

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RYERSON

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING **MINUTES**

July 4, 2017

In Celebration of Canada 150, Ryerson Township presents *Minutes from the Past!*

By-Law No. 557 – To authorize the levying of a poll tax in the Township of Ryerson: Whereas it is expedient that a poll tax be levied on all male persons between the ages of twenty one years and sixty years who are not otherwise assessed. Therefore the Municipal Council of the Township of Ryerson and it is hereby enacted by authority of the same that the sum of Five Dollars per head per year be levied upon and collected from all male persons between the ages of twenty one to sixty years who are not otherwise assessed in the province. And that said tax be collected by the collector of taxes and his remuneration shall be 20% of amount collected. Read a first second and third time this 20th day of May and passed and the seal of the Corporation affixed thereto. Signed G.M. Johnston, Clerk and Geo Taylor, Reeve.

Although women in Ontario had won the right to vote in 1917, this poll tax was only applied to men. The current Municipal Act restricts sources of taxation for Municipalities, so it's no longer possible for the Township to collect a poll tax from its male constituents!

The regular meeting of Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ryerson was held at the Municipal Office Tuesday evening July 4, 2017. Reeve Miller called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Council members present: Reeve Glenn Miller, Councillors Rosalind Hall, Barbara Marlow, Doug Weddel, and George Sterling.

Staff in attendance: Leanne Fetterley, Dave McNay and Judy Kosowan.

Delegations & Guests in attendance: Judy Ransome.

Notice of this meeting was posted on the front door of the office and on the web site and recorded on the telephone voice message.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The minutes from the Regular meeting June 20, 2017 and the Special/Tri-Council meeting June 26, 2017, as amended, were adopted as circulated on a motion moved by Councillor Weddel and seconded by Councillor Marlow. (Carried)

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Reeve Glenn Miller and Councillor Weddel declared pecuniary with respect to items 6.1 (solar MOU) and 9 (correspondence regarding Sky Solar name change).

DELEGATIONS

None registered.

STAFF REPORTS

Fire Chief

Chief McNay reviewed his written report including a recommendation to purchase the Volunteer Firefighter Member and Family Assistance Program as part of the PTSD program, the retirement of long-serving firefighter Vic Feltis, and other department updates.

Council directed Chief McNay to continue to provide written monthly department reports and to include additional data such as number and type of fire calls on a quarterly basis.

An ongoing concern was raised regarding water billing at the fire hall. Council directed staff to communicate with Burk's Falls to request a solution.

Chief McNay provided a verbal report on a recent incident in which a property owner allegedly caused a structure fire without a permit or approval from the fire department. Council directed staff to proceed with charges as applicable.

Reeve Miller provided an update regarding the Regional Fire Services Committee. Chief McNay indicated that a regional model should include a coordinated effort in which specialized services are developed by each department. Council directed staff to organize a visioning session to discuss options for a long-term regional model.

The process for automatic aid was outlined, with reference to a recent call.

Public Works

No written reports were submitted. The Clerk provided a verbal update regarding ongoing dust-control treatment.

Clerk's Report

Council reviewed the accounts and advised staff that these reports are no longer required to be included in the Council package.

Members of staff and Council will attend the upcoming session with Fred Dean in Bracebridge (see resolution below).

Regional Fire Training Contract: Council directed staff to contact the regional partners regarding the proposed extension of the contract to ensure continuity of the program through the transition to a regional fire model.

PLANNING

Reeve Miller and Councillor Weddel further declared their pecuniary interest with respect to this item on the agenda and left the room. Deputy Reeve Barbara Marlow chaired this portion of the meeting.

Council reviewed and signed the updated Memorandum of Understanding with Sky Solar which specifies that the land for the proposed park will be transferred to Ryerson Township at the commercial operation date of the project.

Reeve Miller and Councillor Weddel returned to the room.

SHARED SERVICES

The Tri-Council meeting held June 26, 2017 was discussed. With regard to the new shared services agreement, Council expressed ongoing concerns about ensuring effective communication without a committee structure.

Tri R Waste Management Administrator's Reports dated June 13, 2017 and June 27, 2017 as well as correspondence relating to the landfill were reviewed. Council directed staff to prepare a summary of concerns related to the proposed landfill capital expenditure and the 2017 budget deficit as discussed, and request a delegation to the Village of Burk's Falls to recommend these issues be addressed in the new shared services agreement.

The proposed cost-sharing percentages to be included in the new shared services agreement were reviewed using the approved 2017 budgets.

COMMITTEE/BOARD REPORTS

Library

The Library Chair will be forwarding a letter to Councils recommending changes to the reporting procedure for Tri Council.

DSSAB

A resolution regarding housing was passed (resolution below).

Economic Development

Council passed a resolution in support of forming a Regional Economic Development Department (resolution below) but also indicated that it is important to include the current Economic Development program in the new Tri Council shared services agreement to ensure sustainability of the program in the event that the regional initiative is not in place by April 2018 (resolution below).

Eastholme

Councillor Sterling provided a verbal up-date.

CORRESPONDENCE/NEW BUSINESS

- Township of Armour re: resolution regarding shared services agreement
- Tri R Waste Management Administrator's report June 13, 2017; report June 27, 2017; Armour resolution; and correspondence re: landfill budget
- Municipality of Neebing re: conservation land tax (resolution)
- Regional Fire Services Committee re: minutes and renewal of shared training contract
- Sky Solar being an announcement of a name change from Sky Solar Group to Sky Solar Holdings, Ltd.
- AMO re: federal-provincial agreement on Child Care and Early Learning; Report from the June AMO Board meeting
- Muskoka Algonquin Health Care being a report from the Annual General Meeting and a report on capital and infrastructure needs
- Ministry of Education regarding rural and northern education

BY-LAWS

- By-law #28-17, being a by-law to confirm the meetings of Council

CLOSED MEETING

Council moved to a closed meeting as noted in the below resolution. Council returned to the open meeting at 10:00 p.m. The Clerk will follow up with direction given in the closed meeting.

RESOLUTIONS

Moved by Councillor Sterling, seconded by Councillor Hall be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council authorize: Leanne Fetterley, Judy Edwards, Barb Marlow, and Judy Kosowan to attend the meeting with Fred Dean July 12, 2017 in Bracebridge. (Carried)

Moved by Councillor Marlow, seconded by Councillor Weddel WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has the goal of ending chronic homelessness by 2025,

and a long-term goal of ending homelessness; and WHEREAS surplus school property is a publicly-owned asset that may have opportunity for redevelopment into new affordable housing; and WHEREAS the costs of acquiring surplus school property at the 'fair market price' may be prohibitive to new housing development; and WHEREAS the Corporation of the Township of Ryerson acknowledges the importance of creating new housing in markets where the demand for affordable housing is long; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ryerson shall engage the Minister of Housing and the Minister of Education to establish and implement a strategy to transfer surplus school properties to Municipal Service Managers at zero cost for the purpose of creating new affordable housing. (Carried)

Moved by Councillor Hall, seconded by Councillor Sterling WHEREAS the Township of Armour, Township of Ryerson, and the Village of Burk's Falls are currently negotiating a new shared services agreement; and WHEREAS there are preliminary plans to offer Economic Development services on a regional scale beginning in April 2018 and not as part of the shared services agreement solely between Armour, Ryerson and Burk's Falls; and WHEREAS this regional Economic Development initiative is subject to funding and to a separate agreement between a number of regional stakeholders; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ryerson recommends that in order to ensure the sustainability of economic development for 2018, the shared services agreement between Armour, Ryerson and Burk's Falls must include terms and a cost-sharing formula to be effective should the regional initiative not move forward in April 2018. (Carried)

Moved by Councillor Weddel, seconded by Councillor Marlow be it resolved that the Corporation of the Township of Ryerson Council agrees to partner with other Almaguin Municipalities to form a Regional Economic Development Department for an initial three year term beginning April 2018; and further that Council agrees to contribute up to \$10,000 per year to share in the cost of the Regional Economic Development Department based on a formula to be determined. (Carried)

Moved by Councillor Sterling, seconded by Councillor Hall be it resolved that Ryerson Township Council support the resolution received from the Municipality of Neebing requesting the Province to consider a flat rate per acre to compensate municipalities for the loss of developable land through the Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program. (Carried)

Moved by Councillor Marlow, seconded by Councillor Weddel be it resolved that leave be given to introduce a Bill #28-17, being a By-law to confirm the meetings of Council and further; That By-Law #28-17 be read a First, Second, and Third time, Signed and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto and finally passed in Council this 4th day of July, 2017. (Carried)

Moved by Councillor Hall, seconded by Councillor Sterling be it resolved that we move to a closed session at 9:34 p.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: review of staff working relationships. (Carried)

Moved by Councillor Marlow, seconded by Councillor Weddel that we do now adjourn at 10:01 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. (Carried)

Original signed by Glenn Miller

REEVE

Original signed by Leanne Fetterley

DEPUTY CLERK