



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held on Tuesday, January 9th, 2024, 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"/>
Councillor Elaine Fic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Clerk-Treasurer – Karine Pelletier (Online)
Deputy Clerk – Melanie Jensen
Public Works Superintendent – Mark Brown
Bookkeeper – Debbie Monson

Members of the audience present: 10

3. Adoption of the Agenda and Addendum:

Moved by Councillor Louanne Caza	01/2024
Seconded by Councillor Elaine Fic	Adoption of Agenda

THAT the agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council held on January 9, 2024, be adopted.

Carried.

4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest: None

5. Minutes of Previous Meetings :

Moved by Councillor Louanne Caza	02/2024
Seconded by Councillor Elaine Fic	Regular Minutes

THAT the minutes for the Regular Meeting of Council held on November 14, 2023 be adopted.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Elaine Fic
Seconded Councillor by Louanne Caza

03/2024
Special Minutes

THAT the minutes of the Special Meetings of Council held on November 2, 2023, November 13, 2023, November 14, 2023, November 28, 2023, December 7, 2023, and December 12, 2023 be adopted.

Carried

6. Matters arising from the minutes: None

7. Deputations / Delegations: None

8. Correspondence / Information:

- a) Municipal Engineers Association – New Board of Directors.
- b) Ombudsman – Annual Report.
- c) Temiskaming Municipal Services Association – New Planner for the TMSA.
- d) Fire Marshal's Public Safety Council – Update.
- e) Doug Ford – Letter to the Ministry of Colleges and Universities regarding Northern Ontario's School of Medicine University's annual base funding.
- f) Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Natural Resources and Forestry – Update on Municipal Forest Fire Suppression Agreement, Apparatus Charges.
- g) Timiskaming Health Unit – Parenting in Timiskaming.
- h) Timiskaming Health Unit – Municipal Allocation Method Confirmation.
- i) John Vanthof – Year End Newsletter 2023.
- j) Municipal Property Assessment Corporation – 2024 Municipal Levy.
- k) Municipal Property Assessment Corporation – 2023 Municipal Partnership and Assessment Change Summary.
- l) The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities – Echo Project.

9. Members Update Reports :

Mayor and Members of Council gave a verbal report.

10. New Business :

- a) Council held interviews for the Open Council Seat and cast their vote. It was a tie between John Gabourie (2 votes) and Annie Keft (2 votes). The Deputy Clerk selected a name by lot in front of the Mayor, Council and audience. The successful candidate is Annie Keft.

Moved by Councillor Elaine Fic
Seconded by Councillor Louanne Caza

04/2024
Appoint Councillor

THAT Council appoint Annie Keft as Councillor for the remainder of the Council Term.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Louanne Caza
Seconded by Councillor Elaine Fic

05/2024
Vacancy Policy

THAT Council directs the Clerk to prepare a Municipal Council Vacancy Policy and it bring forward to Council for final approval once completed.

Carried

- b) Moved by Councillor Louanne Caza
Seconded by Councillor Elaine Fic

06/2024
New Library Member

THAT Council accepts the recommendation from the McGarry Public Library Board to appoint Ginette Guilbeault as a new member of the Board.

Carried

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

07/2024
FCM Membership

THAT Council agree to the 2024-2025 membership renewal for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities at a cost of \$301.22.

Carried

- d) Moved by Councillor Elaine Fic
Seconded by Councillor Francine Plante

08/2024
Recreation Minutes

THAT the minutes of the Recreation Committee Meeting of October 3, 2023, and on October 16, 2023 be approved.

Carried

- e) Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Elaine Fic

09/2024
TMA Minutes

THAT the minutes of the Temiskaming Municipal Association held on November 30, 2023 have been received.

Carried

- f) Moved by Councillor Elaine Fic
Seconded by Councillor Francine Plante

10/2024
THU Minutes

THAT the minutes of the Timiskaming Health Unit held on October 11, 2023 have been received.

Carried

- g) Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Elaine Fic

11/2024
Solar McGarry Inc.

THAT Council direct the Clerk to begin the process of dissolving and terminating the partnership of Solaire McGarry Solar Inc. with Kapuskasing Energy Inc.

Carried

- h) Moved by Councillor Elaine Fic
Seconded by Councillor Francine Plante

12/2024
AMO Membership

THAT Council agrees to renew the 2024 Membership with association of Municipalities of Ontario at a cost of 950.48.

Carried

- j) Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Elaine Fic

13/2024
OPP Board

THAT Council has received and read the OPP Detachment Board Report and acknowledges that the Corporation of the Township of McGarry's composition on the future Police Detachment Board is as established and approved by the Ministry of the Solicitor General.

Carried

- k) Moved by Councillor Elaine Fic
Seconded by Councilor Francine Plante

14/2024
Resolution KL Amendment

WHEREAS the Legislation Act, 2006, provide a definition of "newspaper" which applies to every Ontario Act and regulation, as in a provision requiring publication, means a document that (a) is printed in sheet form, published at regular intervals of a week or less and circulated to the general public, and 9b) consist primarily of news of current events of general interest; ('journal');

AND WHEREAS the landscape of print media has changed with the evolution of digital news;

AND WHEREAS in October, 2023, CEO and President of Metroland Media Group noted that 71 of their community publications outside of the District of Timiskaming, would only be available in digital format moving forward;

AND WHEREAS some small, rural Ontario municipalities, like the Township of McGarry, will not have the means to bring an application to Court to ask directions and approval on an alternate manner of providing notice should local print publications transition to digital format only;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT in a proactive effort, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McGarry does hereby request the Provincial government to make an amendment to the Legislation Act, 2006 to include digital format as an acceptable means of publication and notice requirements for Provincial Acts and Regulations;

AND FINALLY THAT this Motion be circulated to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Member of Provincial Parliament for Timiskaming-Cochrane, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), and to all municipalities within the District of Timiskaming.

Carried

- l) Moved by Councillor Elaine Fic
Seconded by Councillor Francine Plante

15/2024
Resolution KL Long term care

WHEREAS the care, support and happiness of older adults in the Township of McGarry is a priority for Council;

AND WHEREAS older adults deserve dignity in care and should have the right to live with their partner as they age;

AND WHEREAS within the Province of Ontario, couples have the right to be accommodated together when entering long-term care facilities where they meet the eligibility criteria for admission;

AND WHEREAS Bill 21, Fixing Long Term Care Amendment Act (till Death Do Us Part) was first introduced in the provincial legislature in 2019 and reintroduced in 2022;

AND WHEREAS Bill 21 passed its second reading in the provincial legislature on November 15, 2022 and was subsequently ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Social Policy and has yet to be called to the Standing Committee;

AND WHEREAS the current sitting Provincial Government may bring forward a new Bill that, in principle, supports the intent of Bill 21 Fixing Long-Term Care Amendment Act;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Corporation of the Township of McGarry supports any future bill to Bill 21 Fixing Long-Term Care amendment Act surrounding the non-separation of Spouses with different care needs upon admission;

AND THAT the Township of McGarry request the provincial legislature to enact any current and future proposed Bills to this effect;

AND FINALLY THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the Honorable Premier of Ontario, the Member of Provincial Parliament for Timiskaming-Cochran, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) and all municipalities within the District of Timiskaming.

Carried

- m) Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Elaine Fic

16/2024
Rescind Resolution 175/2021

THAT Council rescind resolution #175/2021 which reads the following :THAT Council accept the recommendation from the Communication Committee to reduce the members from 5 down to 2 members and that the Chair and Co-Chair from the first committee and that a schedule be adopted to rotate participation on the Committee effective July 6, 2021.

Carried

- n) Moved by Councillor Elaine Fic
Seconded by Councillor Francine Plante

17/2024
Summer Students Application

THAT Council have read the report on the summer student funding application and direct the staff to apply for the job subsidy program listed in the report.

Carried

11. Passing of Accounts:

Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Elaine Fic

18/2024
Accounts

THAT the following accounts be approved for payment:

NOVEMBER 2023

Payroll: \$ 25,087.49
General: \$ 176,120.74

DECEMBER 2023

Payroll: \$42,773.31
General: \$218,409.45

Carried

12. Passing of By-Laws:

Moved by Councillor Elaine Fic
Seconded by Councillor Francine Plante

19/2024
By-Law 2024-01

THAT a By-Law for the adoption of a tax billing and collections policy be read three times and passed this 9th day of January 2024 and numbered By-Law 2024-01.

Carried

13. a) Submitted Questions :

- Muriel Rose – Question on rules for flying the National Flag of Canada.

b) Audience Questions: A question period was held.

14. Closed Meeting:

Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Elaine Fic

20/2024
Closed Metting

THAT Council goes into closed session at 7:15 p.m. under the Municipal Act 2001. C25, s 239, Section (2) (b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees for Committee members appointment.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Elaine Fic

21/2024
Out of Close Session

THAT Council come out of close session at 7:54 pm.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Elaine Fic
Seconded by Councillor Francine Plante

22/2024
Appoint Committee Members

THAT a By-Law to appoint Committee Members and Representatives for the Township of McGarry for the year 2024 be read three times and passed this 9th day of January 2024 and be numbered By-Law 2024-02.

Carried

15. Confirmation By-Law:

Moved by Councillor Elaine Fic
Seconded by Councillor Francine Plante

23/2024
Confirmation By-Law

THAT a By-Law to confirm the proceedings of Council be read three times and passed this 9th day of January 2024 and numbered By-Law 2024-03.

Carried

16. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Francine Plante
Seconded by Councillor Elaine Fic

24/2024
Adjournment

THAT this meeting be adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Carried


MAYOR


CLERK-TREASURER