

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RYERSON

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

March 28, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ryerson was held **March 28, 2023** at 6:00 p.m. This was a hybrid meeting combining in person, electronic meeting via Zoom and phone.

1. CALL TO ORDER

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.

Council members attending: Mayor Sterling, Councillors: Abbott, Miller, Robertson and Patterson.

Staff in attendance: Brayden Robinson, Nancy Field, Judy Kosowan, Kryssi Sinclair.

Public attending by phone or electronically: Judy Ransome, Nieves Guijarro, and Josh Lilley.

Notice of this meeting was posted on the website.

Mayor Sterling Announcement: Before getting to the agenda, I would like to take a moment to pay Tribute in memory of former Reeve Frank Gavine who passed away March 16, 2023 in his 90th year.

Frank served the Township of Ryerson for twenty-five years, first as a Councillor then as Reeve, retiring in 2003. Frank's common-sense, fair approach to municipal governance along with his sense of humour provided leadership and guidance to Council and Staff and the Ryerson Community.

On behalf of Ryerson Township Council, we send our condolences to his wife Esther and all of Frank's family and friends. He will be missed by all.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

R- 45 - 23 Moved by Councillor Miller, Seconded by Councillor Robertson, Be it resolved that the minutes from the regular meeting on March 14, 2023, be adopted as circulated. (Carried)

3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST: None noted.

4. DELEGATION: None registered.

5. TENDERS: None registered.

6. REPORTS:

6.1 FIRE DEPARTMENT: Council received the department report from the Fire Chief.

6.2 PUBLIC WORKS: Council received a February and March roads report from the Public Works Supervisor.

6.3 TREASURER: Council discussed the Fire budget and the Regional Fire Training Municipal Agreement.

6.4 DEPUTY CLERK: Council received information regarding a By-Law to permit and regulate culverts and entrances and adopted the following resolution.

R- 46 -23 Moved by Councillor Patterson, Seconded by Councillor Miller,

Be it resolved that leave be given to introduce a Bill # 14 -23, being a By-law to permit and regulate culverts and entrance ways and further; That By-Law # 14 -23 be read a First, Second, and Third time, Signed and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto and finally passed in Council this 28th day of March 2023. (Carried)

6.4.1 Council received information regarding the validation certificate and the following resolution was adopted.

R- 47 -23 Moved by Councillor Robertson, Seconded by Councillor Patterson,

Be it resolved that leave be given to introduce a Bill# 15 -23, being a By-law for the Validation of Title for Part Lot 18, Concession 1, Parts 1-8, Plan 42R-19980, and further; That By-Law # 15 -23 be read a First, Second, and Third time, Signed and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto and finally passed in Council this 28th day of March 2023. (Carried)

6.5 CLERK: Council discussed the upcoming meeting with the District of Parry Sound Municipal Association (DPSMA) and the following resolution was adopted.

R- 48 -23 Moved by Councillor Patterson, Seconded by Councillor Robertson,

Be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council authorize: all of Council, Nancy and Kryssi to attend the District of Parry Sound Municipal Association meeting Friday May 5, 2023. (Carried)

6.5.1 Council discussed intimate partner violence/ violence against women and adopted the following resolution.

R- 49 -23 Moved by Councillor Miller, Seconded by Councillor Robertson,

Be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council support Motion Number 04-134-04 dated March 7, 2023 from Council of the Town of Carleton Place declaring Intimate Partner Violence and Violence Against Women and Epidemic, AND,

THAT the Township of Ryerson recognizes the issue of violence in rural communities as serious to the health and wellness of local families; AND

THAT the Township of Ryerson recognizes the rural Renfrew County inquest as important to all rural communities; AND

THAT based on the statistics of 4815 crisis calls and service provision to 527 women and children into the Carleton Place local community, the Council of the Township of Ryerson declares Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)/Violence Against Women (VAW) an EPIDEMIC as per recommendation # 1 of the Renfrew County jury recommendation; AND

THAT this resolution be circulated to the Town of Carleton Place and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario. (Carried)

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

6.6 Councillor Abbott provided Council with an update from the Library Board.

6.7 Councillor Miller provided Council with an update about the Joint Building Committee (JBC) and their budget resolution. The following resolution was adopted by Council.

R- 50 -23 Moved by Councillor Miller, Seconded by Councillor Robertson,

Be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council support resolution # 2023-014 from the Joint Building Committee dated March 16, 2023, recommending the adoption of the JBC 2023 Budget in the amount of \$338,844.00. (Carried)

6.8 Councillor Robertson provided Council with an update from ACED.

6.9 Mayor Sterling provided Council with an Eastholme report.

7. BUSINESS ARISING/ACTIVITY LOG:

7.1 Council discussed information about Hospital Local Share provided by Mayor Rod Ward and decided to invite him to the next regular council meeting to discuss further.

8. COMMUNICATION ITEMS

8.1 Council discussed the North Bay Parry Sound Health Unit Food Insecurity and the following resolution was adopted by Council.

R- 51 -23 Moved by Councillor Patterson, Seconded by Councillor Abbott,

Whereas, improved financial stability allows municipal residents to participate, contribute, and invest in their local economies and communities; and

Whereas, poverty puts additional pressure on municipalities, who are responsible for delivering necessary and strained public and social services to support residents who are struggling with the consequences of inadequate income; and

Whereas, food insecurity has a detrimental impact on physical and mental health; and

Whereas, adequate income is an important social determinant of health that greatly impacts food security and other social determinants of health such as mental health, housing and transportation; and

Whereas, the 2022 Cost of Eating Well report shows that households reliant on social assistance do not have enough money for the costs of living, including food; and

Whereas, 67% of households in Ontario with social assistance as their main source of income experience food insecurity.

Therefore Be It Resolved, That the Township of Ryerson support efforts to raise awareness about, and work to reduce, health inequities, including food insecurity; and

Furthermore Be It Resolved, That the Township of Ryerson endorse the letter from the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit and call on the Province of Ontario to:

- legislate targets for the reduction of food insecurity as part of the Ontario Poverty Reduction Strategy; and
- increase social assistance rates to reflect the costs of living, and to index Ontario Works rates to inflation going forward; and
- urge the province to resume investigating the feasibility of creating a guaranteed living wage (basic income) in the Province of Ontario; and

Furthermore Be It Resolved, That the Township of Ryerson provide correspondence of these resolutions to the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, neighbouring municipalities, Victor Fedeli, MPP (Nipissing), Graydon Smith, MPP (Parry Sound-Muskoka), John Vanthof, MPP (Timiskaming-Cochrane), the Honourable Doug Ford (Premier), the Honourable Merrilee Fullerton (Minister of Children, Community and Social Service), the Honourable Sylvia Jones (Minister of Health) and the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA), MP Anthony Rota, MP Scott Aitchison, MP Marc Serre, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). (Carried)

8.2 Council discussed Bill 5 provided by Chatham-Kent and adopted the following resolution.

R- 52 -23 Moved by Councillor Miller, Seconded by Councillor Patterson,

Be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council support the resolution received from the Municipality of Chatham-Kent date March 6, 2023 supporting Bill 5 – Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act, AND,

THAT Ryerson Township Council express its support for Bill 5 – Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act which would require the code of conduct for municipal Councillors and local boards to include a requirement to comply with workplace violence and harassment policies and permit municipalities and local boards to direct the Integrity Commissioner to apply to the court to vacate a member's seat if the Commissioner's inquiry determines that the member has contravened this requirement; AND

FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Honourable Stephen Blais; and Graydon Smith, M.P.P. Parry Sound Muskoka. (Carried)

8.3 Council received resolutions from the Municipality of Magnetawan and the Township of Armour permitting the Almaguin Community Hatchery Program and adopted the following resolution.

R- 53 -23 Moved by Councillor Abbott, Seconded by Councillor Miller,

Be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council support Resolution Number 2023-65 dated March 8, 2023 received from the Municipality of Magnetawan regarding the Almaguin Community Hatchery Program ; AND
THAT the Township of Ryerson respectfully requests that the Almaguin Community Hatchery Program be permitted to continue its invaluable work in restocking walleye and educating students about stewardship in the Almaguin area, AND
THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Municipality of Magnetawan and the Honourable Graydon Smith, M.P.P. (Carried)

8.4 Council received information from DSSAB regarding homeless and the following resolution was adopted.

R- 54 -23 Moved by Councillor Abbott, Seconded by Councillor Miller,

Be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council supports resolution No. 23 03 05 dated March 9, 2023 received from District Social Services administration Board (DSSAB), supporting the CAEH in requesting the Federal Government create a Housing Benefit as outlined in the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness (CAEH) report and proposal and further that this resolution be circulated to AMO, OMSSA, Parry Sound-Muskoka MP, Scott Aitchison and the Prime Minister of Canada and the leaders of the opposition parties. (Carried)

8.5 Council received an update and request from the Almaguin Adult Learning Centre and adopted the following resolution

R- 55 -23 Moved by Councillor Miller, Seconded by Councillor Abbott,

Be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council donate \$409.75 to the Almaguin Adult Learning Centre. (Carried)

9. CONFIRMING BY-LAW

R- 56 -23 Moved by Councillor Patterson, Seconded by Councillor Robertson,

Be it resolved that leave be given to introduce a Bill # 16-23, being a By-law to confirm the meetings of Council and further; That By-Law #16-23 be read a First, Second, and Third time, Signed and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto and finally passed in Council this 28th day of March 2023.(Carried)

10. ADJOURNMENT:

R- 57 -23 Moved by Councillor Miller, Seconded by Councillor Patterson,

Be it resolved that we do now adjourn at 7:04pm. The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. (Carried)

Original signed by George Sterling
MAYOR

Original signed by Nancy Field
CLERK/DEPUTY CLERK