



**MINUTES
AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING/COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
AUGUST 24, 2009 AT 6:30 P.M
IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING AT 3560 COUNTY ROAD 26, MAYNARD**

Council Present: Reeve Campbell
Deputy Reeve Barton
Councillor Banning
Councillor Pakeman
Councillor Stephenson

Staff Present: Richard Bennett and Linda Robinson

Gallery: 1

Press: Prescott Journal & Brockville Recorder and Times

- a) **CALL TO ORDER**
Reeve Campbell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
- b) **DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST** – None
- c) **DELEGATIONS** - None

MOVE TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Moved by Douglas Barton and Seconded by Carol Stephenson
BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council move to a Committee of the Whole to deal with Roads and Administration. Carried

ROADS

Councillor Banning Chaired the Road Committee Meeting.

- d) **CORRESPONDENCE**
Public Works Report
Councillor Banning advised that an excellent job has been done on brushing so far.
- e) **ACTION ITEMS** - None

- f) **OTHER BUSINESS** - None

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

Councillor Pakeman Chaired the Administration and Finance Meeting.

- g) **CORRESPONDENCE** - None

- h) **ACTION ITEMS – ADMIN**

1. Safe Properties By-law

Councillor Banning felt that it was a good by-law if it can be enforced. She wondered if it would be complaint driven.

Deputy Reeve Barton wondered where this by-law came from. Mrs. Robinson advised that it was requested by Council as a result of safety issue regarding fire in the township that we could not respond to safety complaints.

Mr. Bennett advised that it is just a draft.

Councillor Pakeman suggested that this be circulated to the Fire Chief and CBO for comments. Mr. Bennett advised that the CBO has already reviewed it.

Councillor Stephenson has some concerns with some of the content as some of the township properties and ditches are full of noxious weeds. Some residents have home based businesses for firewood etc. and she wondered if they would be forced to remove the wood from their property.

Mr. Bennett stated that the key is unsafe condition.

Councillor Pakeman felt that the intent of by-law is to address safety issues to protect innocent tax payers.

Councillor Banning agreed with Councillor Stephenson that it is too cumbersome. She felt that under the Building Code and Fire Code we should have enough legislation to deal with these issues. What she may think is safe for her property someone else may think is not.

Reeve Campbell felt that the only other way of dealing with these issues is through a property standards by-law and that has been tried by previous councils and failed. He felt that the municipality needs something with teeth to help deal with issues that face Council and staff.

Council requested that the words “Neat and Tidy” be removed from the by-law.

Council agreed to send this to the Agriculture and Planning Committee for review.

2. Street Light Policy

Mr. Bennett advised that the majority of homes are assessed however some vacant properties or properties previously owned by the municipality have been excluded. He felt it makes it very clear as to who pays and who doesn't for future developments.

Council had no objections and agreed to have it come forward at the next meeting.

- i) **OTHER BUSINESS**

Deputy Reeve Barton was looking for an update on the beaver control issue from July 27th. Reeve Campbell advised that a review and recommendation needs to be completed by the road superintendent. We need to know if it is financially feasible to do this in-house.

Councillor Banning advised that Mr. Hart has already commented on this issue and that is why she felt it was so important to have a road committee meeting and she hoped to have them quarterly.

Councillor Banning advised that she has a problem with the Fournier Report. She advised that it is a restructuring and that costs money. The Templeman Report was just done in 2004 and we paid \$22,000 for it. She advised that this triggers a pay equity review and this costs the municipality money. Changes were made last minute and Council as a whole was not involved and she felt that any changes should be made by all of Council.

Councillor Pakeman was pleased with the report and it is a vital piece of information as to see how we are doing in the township. Two major items that came from Mr. Fournier were job descriptions and the development of a financial grid. He agreed that if all of Council would like to be involved in reviewing the job descriptions that should be done. Councillor Banning advised that job descriptions and pay grids were included in the Templeman Report.

Mr. Bennett advised that he looked back and could not see where recommendations of the Templeman Report were adopted by Council.

Councillor Stephenson felt that the Fournier Report was well done.

Deputy Reeve Barton liked the Fournier Report however would like to tweak a few things in the job descriptions before passing.

Councillor Pakeman suggested that a special meeting be set up for all of Council to review the job descriptions.

Reeve Campbell advised that it was his recommendation that we engage Mr. Fournier in this review. He felt that Council has a responsibility to make sure we have a staff that can do the job for residents and one we can afford.

Council agreed to meet September 10th at 4:30 p.m. to review the Fournier Report and job descriptions.

Councillor Pakeman thanked Deputy Reeve Barton for sharing his thoughts with Council and staff this week.

He stated that potential layoffs at Dyno Nobel and Invista are going to adversely affect our township. Cost containment measures must be considered as a result.

He asked staff if they could provide costs that Edwardsburgh/Cardinal and Elizabethtown-Kitley charge for fee in lieu of parkland for the next meeting to make sure we are up to date.

He advised that he met with the Reeve and CAO to review and tweak the job descriptions.

The Reeve advised that we need to get the procedural by-law up to date. One item he would like to see included is the approval of the agenda.

He reported that the HST was discussed in Ottawa at AMO and the Premier and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing support the change. The question is how it will affect municipalities.

He stated that he and Councillor Pakeman met with Mr. Carl Isenburg,

President and CAO of MPAC at AMO and he advised that he would review Mr. Pakeman's presentation and we look forward to his comments.

Councillor Pakeman advised that he met with the CAO and Clerk this past week to discuss the Christmas Dinner. The idea would be to create a volunteer appreciation BBQ during the summer to include all members of recreations as currently only 4 volunteers are included. This year we will have to do it in the fall.

Council had no problem with having a volunteer appreciation night in lieu of a Christmas Dinner.

Council reviewed the action list.

Item # 1 – Mr. Bennett advised that he has a list from the fire department of those properties that have breached the by-law by moving or removing the 911 signs. Council recommended that letters be sent to those who are violating the by-law. The CAO was asked to check with the fire chief to get a list of those intersections that cause the most confusion and start identifying those first.

Item # 4 – Mrs. Robinson advised that she is preparing a draft that should be ready for Council's review in the next month or so.

Item # 5 – Councillor Stephenson advised that we have been approved for a grant from EODP for 80% of eligible costs.

Item # 6 – Reeve Campbell advised that he will ask Mr. Shannon if he would be interested.

Item # 7 – Mr. Bennett felt that we should draft a policy and have it in place before we have a specific situation. Councillor Banning advised that the Province has a good piece of legislation to follow.

Item #10 – Mr. Bennett advised that this is now up and going.

Reeve Campbell advised that the Counties is sponsoring a Leadership Conference on September 11th from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., at the North Grenville Municipal Office. Dr. David Foot is the keynote speaker. Councillors Banning and Pakeman will be attending.

MOVE TO REGULAR MEETING

Moved by Darlene Banning and Seconded by Bill Pakeman

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council move to a Regular Meeting of Council. Carried

j) RESOLUTIONS

Moved by Carol Stephenson and Seconded by Douglas Barton

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council supports the resolution of the City of Brockville requesting that the provincial government delay the closure of the transition beds at the Brockville Mental Health Centre for a minimum of one year such that:

- The brunt of the negative economic impact can be delayed until an anticipated economic recovery has begun and displaced staff will have a realistic opportunity to find alternatives; and
- That alternative plans for the BMHC site can be formalized in light of the fact that the closure of the transitional beds will be moving forward; and
- That the Mental Health treatment facility plans for treatment of inmates with mental health issues can be developed.

Carried

Moved by Bill Pakeman and Seconded by Darlene Banning

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council supports the Electronic Sign grant through the EODP and agrees to cover the municipal share of 20% of the total project cost. Carried

Moved by Bill Pakeman and Seconded by Darlene Banning

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council receive the Administrative Review Report prepared by Fournier Consulting Services. Carried

Moved by Darlene Banning and Seconded by Bill Pakeman

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council authorize the Geotechnical Engineering services suggested in the Genivar proposal dated July 30, 2009 to a total estimated cost of \$5,000.00. Carried

k) **BY-LAWS** – None

l) **CLOSED SESSION**

Moved by Carol Stephenson and Seconded by Douglas Barton

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council move to a closed meeting at 8:50 p.m., as per the Municipal Act c 25, S.O. 2001 section 239 (2) to discuss:

1. A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board;
2. Labour relations or employee negotiations.

Carried

Moved by Carol Stephenson and Seconded by Douglas Barton

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council rise and report at 9:05 p.m. Carried

m) **BY-LAW TO CONFIRM THE PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL**

Moved by Douglas Barton and Seconded by Carol Stephenson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law Numbered 2785 to confirm the proceedings of Council at their meeting held August 24, 2009 be read a first, second and third time, passed and sealed with the seal of the Corporation, signed by the Reeve and Clerk and entered into the By-law Book. Carried

o) **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Darlene Banning and Seconded by Bill Pakeman

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council do now adjourn at 9:12 p.m. until September 14, 2009 at 7:00 p.m., or until the call of the Reeve subject to need. Carried

REEVE

CLERK