

**CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RYERSON**

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**MINUTES**

November 17, 2020

The regular meeting of Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ryerson was a combined in person/electronic meeting held at the Arena, located at 220 Centre Street in Burks Falls on Tuesday evening November 17, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

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 in-person: Barbara Marlow, Delynne Patterson and Penny Brandt.  
Council member attending electronically: Celia Finley.  
Presenter attending electronically: Harold Elston.

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

Public in attendance in person: Paul Van Dam.  
Public attending electronically by phone: Rosalind Hall, Lee McConnell, John Finley.

Notice of this meeting was posted on the website.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Minutes from the regular meeting November 3, 2020 and Special meeting November 9, 2020 were adopted as circulated, on a motion moved by Councillor Finley, seconded by Councillor Marlow. (Carried)

**DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:**

Councillor Brandt provided a signed written statement: "I, Penny Brandt declare an interest in item # 5.3 titled "Staff Reports" because of a perceived interest for the reason that the enquiring parties are my siblings. I make this Declaration in accordance with Section 5.1 of the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act."

**PRESENTATION:**

Harold Elston, Integrity Commissioner, attended the meeting electronically to present a report about a complaint received against Councillor Finley. The complaint consists of two parts: Councillor Finley's conduct at the ACED meeting May 27<sup>th</sup>, and her June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 e-mail to Members of the ACED Board.

Mr. Elston declined to make a finding on the propriety of Councillor Finley's conduct at the May 27, 2020 meeting, under either the Code of Conduct or the Procedure By-law.

Mr. Elston's report regarding the June 11<sup>th</sup> e-mail found that Councillor Finley breached Sections 7.1, 7.2, 8.2 and 8.3 of the Code of Conduct. He recommended that Council issue a reprimand to Councillor Finley. The Integrity Commissioner further recommended that Councillor Finley be removed from any appointments to other boards or bodies and that she not be considered for any future such appointments.

Council considered the report and subsequent discussion. The Mayor called for a break at 7:34 p.m. The meeting resumed at 7:40 p.m. The resolution as noted below was adopted.

Note: Councillor Finley declined to vote on the resolution.

## **DISCUSSION:**

Council discussed concerns about the inquiry processes of integrity commissioners under the Municipal Act. Council also discussed behavior and interactions amongst members of Council. Council would like to schedule a meeting with a facilitator for educational purposes regarding these two topics, as noted in the resolution below.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

**TREASURER:** Brayden Robinson provided a written report regarding 2021 levy information and the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Grant. A resolution was adopted.

**DEPUTY CLERK:** Nancy Field provided Council with copies of three consent applications B-028/20, B-029/20 and B-030/20. The applications will be considered further once the planning reports are received for these files.

Councillor Brandt was excused for the next item of business and left the room at 8:02 p.m. as per the above noted declaration.

**CLERK:** Judy Kosowan provided Council with background information regarding a letter received from Lynn Rutherford and Paul Brandt about fees charged for trailers that are not assessed at Holiday Point Camp. Council provided direction indicating that trailer fees will remain status quo.

Councillor Brandt returned to the room at 8:07 p.m.

Council received a summary of changes to the draft Procedural By-law, and no further comments on the by-law were made. A final copy of the by-law will be prepared for adoption at the next Council meeting.

## **COUNCILLOR REPORT(S)**

Councillor Marlow provided a written report from a District Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB) meeting. The 2021 budget has been presented and will be passed at the next meeting and the second phase of the Social Service Relief Fund has been allocated.

## **CORRESPONDENCE/BUSINESS**

- ROMA: 2021 Virtual Conference information/registration, resolution adopted as noted below
- Almaguin Highlands Health Centre: minutes from November 6, 2020 meeting
- Office of the Ombudsman: clarification of recorded meeting definition
- Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM): 2021 Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund
- Magnetawan Ridge Runners: Certificate of Liability Insurance
- Municipality of Magnetawan, Township of Carling re: Parry Sound EMS
- Township of Armour: Zoning By-law Amendment
- AMO: Policy Update: Broadband Funding Announcement
- The Burks Falls and District Food Bank: Winter Coat Program

## **BY-LAWS**

- By-law # 29-20 to enter into an agreement for Groundskeeping and Cemetery Care Services.
- By-law # 30-20 to confirm the meetings of Council.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

Moved by Councillor Finley, seconded by Councillor Marlow be it resolved that the minutes from the regular meeting November 3, 2020 and special meeting November 9, 2020 be adopted as circulated. (Carried)

Moved by Councillor Patterson, seconded by Councillor Marlow WHEREAS Ryerson Township Council has received a report from the Integrity Commissioner Harold Elston, 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 accept the recommendation from the Integrity Commissioner's Report dated November 17, 2020 as per Section 24, and further that Councillor Finley's participation be limited to Ryerson Township Council meetings for a one-year period, to be reviewed at that time, or at the discretion of Council. (Carried)

Moved by Councillor Patterson, seconded by Councillor Brandt be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council direct staff to schedule a Council orientation meeting with a facilitator to educate members on conflict resolution. (Carried)

Moved by Councillor Brandt, seconded by Councillor Marlow be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council authorize Tulloch Engineering to pursue options to present to Council, for upgrades to our municipal building. (Carried)

Moved by Councillor Marlow, seconded by Councillor Finley be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council authorize Delynne Patterson to attend the 2021 ROMA Virtual Conference January 25, 26, 2021. (Carried)

Moved by Councillor Patterson, seconded by Councillor Marlow be it resolved that leave be given to introduce a Bill # 29-20, being a By-law to enter into an agreement for provision of groundskeeping, parks and cemetery caretaker services and further; That By-Law # 29-20 be read a First, Second, and Third time, Signed and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto and finally passed in Council this 17 day of November, 2020. (Carried)

Moved by Councillor Brandt, seconded by Councillor Finley be it resolved that leave be given to introduce a Bill # 30-20, being a By-law to confirm the meetings of Council and further; That By-Law # 30-20 be read a First, Second, and Third time, Signed and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto and finally passed in Council this 17 day of November, 2020. (Carried)

Moved by Councillor Finley, seconded by Councillor Brandt be it resolved that we do now adjourn at 8:18 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for December 1, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. (Carried)

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MAYOR

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CLERK/DEPUTY CLERK