by Councillor Louanne Caza
Seconded by Councillor Francine Plante

325/2023
Railway Crossing Repairs

THAT Council have read the report received from the Public Works Superintendent regarding correspondence received from Ontario Northland outlining repairs required at the train crossing on Cheminis Road and are in agreement with the repairs and the cost.

Carried

- f) ROMA 2024 Conference - No member of Council wanted to attend this Conference.

- g) Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Louanne Caza

326/2023
Christmas Hours

THAT Council have received and are in agreement with the report from the Clerk-Treasurer in respect to Christmas hours of operations for the Office Staff, Public Works Department and Landfill Site hours.

Carried

- h) Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Louanne Caza

327/2023
Grader Warranty

THAT Council have read and are in agreement with the report received from the Public Works Superintendent on purchasing the extended warranty for the grader at a cost of \$8,977.50 plus HST.

Carried

- i) Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Louanne Caza

328/2023
THU Minutes

THAT the minutes for the Timiskaming Health Unit Board of Health held on September 6, 2023 have been received.

Carried

- j) Moved by Councillor Louanne Caza
Seconded by Councillor Francine Plante

329/2023
THU Expenses

WHEREAS the method of allocation for Board of Health expenses is governed by Ontario Regulations 489/97 under the health protection and Promotion Act; and

WHEREAS the Board of Health of the Timiskaming Health Unit currently uses the most recent enumeration conducted by the Municipality Property and assessment Corporation to allocate expenses; and

WHEREAS the Board of Health of the Timiskaming Health Unit feels that changing the method of allocation to utilize the most recent Census conducted by Statistics Canada allows for a more accurate and equitable distribution of expenditures; and

WHEREAS any change in allocation method must be agreed to by all obligated municipalities; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RSOLVED that the Corporation of the Township of McGarry hereby approves the recommendation of the Timiskaming Board of Health to move to a Census based allocation for board of Health expenditures effective January 1, 2024.

Carried

- k) Moved by Councillor Louanne Caza
Seconded by Councilor Francine Plante

330/2023
MOL Recommendations

THAT Council have read the report received from Public works superintendent on the Ministry of Labour visit and recommendations.

Carried

- l) Moved by Councillor Louanne Caza
Seconded by Councillor Francine Plante

331/2023
Back Yard Chicken Policy

THAT Council have read and agrees to adopt the Backyard Chicken Policy.

Carried

- m) Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Louanne Caza

332/2023
Strategic Planning Minutes

THAT the minutes for the Strategic Planning Committee meeting held on August 29, 2023 be approved.

Carried

- n) Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Louanne Caza

333/2023
Food Basket

THAT Council have received the letter from McGarry Christmas Food Baskets and agree to a monetary donation of \$500.00.

Carried

- o) Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Louanne Caza

334/2023
Policing Minutes

THAT the minutes for the Community Policing Committee held on August 17, 2023 be approved.

Carried

- p) Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Louanne Caza

335/2023
Library Board Minutes

THAT the minutes for the Library Board meeting held on September 25, 2023 be approved.

Carried

- q) Royal Bank of Canada: Item deleted

- r) Moved by Councillor Louanne Caza
Seconded by Councillor Francine Plante

336/2023
TMSA – Shared Planning

THAT Council have read the report from Temiskaming Municipal Services Association and are in agreement with the shared planning service.

Carried

- s) Moved by Councillor Louanne Caza
Seconded by Councillor Francine Plante

337/2023
AMCTO membership

THAT Council agrees to renew the membership for Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) in the amount of \$508.50.

Carried

- t) Moved by Councillor Louanne Caza
Seconded by Councillor Francine Plante

338/2023
Poker Run

THAT Council agrees with the request submitted by the McGarry Volunteer Firefighters Association and grants them the use of the Community Centre (gymnasium, meeting room and kitchen) free of charge for the Annual Snowmobile Poker Run on Saturday, February 17, 2024.

Carried

- u) Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Louanne Caza

339/2023
Tax Write Offs 2023

THAT Council approves the write offs of the remaining taxes owing for the following accounts: 6256, 13045, 12774, 7600, 5662, 3971, 1016, 7634 and 7593 totaling \$19,465.86.

Carried

- v) Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Louanne Caza

340/2023
Christmas Mass

THAT Council grant the meeting room free of charge for the celebration of Christmas Mass with Father Stéphane Kazadi on December 24th, from 5:30 pm. to 7:15 p.m.

Carried

- w) Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Louanne Caza

341/2023
MFOA membership

THAT Council agrees to renew the membership for Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) in the amount of \$339.00.

Carried

- x) Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Louanne Caza

342/2023
Vacant Council Seat

THAT Council wish to fill vacant seat of Councillor Truchon by appointment. Council also directs the Clerk to post a notice of Council Vacancy on the Website and Facebook requesting interest individuals submit a letter of interest to the Clerk at the Township Office y 3:00 p.m. on December 4th, 2023. Interviews will be held on December 6th, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in open session in the meeting room.

Carried

11. Passing of Accounts:

Moved by Councillor Louanne Caza
Seconded by Councillor Francine Plante

343/2023
Accounts

THAT the following accounts be approved for payment:

OCTOBER 2023

Payroll: \$ 25,812.13
General: \$ 172,987.17

Carried

12. Passing of By-Laws:

Moved by Councillor Louanne Caza
Seconded by Councillor Francine Plante

344/2023
By-Law 2023-54

THAT a By-Law to establish user fees for the Township of McGarry be read three times and passed this 14th day of November 2023 and numbered By-Law 2023-54.

Carried

13. a) Submitted Questions :

- Question #1 from Mr. Andre Gagnon

1. I recently noticed that water/sewer fees went up by 10%, and wish to know when was that fee increase voted on?
2. How do you substantiate a 10% raise in user fees for this utility?
3. How will the Township use the extra funds for this increase?
4. Was there any advanced notification to all tax paying residents of this planned increase here thereby allowing your taxpayers the opportunity to express any concerns they may have?
5. A response in writing is being requested.

Question #2 from Mrs. Muriel Rose

1. Has Council received report from the Tourist Committee regarding the fundraiser breakfast held on Canada Day?
2. If not, will you be requesting a report and will it be available to the public?

Question #3 from Muriel Rose

1. At the regular meeting of Council on October 10, 2023 Item 12(a) on the agenda – Establishing New User Fee By-Law for the Township of McGarry was a user fee established for cutting of grass by the municipality on land owned by absentee landowners or landowners who are not in compliance with the “Clean Yards By-Law?”

Question #4 from Muriel Rose

1. In 2020, the residents of McGarry were told at a regular meeting of council that properties in tax arrears would be advertised for sale in the newspaper in 2023. It is now the end of 2023 and I have not seen any advertising in the newspaper. Can you give us an update on when these properties will be up for sale.

b) Audience Questions: A question period was held.

14. Confirmation By-Law:

Moved by Councillor Louanne Caza
Seconded by Councillor Francine Plante

345/2023
Confirmation By-Law

THAT a By-Law to confirm the proceedings of Council be read three times and passed this 14th day of November 2023 and numbered By-Law 2023-55.

Carried

15. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Louanne Caza
Seconded by Councillor Francine Plante

346/2023
Adjournment

THAT this meeting be adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Carried


MAYOR


CLERK-TREASURER