

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RYERSON

MINUTES

TRI-COUNCIL MEETING – June 6, 2022

The combined in-person/virtual TRI Council meeting of the Councils of the Township of Armour, the Township of Ryerson and the Village of Burk's Falls was held on Monday, June 6, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Armour Ryerson & Burk's Falls Memorial Arena and hosted by the Township of Armour.

ATTENDANCE

Village of Burk's Falls Council present included Mayor Cathy Still, Councillors Jarvis Osborne, John Wilson, and Rex Smith; Staff: Nicky Kunkel, CAO/Clerk, Tammy Wylie, Treasurer and Graham Smith, Arena Manager.

Township of Ryerson Council present included Mayor George Sterling, Councillors Joe Vella, Penny Brandt, Delynne Patterson and Celia Finley; Staff: Judy Kosowan, CAO-Clerk, Nancy Field, Deputy-Clerk, Brayden Robinson, Treasurer, Dave McNay, Fire Chief, Ken Stevenson, Deputy-Chief and Cam Haffner, Fire Prevention Officer.

Township of Armour Council present included Mayor Bob MacPhail; Councillors Jerry Brandt, Rod Blakelock, Wendy Whitwell and Rod Ward; Staff: John Theriault, Clerk-Treasurer/ Administrator.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Bob MacPhail at 7:00 p.m.

OPENING REMARKS

Mayor MacPhail welcomed everyone to the meeting.

He talked about going forward with TRI Council and that, in the new year, it was suggested that a presentation be made to TRI Council explaining how the Shared Service Agreement works and all of its intricacies.

He also revisited the concept of decisions being made at TRI Council without having to always go back to each Council for a decision. Staff will have to advise their respective Council on how this could be achieved.

CONFIRMATION OF THE NOTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Moved by John Wilson, seconded by Joe Vella; That the TRI Council of the Township of Armour, Township of Ryerson and the Village of Burk's Falls approve the notes of the regular meeting held on March 7, 2022. (Carried)

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST: None noted.

DELEGATION:

Patti Carr, Executive Director of NECO, Community Futures Development Corporation made a presentation to TRI Council on the services NECO provides in our community. They provide loans and grants to help economic growth.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Shared Services 10 Year Capital Plans

TRI Council discussed the need for each municipality to have a 10-year capital plan. The plans could be reviewed together and then prioritized so that each municipality can be ready to finance whatever capital items are approved in any given year.

Each Council directed their staff to prepare a 10-year capital plan and review them together so they can be discussed by TRI Council in the future.

Support for Potential Library Expansion

TRI Council discussed the proposed library expansion. At this time, the Library Board has invested in an architectural review, but the Board does not want to invest more money in more preliminary assessments without knowing if the three partners will support the library expansion.

The discussion included the following scenarios:

The expansion of the present library, which would require the purchase of property to accommodate the increase size of the building. This would add approximately 4,200 square feet to the existing library. The estimate for this investment without the purchase of the land would be 2.4 to 2.7 million dollars.

Taking over the Village of Burk's Falls Town Hall and Cinema and renovating it into a library. The administrative offices for the library would be upstairs. This would give the library approximately 6,000 square feet. The estimate for the renovations is 1.5 to 1.8 million dollars. Concerns were raised that the library would still be in an old building which would require constant maintenance. Another concern is that the estimate for the renovations is too low.

The last proposal would be to purchase property and build a new library. As a comparison, the Township of Perry is presently building a new 11,000 square foot facility for 4.5 million dollars. Based on this price if we were to build a 7,000 square foot library, the price should be around 3 million dollars, plus the cost to purchase the land.

Each Council will discuss the proposed library expansion and advise the Library Board of their decision.

Support for Having Ice at the Arena in September

TRI Council discussed the possibility of keeping ice at the arena in September. If the ice remains, the arena would save some expenses and increase their revenues. On the other hand, the Agricultural Society would not be able to use the ice surface for their vendors at the Fall Fair. The discussion centered on whether or not the arena could cover the ice so the vendors could use the facility. The Agricultural Society maintains that if the Village of Burk's Falls wishes to keep the ice in, they should not do it this year because it is too late to reorganize the Fall Fair. The Society encouraged that any changes be pursued and implemented next year so that the Agricultural Society has time to adjust.

The Arena Manager will look into the possibility of finding a proper covering for the ice so it can be used year-round by anyone. If that is not an option, the Village of Burk's Falls will have to make their decision on whether or not to keep the ice in September.

Support for Extending Water & Sewer Services into Armour and Ryerson

Both Ryerson and Armour passed resolutions in 2021 supporting, in principle, regarding the study of extending the water and sewer services in Armour and Ryerson. At this time, the Village of Burk's Falls needs to know if Armour and Ryerson are willing to participate in the study on how to expand the water and sewer services. If they are not interested, the study will only investigate the Village of Burk's Falls requirements. If they are interested, then the study will include the needs of Armour and Ryerson.

Armour and Ryerson will have to discuss this issue and advise the Village of Burk's Falls of their decision.

Funding of the Almaguin Highlands Health Centre

TRI Council discussed the fact that the Almaguin Highlands Health Centre is used by the whole area. They were advised that we will need to discuss how this facility is funded in the future. The partners will have to consider that they not only have to deal with the yearly deficit, they

will have to deal with the renovations which will have to be done to the buildings in the near future.

TRI Council was also advised that the area municipalities will have to deal with what the Province will require from them to fund either the new hospitals or the renovations to the present hospitals. The Province is looking at municipalities to fund 30% of the cost.

Additionally, the area could discuss with the province the possibility of increasing services at the Almaguin Highlands Health Centre.

Armour, Ryerson & Burk's Falls Agricultural Society

This was discussed with the item on the agenda.

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Jarvis Osborne, seconded by George Sterling; That the TRI Council of the Township of Armour, Township of Ryerson and the Village of Burk's Falls adjourn this regular TRI Council meeting at 9:49 p.m. until the next TRI Council meeting scheduled for October 3, 2022 to be hosted by the Village of Burk's Falls. (Carried)

MAYOR

CLERK/DEPUTY CLERK