

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RYERSON

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

June 1, 2021

The regular meeting of Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ryerson was held Tuesday evening June 1, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. This was a fully electronic meeting via Zoom due to the COVID-19 Pandemic restrictions.

Mayor George Sterling called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Attendance was announced, and it was noted that the meeting is being recorded.

Mayor Sterling and Councillor Marlow participated from the municipal office.

Council members attending electronically via Zoom: Delynne Patterson, Penny Brandt, and Celia Finley.

Staff in attendance at the municipal office: Nancy Field, Brayden Robinson, Judy Kosowan.

Presenters attending electronically: Scott Aitchison, M.P., Parry Sound Muskoka, Stephen Wallis, Indie Magic Studios.

Public attending electronically: Sarah Cooke (Almaguin News), Paul Van Dam.

It was announced at 6:25 p.m. that the following attendees joined the meeting: Judy Ransome, Larry Ross and Nieves Guijarro.

Notice of this meeting was posted on the website.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The minutes from the regular meeting May 18, 2021 were adopted as circulated, on a motion moved by Councillor Marlow and seconded by Councillor Brandt. (Carried)

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:

Councillor Brandt made the following declaration: I, Penny Brandt declare a conflict of interest in **Item #5, 5.1 titled 'BUSINESS ARISING/ACTIVITY LOG'** because it is personal in nature.

I make this Declaration in accordance with Section 5.1 of the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act.

PRESENTATIONS:

M.P. Scott Aitchison attended to provide Council with information on the establishment of a national suicide prevention hotline that consolidates all suicide crisis numbers into one easy to remember three-digit 9-8-8 hotline that is accessible to all Canadians.

Questions were asked on other related issues including homelessness, affordable housing and the COVID-19 pandemic in relation to mental health issues. In addition, there is a need for more federal and provincial resources to support mental health initiatives.

The effect of the Pandemic on small businesses and the local economy were discussed and Mr. Aitchison stressed the need for Canadians to get vaccinated to help in getting on the road to recovery from this Pandemic.

A resolution of support was adopted, as noted below. Mr. Aitchison was thanked for attending and he left the meeting.

Stephen Wallis, Indie Magic Studios attended to present Council with the plans for the development of a new film studio complex. The studio will be built at the Armour Industrial Park. A further plan for development of the associated Back Lots was proposed for vacant property located on Highway 520 in Ryerson Township. This proposal would see movie set facades and fake towns, in essence, built to support the film studio business. Mr. Wallis also proposed that further economic spin offs could be realized with the development of hotels, retail and restaurants required to support the film industry development.

Questions were asked and potential challenges were discussed. Overall Council indicated their support of the plan for the development of the film industry in the municipality and the potential economic benefits for the region.

BUSINESS ARISING:

Councillor Brandt declared a conflict of interest as noted above. And abstained from the vote.

The report from the Acting Integrity Commissioner Matthew Hodgson regarding a complaint received regarding Councillor Brandt, at the May 18, 2021 meeting, is being brought forward to this meeting as it had been deferred.

Following up from the previous meeting, there was a discussion about comments made regarding the anonymous complainant. The Mayor noted that this separate matter would be better discussed as new business.

Council considered the resolution and it was adopted as noted below.

STAFF REPORTS:

FIRE CHIEF: Chief Dave McNay's June 1, 2021 was received by Council.

PUBLIC WORKS: Lloyd Van Duzen's road department update was received by Council

DEPUTY CLERK: Nancy Field provided information on Consent Application B-031/21, Part Lot 20, Concession 4. A resolution in support of the application was adopted.

TREASURER: Brayden Robinson provided a report recommending that the 2009 pickup truck be taken out of service and a resolution was adopted.

CLERK: Judy Kosowan provided Council with information on a by-law to provide for early voting on voting day for the 2022 municipal election and it was adopted.

Council received a draft by-law to set a policy for audio/video recording of council meetings. Council noted that they would like to have a fee charged for providing copies of the recordings. An updated draft will be brought forward at the next meeting.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councillor Patterson provided a written report regarding the FONOM virtual conference held May 18, 2021. A verbal update was given about the plans for expansion of the Burks Falls, Armour, Ryerson Union Public Library.

Mayor Sterling provided a verbal update on the Eastholme Board meeting.

BY-LAWS

By-law # 23-21 to provide for early voting on Voting Day October 24, 2022

By-law # 24 - 21 to confirm the meetings of Council

RESOLUTIONS

Moved by Councillor Marlow, seconded by Councillor Brandt, be it resolved that the minutes from the regular meeting May 18, 2021 be adopted as circulated.

Recorded vote due to electronic meeting: Yes: Brandt, Finley, Marlow, Patterson, Sterling.
(Carried)

Moved by Councillor Finley, seconded by Councillor Patterson WHEREAS the Federal government has passed a motion to adopt 9-8-8, a National three-digit suicide and crisis hotline; AND WHEREAS the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has increased the demand for suicide prevention services by 200%; AND WHEREAS existing suicide prevention hotlines require the user to remember a 10-digit number and go through directories or be placed on hold; AND WHEREAS in 2022 the United States will have in place a national 9-8-8 crisis hotline; AND WHEREAS Ryerson Township recognizes that it is a significant and important initiative to ensure critical barriers are removed to those in a crisis and seeking help; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Ryerson Township endorses this 9-8-8 crisis line initiative; And that Staff be directed to send a letter indicating such support to our local Member of Parliament, Member(s) of the Legislative Assembly, Federal Minister of Health, the CRTC and local area municipalities to indicate our support.

Recorded vote due to electronic meeting: Yes: Brandt, Finley, Marlow, Patterson, Sterling.
(Carried)

Moved by Councillor Marlow, seconded by Councillor Patterson WHEREAS Ryerson Township Council has received a report from the Integrity Commissioner Matthew Hodgson, AND WHEREAS the Integrity Commissioner Inquiry Protocol has been considered, AND WHEREAS Section 10.3 states: Upon review of the Report, Council shall pass a resolution stating whether or not it intends to take-action in response to the Report, and if so, what action it will take; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT as per Section 5.7 of the Integrity Commissioner Inquiry Protocol, Ryerson Township Council accepts the recommendation made by the Integrity Commissioner.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest:

Recorded vote due to electronic meeting: Yes: Marlow, Patterson, Sterling. No Councillor Finley. Abstain: Councillor Brandt due to the declared conflict of interest. (Carried)

Moved by Councillor Brandt, seconded by Councillor Patterson, be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council supports Consent Application: B-013/21, Part Lot 20, Concession 4, within the Township of Ryerson, south side of Royston Road, subject to the following conditions:

If the reference plan or other evidence discloses that either the severed property or the retained property owned by the Applicant contains a deviation road maintained by the Township as a public road, then the Applicant shall survey and transfer such deviation road to the Township as a condition of severance. The area to be surveyed and transferred shall generally be 66 feet in width and centered upon the center line of the present traveled road. In situations where this is impractical, the Applicant should discuss how this requirement will be fulfilled with the Municipality before the reference plan is finalized.

The Township requires one copy of the draft reference plan for review prior to registration, two copies of the Final Reference Plan and one digital copy of the Final Reference Plan.

As a condition of severance approval, the Applicant shall pay to the Municipality in which the land is located, or otherwise satisfy the requirement for donation of Parkland set out in Section 51.1 of the Planning Act.

The Township requires that for any proposed entrance: The Public Works Supervisor will be contacted to inspect the location to determine that a safe location for an entrance can be found. The Planning Board will be advised in writing that this condition has been met before the finalization of the consent is given.

That the Planning Board receive confirmation from the North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority that there is an area within the proposed retained lot and severed lot that is suitable for a conventional sewage disposal system (i.e., Class 4)

That the Township's Consent Application Fee and Deposit Fee be paid to the Township of Ryerson, before the finalization of the consent is given.

Recorded vote due to electronic meeting: Yes: Brandt, Finley, Marlow, Patterson, Sterling.
(Carried)

Moved by Councillor Finley, seconded by Councillor Patterson, be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council authorize that the 2009 Chevrolet half/ton pickup truck be taken out of service and deemed as a surplus asset for disposal.

Recorded vote due to electronic meeting: Yes: Brandt, Finley, Marlow, Patterson, Sterling.
(Carried)

Moved by Councillor Marlow, seconded by Councillor Brandt, be it resolved that leave be given to introduce a Bill # 23-21, being a By-law to provide for early voting on Voting Day Monday October 24, 2022 and further; That By-Law # 23-21 be read a First, Second, and Third time, Signed and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto and finally passed in Council this 1st day of June, 2021.

Recorded vote due to electronic meeting: Yes: Brandt, Finley, Marlow, Patterson, Sterling.
(Carried)

Moved by Councillor Brandt, seconded by Councillor Finley Be it resolved that leave be given to introduce a Bill # 24-21, being a By-law to confirm the meetings of Council and further; That By-Law # 24-21 be read a First, Second, and Third time, Signed and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto and finally passed in Council this 1st day of June, 2021.

Recorded vote due to electronic meeting: Yes: Brandt, Finley, Marlow, Patterson, Sterling.
(Carried)

Moved by Councillor Marlow, seconded by Councillor Patterson, be it resolved that we do now adjourn at 7:47 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for June 15, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Recorded vote due to electronic meeting: Yes: Brandt, Finley, Marlow, Patterson, Sterling.
(Carried)

MAYOR

CLERK/DEPUTY CLERK