

**TOWNSHIP OF MACHAR
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
Monday, August 17, 2020**

Call to Order, Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof; nil.

Council present: Mayor Lynda Carleton, Deputy Mayor Ron McLaren, Councillors Bart Wood and Neil Scarlett. Councillor Blair Flowers was absent without notice.

Staff present: Clerk Administrator Brenda Paul.

Guest scheduled, attending by teleconference: Steve Van Groningen, Manager, Corporate Affairs, Xplornet Communications Inc.

Xplornet Project in Machar – ICON Program

Xplornet has developed a network project to bring fibre and wireless sites to a substantial number of citizens in Machar. The network will deliver speeds up to 100 Megabits per second when completed. The intention is to submit the project to the Ontario government's broadband program due this Fri.

119-20 Wood, Scarlett

WHEREAS Xplornet has identified a significant opportunity to dramatically expand broadband access across central and northern Ontario to exceed the 50/10 speed targets set by the provincial government and establish a truly scalable high speed network,

WHEREAS working with a hybrid fibre and fixed wireless model, Xplornet is prepared to deploy a next generation network capable of offering speeds of 100 Megabites per second (Mbps) and unlimited data to rural residents,

WHEREAS on a local scale, Xplornet's proposed project includes the Township of Machar through the construction of 43 km of new fibre and the addition of 4 new wireless sites connected to the proposed fibre network,

WHEREAS these sites would be able to provide services of up to 100 Mbps with unlimited data to homes within the coverage zone and approximately 450 underserved homes in Machar can be served by the project,

NOW THEREFORE THAT we provide a letter of support to Xplornet for their ICON Project Proposal understanding that expanding access to high speed internet is crucial for future economic development and quality of life of local residents. CARRIED

BUSINESS

1. Adoption of July 27, 2020 minutes, Resolution

120-20 Scarlett, McLaren

THAT we adopt Jul 27, 2020 minutes. CARRIED

2. Application to Purchase Lakeshore Road Allowance 4-022-03, Resolution

121-20 McLaren, Scarlett

THAT we accept Application to Purchase & Close Lakeshore Road Allowance 4-022-03 for processing. CARRIED

3. Tariff of Fees for the Processing of Planning Matters By-Law, Resolution

By-law update required, previous by-law and fees are circa 2006.

122-20 Wood, McLaren

THAT we give 1st, 2nd, 3rd and final reading to By-Law No. 15-20; prescribing a tariff of fees for the processing of applications made in respect to planning matters. CARRIED

4. Administration Update Budget Report, Resolution

Reviewed. Proactively working on a small group of tax accounts for collection (25). Service Delivery Review is well underway and progressing nicely. We're seeing a lot of development pressures around planning matters. Budget Report looks good. Revenues are at 52.21% and Expenditures are at 35.22% as of Jul 27, 2020. As part of the federal-provincial Safe Restart Agreement, the Ontario government announced that it had secured up to \$4 billion in emergency assistance to provide Ontario's 444 municipalities with the support they need to respond to Covid-19. Municipal Operating Funding Phase 1: Immediate Funding for Municipal Pressures. The Township of Machar will receive a payment of \$110,300 to support Covid-19 operating costs and pressures. The municipality is accountable for using this funding for the purpose of addressing our priority Covid-19 operating costs and pressures. The municipality will be expected to report back to the province in a template to be provided by the ministry. Operating costs and pressures were discussed; relief staffing, plexi-glass, hand sanitizing station, teleconferencing, personal protective equipment/masks, workstations upgrade (2014), line painting. The funding will be fully utilized. Phase 2: Funding for Additional Municipal Pressures. Municipalities will be required to submit reports due by Oct 30.

123-20 Scarlett, McLaren

THAT we accept Administration Update Jul 24, 2020 and Budget Report as of Jul 27, 2020. CARRIED

5. Cogeco.com ICON Submission Discussion

Cogeco are planning to submit a bid to the Improving Connectivity for Ontario (ICON) RFP (Request for Proposal) that will include a small portion of Machar (Maeck Subdivision). This area would be included as part of a larger bid for South River. Cogeco has already submitted a much larger bid to the CRTC that includes a larger area of Machar and they expect to hear back in the early fall. The ICON bid is smaller as ICON will only fund up to 25% of a project. Cogeco has identified an overage in this project that would not be covered by ICON and Cogeco is unable to absorb further cost. They have already approached South River to have them consider the request which would be required for a submission in this 1st intake. For Machar, the cost required to connect Maeck Subdivision (if successful) would be 25k with the larger amount covered by South River (if they agree). Discussed. Not supported, the contribution amount is quite significant and coverage area in Machar is small.

6. CENGN Northern Ontario Residential Broadband Program

NECO Community Futures Development Corporation advises Canada's Centre of Excellence in Next Generation Networks would like to invite any Northern Ontario community located north of a line running west from Renfrew to Huntsville, then west from Huntsville to Parry Sound, to participate in the 3rd Northern Ontario Residential Broadband Program project. Ontario communities can submit an Expression of Interest on or before Aug 21, 2020. Program Overview indicates several requirements from technology company applicants and the community. CENGN will contribute 50% of eligible project costs for an approved project up to \$500,000 per project. CEGN funds flow only to the technology applicant. The technology applicant is responsible to reimburse partners if applicable. The community would need to be willing to work with and support the selected technology applicants to complete site surveys, understand location, access, and addresses of points of presence (POPs), secure buildings, equipment rooms, or equipment installation sites in the community required for project equipment, provide information on potential tower or equipment sites required in the community, help assess need for permits, right-of-ways, etc. Not feasible.

7. Pay List by Fund for Jul, Resolution

124-20 Wood, McLaren

THAT we authorize Pay List by Fund as of Jul 31, 2020: \$652,149.00 Grand Total. CARRIED

COMMITTEES

8. Shared Services Monthly Reports for Jul; Fire & Arena - Reopening Protocols, ICIP update

Reviewed. Insurance costs above budget noted for both services. Several questions put forward, mostly pertaining to Arena; ice scheduled to be in place between Sep 22 and Oct 1 (how long will it take to put ice in), what is Early Ice, Parking Lot upgrade, Arena facility closed for quite some time (corresponding insurance reduction due to less usage liability?), Reopening Protocols reassurances (cleaning, maximum number of people regulation), Enbridge Gas for 3 Industrial Park on Fire AP. Council instructed the Clerk Administrator request an Arena Committee meeting for discussions.

South River Machar Arena Rebuild project submitted under the Community, Culture and Recreation funding stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) not nominated for federal review and approval. The intake of this funding stream was highly competitive, and total demand reached upwards of \$10 billion against total available joint funding (federal-provincial-applicant) of nearly \$1 billion. The provincial assessment criteria included reviewing projects based on Community Need, Community Support, Lack of Similar Services Accessible Nearby, Operational/Financial Capacity, Value for Money, Asset Management Planning, whether projects were open to the public and efficiencies through joint projects.

9. South River Machar Medical minutes of July 20, 2020, Resolution

Reviewed. Discussions ensued on Lower Level Tenant concerns and costs being incurred. The Clerk Administrator advised a comparison of Lower Level revenue to expenses is going to the Board of Management meeting tomorrow night, as are the tenders for the Maintenance Person contract. At this point it is recommended the lease for the Lower Level Tenant not be approved to go longer.

125-20 Scarlett, Wood

THAT we support motions 1-5 in Medical minutes of Jul 20, 2020 as follows: adopt the minutes, quote in the amount of \$9,600 plus HST for replacing the air conditioning and the furnace for the Lower Level rental area, accept the quote of \$1,356 including HST for painting the additional space for the Lower Level tenant, approve Pay Lists by Fund/Budgetary Control, adjourned until Aug 18, 2020... CARRIED

10. Almaguin Recycling Initiative minutes of July 29, 2020 - Hazmat Aug 22; Covid-19, Resolution

Councillor Wood gave a report on the last meeting including hazardous material collection and storage, outside of the Hazmat dates. This matter is to be further addressed. Hazmat Event for Aug 22 is going ahead with some alterations due to Covid-19; a dedicated entry and exit, please do not exit your vehicle other than to open your trunk, for volunteers to remove household hazardous items, no loitering, collection is not permitted from any commercial or industrial entity. The poster and list of acceptable items are available on our website Events page; www.machartownship.net

126-20 Wood, Scarlett

THAT we acknowledge ARI minutes of Jul 29, 2020. CARRIED

11. Central Almaguin Planning minutes for July 15, 2020, Resolution

The Board was advised it had not met the criteria for the Special Business Case funding applied for to allow for an Interim Control By-Law to be placed on Deer Lake or sections of Deer Lake prior to studies such as water quality and lake capacity studies taking place. An Interim Control By-Law cannot be enacted without an Official Plan. Board member from Joly would like to canvass the residents and ratepayers of Lount to hear their thoughts, concerns and/or objections to an Official Plan. The Secretary Treasurer is to contact the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to find out if there is funding available to develop an Official Plan for Lount. New provincial rep appointed.

127-20 Scarlett, McLaren

THAT we acknowledge Planning minutes of Jul 15, 2020. CARRIED

12. Joint Building Permit Summaries for Jul, 2020, Resolution

Reviewed. Machar has the highest Permit Fees and Project Values of the 7 municipalities served.

128-20 Scarlett, McLaren

THAT we accept Building Permit Summaries for Jul 2020. CARRIED

13. District of Parry Sound Social Service Administration Board 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan Report 2019-2020, Plan Update 2019 (5 year update)

Reviewed. Housing Programs 2019 Calendar Year Social Housing Waitlist; Number of Applications Received 105, Total Waitlist 436, Number of People Housed 25. Special Priority Program; Applications Received 6, Applications Approved 5, Applicants Housed 4. Homelessness Prevention Program; Referrals 180 households, sees a spike in access to services in the fall months. Many residents are seasonally employed or able to camp outside through the summer months.

INFORMATION

- 14. Town of Amherstburg Resolution** – in support of the Town of Renfrew’s Resolution regarding their request to fast track investing in Canada’s Infrastructure Program (ICIP) grant applications.
- 15. ACED (Almaguin Community Economic Development) Marketing Survey Invitation** – Agriculture and Culinary Survey, sectors in the Almaguin Highlands. This survey will be conducted on ACED’s behalf by Strexer Harrop and Associates. This survey will help assess and improve local food awareness, access and production. Responses up to 12 pm on Aug 23, 2020.
www.surveymonkey.com/r/AlmaguinHighlands
- 16. MPAC InTouch Jul 2020** – Creating new ways to access building, MPAC @ AMO 2020 Conference, Upcoming webinar: Worksight, Latest Worksight enhancement.
- 17. Ministry of Solicitor General – Court Security and Prisoner Transportation** – As part of the ongoing work to build a more responsive and resilient justice system, the ministry will retain an independent consultant with expertise in public safety and security to review the Court Security and Prisoner Transportation Program.
- 18. Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Source Protection Programs Branch – 2020 Proposed Amendments to Technical Rules for Source Protection under the Clean Water Act** – posted to Environmental Registry of Ontario, public consultation will close Mon, Nov 9, 2020.
- 19. AMO Policy Update** – \$4 Billion Announced for Ontario Municipal Governments and Transit. The province, in partnership with the Federal Government under the Safe Restart Agreement will be providing \$4 Billion in one-time emergency assistance to all of Ontario’s 444 Municipalities aimed at maintaining critical services, including public transit over the next 6 to 8 months. Specific allocations will be made in the weeks ahead. Provincial Emergency Declaration Ended, The Reopening Ontario Act provides the Province with flexibility to address the ongoing risks and effects of Covid-19.
- 20. AMO Policy Update – Child Care Funding and Community Safety Initiatives** – The provincial and federal governments have reached an agreement to support Ontario’s plan to safely reopen child care and early year’s programs to full capacity in September 2020. Under the Safe Restart Agreement, a combined \$234.6 million in provincial and federal funding is available to keep children and staff safe in child care. **Proceeds of crime front line policing grant** – The Ontario Government recently announced that \$6 million, over the next three years will support 16 police services, this will include municipal, provincial and First Nations who have partnered with at least two community organizations to implement 12 crime prevention and community safety initiative across the province.
- 21. AMO Policy Update – Court Security Funding Review, CCTV Grant Program, Windsor-Essex Goes to Stage 3** – This review is expected to be completed before the end of the year and any changes will not affect the 2020 program. The Ministry of the Solicitor General has announced that it will be accepting applications under the Ontario Closed Circuit Television Grant Program for the 2020-21 fiscal year. The Windsor-Essex County Health Unit region will join the rest of the Province’s 33 public health regions that entered into Stage 3 on Jul 17, 24 and 31, 2020 respectively.
- 22. AMO Watchfile Jul 30, 2020 In This Issue**
- COVID-19 resources.
 - Changes to federal wastewater regulations.
 - *Marine Liability Act* review.
 - Four new interim Codes of Practice under *Fisheries Act*.
 - Just a few weeks until 2020 AMO Conference!
 - AMO’s 2020 Exhibit Hall.
 - Everything you need to know about Land Use Planning.
 - LAS Blog: LAS Goes Virtual at the AMO Conference 2020!

- LAS Group Buying: Easy on your budget.
 - Investments 101 Training - Available this fall.
- 23. AMO WatchFile August 6, 2020 In This Issue**
- COVID-19 Resources.
 - AMO 2019 Annual Report available online.
 - You can still register for 2020 AMO Conference.
 - Delegate AMO 2020 Conference orientation.
 - Everything you need to know about Land Use Planning.
 - New features in our Road & Sidewalk Assessment Service.
 - Complimentary webinar on nutrition and health
- 24. FCM Voice** – Ontario and Alberta communities get safe re-start boost. How to deliver a home upgrade financing program. Video Series: take municipalities’ action on climate and more.
- 25. Municipal World Article; The municipal “good to great” journey** – Council-Staff Collaborations, Be interested, Employ starts, Strong values, Persevere, Be disciplined, Take/make think time, Always deliver, Clear decisions, Sell what your municipality does well, Embrace Change.
- 26. Municipal World Jul 2020** – Municipalities switch gears in crisis, Covid-19 and working from home, Things every Canadian municipality should do now, Joys and challenges of managing a small town.
- 27. Municipal World Aug 2020** – The Importance of Nature for a Post-Pandemic World, Rethinking Urban Water Management, Fine-Tuning Lifestyle Through Green Development, Municipal Performance Management.
- 28. Municipal Monitor Q2 2020** – Finding our way back to the middle, Canada’s inherent values are a safeguard against populism, Construction Act reforms are silent on reprisal clauses but municipalities must consider the unintended consequences, Seeing the savings, collaborative buying program helps municipalities cut costs, Ethics check-up, people of good character will always speak up, Special section, Virtual Trade Show.
- 29. Trans Canada Trail** – *The Great Trail of Canada!* The Great Trail is asking for donations to support The Great Trail of Canada during this time of COVID-19. Make a donation today and it will be matched until Aug 31.
- 30. Trans Canada Trail** – *The Great Trail of Canada!* Trail Talk Aug 2020; A day along Toronto’s Waterfront Trail. An accessible delight for the senses: A one-day adventure along the Salt Marsh Trail. A stroll under Saskatchewan’s skies along the Lumsden. Thank you, Hampton House!
- 31. Celebration Emancipation Day and Ontario’s Black History and Heritage** – July 27 to August 1, 2020 The Ontario’s Heritage Trust is pleased to announce digital Emancipation Day activities for 2020, from interviews with historians to musical performances by Black artist. Emancipation Day commemorates the Abolition of Slavery Act, which became law on August 1, 1834.

INFORMATION – COVID-19

- 32. Township of South Glengarry Resolution** – Covid-19 pandemic has disproportionately affected the vulnerable elderly population in Canada’s long term care homes and some of Ontario’s LTC homes are among those with the highest fatality rates in the country as the pandemic has exposed deplorable conditions, mandate of the Ministry of Long Term Care to inspect long term care homes on an annual basis, these inspections have consistently dropped since 2017 with only 9 completed out of 626 LTC homes in 2019, urges the Government of Ontario to provide funding to increase full time positions in place of casual and part time labour in LTC homes and requests the Ministry acts to regularly inspect all LTC homes and sound infection control measures are put in place.
- 33. Contact North Nord** – The contact North Nord team is continually connecting with your residents to offer a range of local services such as:
- Provide information about available online programs and courses from Ontario’s colleges, universities, literacy and basic skills and training providers.
 - Assist with registration for their online program or course of choice and financial aid options.
 - Arrange for free use of our web conferencing platform to connect to and participate in their online programs and courses from their own computer or tablet.
 - Welcome them at our local online learning centre to use computer workstations and high-speed internet access to complete their online courses.
- Although online learning is temporarily closed due to COVID-19 they still offer support by phone, e-mail, text message, and zoom or facebook messenger.
- 34. Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing** – The emergency order on work deployment measures for municipalities (O.Reg. 157/20). The ROA Give the Ontario government the necessary flexibility to address the ongoing risks and effects of the COVID-19 outbreak by continuing certain emergency

orders following the end of the declared provincial emergency. In order to exercise the authority in this order, the municipality is required to have declared an emergency under section 4 of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*.

- 35. Ministry of the Attorney General** – On July 21, 2020, Bill 197, the COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020 Received Royal Assent. Schedule 18 of the Bill amends the Provincial Offences Act (POA) to remove barriers to electronic delivery of documents and remote appearances in POA proceedings.
- 36. AMO Policy Update – COVID-19 Infrastructure Program and Non-Profit Support** – Changes to the federal investing in Canada infrastructure plan (ICIP) to help communities adapt to new need to manage the pandemic. The changes will create a new stream to build pandemic-resilient infrastructure. COVID-19 Resilient Stream will include faster approvals for projects and will provide an 80 per cent federal funding share for projects and can be used to upgrade, repair, or retrofit provincial and municipal building such as schools and community facilities, build new active transportation! Such as: bikes lanes, trails and paths, upgrade existing or build new parks, and contribute to disaster mitigation projects such as flood and fire protection, including natural infrastructure. Also expands ICIP project eligibility under Public Transit, Green and Rural and Northern Streams. COVID-19 Resilience Stream projects must start by September 30, 2021 and be completed by December 31, 2021. *Non Profit Support*; \$83 million through the Ontario Trillium Foundation to provide grants to help eligible non-profit organizations, including food banks, child and youth programs and Royal Canadian Legion branches, recover from COVID-19 and continue the delivery of vital programing in their communities.
- 37. AMO Policy Update – Stage 3 Reopening’s and the Long-Term Care Commission Launch** - The Ontario government has announced that the City of Toronto and Peel Region will move to Stage 3 of the Province's reopening plan on Friday. At this time, the Region of Windsor-Essex will remain in Stage 2. The Toronto and Peel regions will join the 31 public health regions that entered into Stage 3 on July 17 and 24, 2020. The Minister of Long-Term Care, Merrilee Fullerton, announced the details of the independent commission into long-term care. The commission will investigate how COVID-19 spread within long-term care homes, how residents, staff and families were impacted, and the adequacy of measures taken by the Province and other parties to prevent, isolate, and contain the virus. The commission will be led by a three-member panel chaired by Frank Marrocco, an associate chief justice of Ontario’s Superior Court. The other two members are Dr. Jack Kitts, recently retired president and chief executive of The Ottawa Hospital, and Angela Coke, a former deputy minister who spent 27 years in Ontario’s civil service. The commission is expected to deliver a final report back to the Ministry by no later than April 2021 with their findings.
- 38. New!** Ontario Trillium Foundation – Resilient Communities Fund to provide grants to help eligible non-profit organizations, including food banks, child and youth programs and Royal Canadian Legion branches recover from Covid-19 and continue the delivery of vital programming in their communities, one-time fund. Request amount from \$5,000 to \$150,000. Application deadlines Sep 2 at 5 and Dec 2 at 5. www.otf.ca/resilient-communities-fund
- 39. President’s Corner (FCM)** – COVID-19 moving from response to recovery. For months FCM and its members have urged all orders of government to come together to address the financial crisis facing cities and communities. They have made it clear that there can be no economic recovery without support for municipalities in this crisis first. The “safe economic restart” funding agreement between Ottawa and provinces and territories is promising starting to address the municipal operating costs, as well as transit. Bringing Canada back stronger than ever.

ADDITIONAL/ROUND TABLE/NOTICE OF MOTION

Councillor Wood gave a report on this year’s Eagle Lake Phragmite effort. It went very well, quicker/less time again this year, lots of volunteers and good weather. It’s hoped to hand off the effort to the landowners eventually. A report is coming from the Eagle Lake Conservation Association President.

ADJOURN

129-20 Scarlett, Wood

THAT we give 1st, 2nd, 3rd and final reading to Confirming By-Law and that we adjourn until our Regular meeting scheduled for Mon, Sep 14, 2020. CARRIED

Mayor Lynda Carleton

Clerk Administrator Brenda Paul, AMCT