

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RYERSON

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

April 11, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ryerson was held **April 11, 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, Patterson, and Robertson.

Presenter attending: Armour Mayor Rod Ward.

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

Public attending by phone or electronically: Judy Ransome, Nieves Guijarro, Paul Van Dam and Roman Kaczynski.

Notice of this meeting was posted on the website.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

R- 58 - 23 Moved by Councillor Patterson, Seconded by Councillor Patterson, Be it resolved that the minutes from the regular meeting on March 28, 2023, be adopted as circulated. (Carried)

3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST: None noted.

4. PRESENTATION:

4.1 Mayor Rod Ward from Armour Township presented more information to Council regarding the Local Hospital Share. Council will discuss this topic further at a future meeting.

5. TENDERS: None Noted.

6. REPORTS:

TREASURER:

6.1 Council was provided with information on the shared services and budgets. The following resolutions were adopted.

R- 59 -23 Moved by Councillor Robertson, Seconded by Councillor Abbott,

Be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council approve the 2023 net fire budget in the amount of \$562,289.00, with Ryerson's share to be \$132,475.00. Two percent of Ryerson's share of the total operating expenditures in the amount of \$2,156.00 will be put into a fire reserve. (Carried)

R- 60 -23 Moved by Councillor Patterson, Seconded by Councillor Miller,

Be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council approve the 2023 net Tri-R Waste Management budget in the amount of \$274,150.00, with Ryerson's share to be \$90,080.00. Two percent of Ryerson's share of the total operating expenditures in the amount of \$2,950.00 will be put into a landfill reserve. (Carried)

R- 61 -23 Moved by Councillor Abbott, Seconded by Councillor Robertson,

Be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council approve the 2023 net Library Board budget in the amount of \$177,619.00. Ryerson's share to be \$39,911.00. (Carried)

R- 62 - 23 Moved by Councillor Miller, Seconded by Councillor Patterson,

Be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council approve the 2023 net arena budget in the amount of \$385,677.00, with Ryerson's share to be \$128,559.00. Two percent of Ryerson's share of the total operating expenditures in the amount of \$2,664.00 will be put into an arena reserve. (Carried)

R- 63 -23 Moved by Councillor Patterson, Seconded by Councillor Abbott,

Be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council approve the 2023 South East Parry Sound Regional Fire Training Officer budget in the amount of \$83,408.00, with Ryerson's share to be \$3,930.00. (Carried)

DEPUTY CLERK:

6.2 Council was provided with information regarding validation certificate and the following resolutions were adopted.

R- 64 - 23 Moved by Councillor Miller, Seconded by Councillor Robertson,

Be it resolved that leave be given to introduce a Bill # 17-23, being a By-law to rescind By-law 15-23 to issue a Certificate of Validation and further; That By-Law # 17-23 be read a First, Second, and Third time, Signed and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto and finally passed in Council this 11th day of April 2023. (Carried)

R- 65 - 23 Moved by Councillor Patterson, Seconded by Councillor Miller,

Be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council support the Application B-007/23 for easement, located on Concession 1, Part Lot 18, Parts 1-8 42R-19980 in Ryerson Township. The following conditions will apply:

- The Township requires one digital copy of the Final Reference Plan 42R-19980. (Carried)

COUNCIL REPORTS:

6.3 Councillor Patterson provided Council with information regarding sustainable, predictable funding for the Almaguin Highlands Health Centre. Further information will be provided at the next regular Council meeting.

7. COUNCIL COMMITTEES/BOARDS:

7.1 Information was received regarding the Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare (MAHC) Capital Redevelopment Information Session to be held at the Burk's Falls Arena on April 19,2023 at 7pm.

7.2 Council received a TRI-waste management report.

7.3 Joint Building Committee, request to discuss a staffing matter and By-law to appoint a Deputy Chief Building Official:

Council passed a resolution to move to a closed meeting.

R- 66 -23 Moved by Councillor Abbott, Seconded by Councillor Robertson,

Be it resolved that we move to a closed meeting at 7:03p.m., pursuant to the Municipal Act 2001, c. 25, Section 239 (2) (d) as the subject matter being considered is regarding labour relations or employee negotiations; The general nature of the closed meeting is to discuss Joint Building Committee staffing matters. (Carried)

Council discussed the matters it was permitted to under the resolution authorizing the public exclusions and returned to the open meeting at 7:36 p.m.

7.4 Council received a CBO wage increase recommendation from the Joint Building Committee and defeated the following resolution.

R- 67 - 23 Moved by Councillor Patterson, Seconded by Councillor Miller,

Be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council support resolution number 2021-021 from the Joint Building Committee recommending a CBO wage increase of \$25,000, effective April 2023, and an annual increase of 4%. (Defeated)

7.4.1 Council received information regarding appointing a Deputy Chief Building Official and adopted the following resolution.

R- 68 -23 Moved by Councillor Robertson, Seconded by Councillor Patterson,

Be it resolved that leave be given to introduce a Bill # 18-23, being a By-law to Appoint a Deputy Chief Building Official, Brad Shadlock, for the JBC and further; That By-Law # 18-23 be read a First, Second, and Third time, Signed and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto and finally passed in Council this 11th day of April 2023. (Carried)

8. BUSINESS ARISING/ACTIVITY LOG:

8.1 Council received information from AMO regarding the Code of Conduct Legislation and the following resolution was adopted.

R- 69 - 23 Moved by Councillor Patterson, Seconded by Councillor Miller,

WHEREAS all Ontarians deserve and expect a safe and respectful workplace;
WHEREAS, municipal governments, as the democratic institutions most directly engaged with Ontarians need respectful discourse;
WHEREAS several incidents in recent years of disrespectful behaviour and workplace harassment have occurred amongst members of municipal councils;
WHEREAS these incidents seriously and negatively affect the people involved and lower public perceptions of local governments;
WHEREAS municipal Codes of Conduct are helpful tools to set expectations of council member behaviour;
WHEREAS municipal governments do not have the necessary tools to adequately enforce compliance with municipal Codes of Conduct;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Corporation of the Township of Ryerson supports the call of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for the Government of Ontario to introduce legislation to strengthen municipal Codes of Conduct and compliance with them in consultation with municipal governments;
ALSO BE IT RESOLVED that the legislation encompass the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's recommendations for: • Updating municipal Codes of Conduct to account for workplace safety and harassment • Creating a flexible administrative penalty regime, adapted to the local economic and financial circumstances of municipalities across Ontario • Increasing training of municipal Integrity Commissioners to enhance consistency of investigations and recommendations across the province • Allowing municipalities to apply to a member of the judiciary to remove a sitting member if recommended through the report of a municipal Integrity Commissioner • Prohibit a member so removed from sitting for election in the term of removal and the subsequent term of office. (Carried)

8.2 Council received a report on fee charges for locates from the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS) and adopted the following resolution.

R- 70 - 23 Moved by Councillor Abbott, Seconded by Councillor Patterson,

WHEREAS Enbridge recently made an announcement of their intention to begin charging third-party contractors and other utilities \$200 CAD (plus applicable taxes) for utility locates where a field locate is required;
AND WHEREAS, third-party contractors include Ontario municipalities;
AND WHEREAS, these locate requests are only required as Ontario municipalities have allowed utilities to use municipal right of ways at no charge to the utilities;
AND WHEREAS, this announcement of new downloaded costs will negatively impact the budgets of Ontario municipalities which are already burdened;
AND WHEREAS, if Enbridge is successful in implementing this new charge, a precedence is set for other utility companies to also begin charging for locates;
NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, that Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ryerson strongly opposes these utility locate costs being downloaded to Ontario municipalities by Enbridge Gas or other utilities;
AND THAT, the Province of Ontario's Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery make it clear that these costs must be borne by the utilities themselves;
AND THAT, this decision be forwarded to Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery Kaleed Rasheed, Minister of Infrastructure Kinga Surma, Minister of Energy Todd Smith,

Premier Doug Ford, Graydon Smith MPP Parry Sound Muskoka, the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario. (Carried)

8.3 Council received a resolution from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming regarding Municipalities retaining surplus from Tax Sales and the following resolution was adopted.

R- 71 - 23 Moved by Councillor Robertson, Seconded by Councillor Abbott,
Be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council support the resolutions received from The Town of Plympton-Wyoming and the Town of Essex urging the Province to re-instate previous legislation that permitted a Municipality to apply for and retain the surplus proceeds from a tax sale in their jurisdiction. (Carried)

General Information Items Received:

- Council received resolutions approving shared service budgets and the annual community fireworks from Armour Township.
- Council received the March meeting minutes from the Burk's Falls and District Historical Society
- Council received information ROMA updates.

9. CONFIRMING BY-LAW

R- 72- 23 Moved by Councillor Patterson, Seconded by Councillor Miller,
Be it resolved that leave be given to introduce a Bill # 19-23, being a By-law to confirm the meetings of Council and further; That By-Law #19-23 be read a First, Second, and Third time, Signed and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto and finally passed in Council this 11th day of April 2023.(Carried)

11. ADJOURNMENT:

R- 73 -23 Moved by Councillor Patterson, Seconded by Councillor Patterson,
Be it resolved that we do now adjourn at 7:49pm. The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. (Carried)

Original Signed by George Sterling
MAYOR

Nancy Field
CLERK/DEPUTY CLERK