

**TOWNSHIP OF MACHAR
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
Monday, February 28, 2022**

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

Council present: Mayor Lynda Carleton, Deputy Mayor Ron McLaren, Councillors Blair Flowers, Bart Wood and Neil Scarlett. Staff present: Clerk Administrator Brenda Paul.

Guests observing by teleconference per Covid 19 protocols; Pearl Ivens, Stephanie Apollonio.

BUSINESS

1. Adoption of Feb 14, 2022 minutes, Resolution

22-22 Flowers, Wood

THAT we adopt minutes of Feb 14, 2022. CARRIED

2. 2022 Spring Newsletter, Resolution

Draft 2 per edits suggested last meeting. The Newsletter is a balance between new items and regular recurring information that keeps our citizens informed and up to date with contacts.

23-22 Scarlett, McLaren

THAT we approve 2022 Spring Newsletter. CARRIED

3. Short Term Rentals follow up septic system inquiries

Per presentation at last meeting, proposed septic inquiries reviewed. Council instructed “over used/capacity, actual number to use” be added. Pump out by-law discussed and we’ve reviewed previously. Trout Lake has one in place due to source water protection. Quick Reference Guide for Property Owners/Renters and Show Your Love Guide to Treating your Lake and Neighbours Right are featured prominently on our website Events page (as well as Fireworks regulation). Suggested contact numbers for residents provided by presenter for consideration. Appropriate contact numbers are available in our newsletter and on our website in various locations or by phone. Council suggested Quick Reference Guide and Show Your Love Guide be provided to hopefully post at Eagle Lake Narrows Country Store where it should get seen by a lot of residents and visitors.

4. Short Term Rentals letter of support 4-120

Reviewed. Copy of presentation from last meeting provided with letter of support.

5. Zoning By-Law Trailers viable solutions 3-013-10

Council reviewed letter writer’s concern on Jan 24, 2022. Follow up letter received. Letter writer has copied the media. Trailer provisions are per Zoning By-Law 45-12. Council decision remains the same, travel trailers are permitted on a temporary basis for up to 30 days in a calendar year. Administration further noted revision would require a comprehensive zoning by-law amendment.

COMMITTEES

6. Shared Services Monthly Reports for Jan; Arena and Fire

Reviewed/received Arena Manager’s Report, Income Statement, AP Ledger, preliminary capital Facility Refrigeration proposal for budgetary requirements 1-5 as follows: Project 1 Option 1 \$29,000, Project 1 Option 2 \$39,750, Project 2 Option 1 \$122,500, Project 2 Option 2 \$122,950, Project 3 \$139,000, Project 4 \$130,500, Project 5 \$33,000 (all prices + HST), Fire Chief’s Report, AP Ledger, Income Statement. Council requested inquiry be sent on Arena Manager’s Report “quotes

for kitchen appliances and cupboards are being updated”, why haven’t they already been installed? Councillor Wood gave a fulsome report on Mandatory Certification for Firefighters, the considerations, difficulties and effect (will reduce levels of service). The Clerk Administrator advised information has come in today from AMO on the issue. It was forwarded out to Mayor Carleton and the Fire Chief. The Fire Chief has provided us today with his response on the issue. These items to come forward at our next Council meeting for a Resolution of support to object to the changes.

7. Machar Public Works minutes of Feb 17, 2022, Resolution

24-22 Wood, Scarlett

THAT we accept Public Works minutes of Feb 17, 2022 including 2022 Landfill Budget in the amount of Net \$181,616 (up 1.2%) and 2022 Road Budget in the amount of \$1,606,092 (up 2%) subject to overall Township budget requirements. CARRIED

8. South River Machar Medical minutes of Feb 15, 2022, Resolution

Reviewed. Medical Centre budget can vary due to capital decided by Board but is self funded from Rent revenues. Elevator replacement is planned for Jul 2022. Currently receiving a lower level tenant complaint. The issue has been dispatched to the Caretaker and we’re trying to get it fixed.

25-22 McLaren, Scarlett

THAT we support motions in Medical Centre minutes of Feb 15, 2022 as follows: adopt the minutes, Pay Lists/Budgetary Control, approve the proposed draft budget in the amount of \$123,195, further that any surplus at year end be placed into reserve, adjourned... CARRIED

9. South River Machar Library minutes of Feb 9, 2022, Resolution

26-22 Wood, Scarlett

THAT we acknowledge Library minutes of Feb 9, 2022. CARRIED

a. Annual Report 2021, Budget 2022, Resolution

27-22 McLaren, Flowers

THAT we accept Library Annual Report 2021 and 2022 Budget in the amount of \$34,431.49 our contribution (up 2.86%) subject to overall Township budget requirements. CARRIED

10. Joint Building minutes of Feb 17, 2020, Resolution

Reviewed. E-permitting and succession planning discussed. Deferred revenue is currently healthy.

28-22 Flowers, Wood

THAT we acknowledge Building minutes of Feb 17, 2022 including 2022 Budget of \$211,803 reflecting permit fees only required and no operating contribution. CARRIED

a. potential change for sheds for comment until Mar 12, 2022

Currently no permit is required for a 10x10 shed less than 107 sq ft provided that the principal structure is erected on the property, lot coverage and setback distances must comply with the Zoning By-Law and they can’t be used for human habitation. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing has posted a Regulatory Registry Notice to propose a Building Code change that would generally exempt a person who constructs or assembles a shed that is up to 15 m² (161.5 sq ft, just over 12x13) from needing to obtain a building permit and to comply with the Building Code. Enforcement of 10x10 sheds has been problematic, owners sometimes don’t fully comply with shed requirements and no habitation as they’re exempted from needing a Building Permit.

11. North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit 2022 municipal levy

Mitigation funding from the Province covers the additional municipal cost due to the change in cost sharing formula to 30 municipal/70 provincial. This change would have resulted in a 42% increase in

the levy. There is no indication at this time that there will be further transitional funding in 2023, so it would be prudent for municipalities to plan for an approximate 50% increase in 2023. Our share is up 3.29% for 2022 to \$28,232.54 (contributions mandatory apportioned between 31 municipalities).

a. Board of Health Feb 23 meeting

Agenda is posted on their website. Agenda package has been provided to Board members.

12. District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board CAO Report Feb 2022 available

13. EMS Advisory Feb 24 meeting

Directors Report indicates South River Station is overused. There are multiple management staff and operational staff all working in the space. Consideration for a major change at South River will need to occur in the near future. This will likely necessitate the building of a replacement base with more storage and operational space. This would greatly relieve the pressure on the Parry Sound base. Similar to South River, additional space needs to be considered at Parry Sound.

INFORMATION

- 14. Township of Clearview Resolution** – Supports the request from the Township of Adjala-Tosorontio, the Township of Adelaide-Metcalf, the Township of Lake of Bays, the Township of Amaranth, and Northumberland County for the Federal Provincial Governments to provide more funding to rural municipalities to support infrastructure projects related to major bridge and culvert replacement.
- 15. Municipality of Shuniah Resolution** – Supports the resolution from Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) regarding supporting the expansion of Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) to address the urgent need for physicians in Northern Ontario.
- 16. Township of Limerick Resolution** – Requests the County of Hastings take the necessary steps to accurately interpret the devastation of the Gypsy Moth Caterpillar by way of geographical consideration along with the online reporting method to ensure accurate and beneficial spraying to combat this problem is undertaken.
- 17. Township of Alnwick/Haldimand Resolution** – Request to proclaim 2022 as the Year of the Garden in celebration of the contribution of gardens and gardening to the development of our country, our municipality and the lives of our citizens in terms of health, equality of life and environmental challenges.
- 18. AMO Communications, Watchfile, Feb 10, 2022, In This Issue** –
 - Infrastructure Canada Capital Projects stream: Rural Transit Solutions Fund.
 - AMO/LAS Municipal Energy Symposium Mar 31 – Apr 1.
 - eScribe municipal election webinar series.
 - Canoe webinar: Exprolink/Madvac.
 - Canoe vendor spotlight: Traffic Logix.
 - Risk Management Back-to-Basics free webinar.
 - Promote your RFP with OMSSA.
 - Careers: Victoria BC, OSC, MNRF, Metrolinx, Augusta, London and Simcoe.
- 19. AMO Communications, AMO Watchfile, Feb 17, 2022, In This Issue** –
 - Register for Subwatershed Planning Guide webinar on Feb 24.
 - Infrastructure Canada Capital Projects stream: Rural Transit Solutions Fund.
 - AMO/LAS Municipal Energy Symposium Mar 31 – Apr 1.
 - Staying informed with the Canoe Webinar Series.
 - Free Risk Management Back-to-Basics webinar.
 - Blog: Five Risk Management Trends to Follow in 2022.
 - Careers: Simcoe, South Frontenac, Georgina, Kincardine, Vaughan, MSG, Muskoka.
- 20. AMO Communications, AMO Policy Update, AMO's Integrated Housing Paper with Long-Term are Phase 1 Regulations and Community Housing Regulations Submissions** – Ontario is facing a housing affordability and supply crisis. The Blueprint builds on AMO's longstanding positions and advocacy around housing and provides a new starting point for ongoing collaboration and collective work by all order of government and the development sector to make a meaningful difference in Ontario communities. The Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021 will come into effect in Apr 2022, along with the first phase of regulations. AMO has submitted comments through the regulatory registry on these Phase 1 regulations. AMO responded with a submission to the regulatory posting concerning Ontario Regulation 367/11 under the Housing Services Act, 2011 about new requirements for community housing including service agreements, service levels and access. The proposed changes will have a significant impact for years to come with financial implications.
- 21. AMO Communications, AMO Policy Update, AMO's Call to End Homelessness, Upcoming AMO Housing Paper Release, Off-Load Delay Strategy** – The government's significant investment through the Social Services Relief Fund has mitigated some of the work impacts of COVID-19 on the homeless population. AMO is actively

engaging with municipal associations and the provincial government on the housing crisis. Their white paper, blueprint for action: An Integrated Approach to Address the Ontario Housing Crisis, with recommendations available later this week. The Ministry of Health has now provided guidance should the expansion of consolidation of patients within the hospital be strategically needed to enable paramedic crews to return to service quickly. This practice has been used by various paramedic services across the province and this ministry direction is now providing a more consistent approach to “batching”.

22. Sudbury E, Nipissing & Parry Sound, Ministry of Agri, Food and Rural Affairs Ag Info, Feb 2022 –

- OMSFRA Dateline – <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/rural/edr/events-training.htm>.
- 2022 Northern Agriculture Conference – Feb 17 & 18, 2022.
- Profitable Pastures
- Canola & Coffee Speaker Series.
- Spring Canola – Wed, Feb 16 & Wed, Feb 23 & Wed, Mar 2.
- Winter Canola - Wed, Mar 9, 2022.
- Species at Risk Partnership on Agri Lands Program – opens Feb 14, 2022 & closes Feb 18, 2022.
- Rural Economic Development (RED) Program.
- Canadian Agriculture Partnership Funding.
- Addressing Agri-Food Sector Labour Force Challenges.
- The Livestock Veterinary Innovation Initiative – Feb 15, 2022 to Mar 31, 2022.
- Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation.
- Nutrient Management Courses.
- Ontario Pesticide Courses.
- Manure Management.
- COVID Resource Information.

23. Sudbury E, Nipissing & Parry Sound, Ministry of Agri, Food and Rural Affairs, Upcoming Workshops

- High Tunnel and Hoop Houses: Feb 22 from 7 to 8:30 pm.
- Bee Protection: Feb 23 from 7 to 8:30 pm.
- Wild Rice: Mar 2 from 7 to 8:30 pm.
- Managing Farm Finances: Mar 9 from 7 to 8:30 pm.

24. Sudbury E, Nipissing & Parry Sound, Ministry of Agri, Food and Rural Affairs, WNESASPInc, Tiling Project #10

– Please be advised that West Nipissing East Sudbury Agricultural Support Projects Inc. is currently accepting farmer applications for a possible 2022-2023 NOHFC Tile Drainage Project (up to 50% or maximum of \$500 per acre conditional contribution). They intend to submit Project #10 in the near future. They will be accepting application until Mar 12, 2022.

25. Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce, Influential Women in Almaguin - In collaboration with Almaguin Community Economic Development, they invite you to acknowledge the achievements of a woman in Almaguin who works to #BreaktheBias! Whether it's working in a male-dominated industry, breaking gender norms, standing against stereotypes, or celebrating differences.

26. ROMA Insider: 2022 Conference & Rural Ontario Action Plan – Highlights:

- ROMA launches Post-COVID Action Plan for Rural Ontario.
- LAS Mar Events: Workings Smarter on Insurance and Energy.
- Mar 31 – Apr 1: Municipal Energy Symposium.
- Board Zone Contacts.
- AMO Rural Caucus Members.

27. MECP, Ontario Parks, Request for Innovative Recreation Experiences and Services – Ontario Parks is looking for more ways to add innovative recreation experiences for people to enjoy at provincial parks, while also supporting local businesses, jobs and the provincial park system. The proposed activities and services should bring new visitors, particularly in non-peak seasons and in parks that have capacity to accept more visitors to avoid overcrowding. Proposal must also be consistent with applicable provincial legislation and individual park management plans, which specify environment protected.

- A packaged park experience that offered a learning hike with a gourmet picnic.
- An artisan offering classes in a park.
- A fun experience or service for bench goers, hikers or visitors interested in plants and animal life.
- An innovative solution that would improve accessibility of parks.

Visit the Ontario Tenders Portal <https://ontariotenders.app.jaggaer.com>.

28. MECP, Best Practices for Source Water Protection on Ontario.ca – Excited to share that the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks was released to help ensure communities and landowners in areas not covered by provincially-approved source protection plans have the tools they need to protect their drinking water sources. Let them know what you think about the best practices by taking part in their Survey on www.Ontario.ca and sharing it with your members, citizens, staff and committees as applicable. Your feedback will help them continually improve best practices and ensure they are a useful tool for protecting drinking water sources.

29. 2022 Ontario Farmland Forum: Please Bring to the Attention of Mayors, 2022 Farmland Forum Flyer – The forum is hosted by the Ontario Farmland Trust and will be held virtually on Mar 24, 2022. This year's theme, “The Future of Farmland Diversification,” will be of interest to many elected officials.

- 30. NDMNRF, Seniors Community Grant Program, Opening Soon** – The Seniors Community Grant Program encourages safe community engagement of seniors by supporting hundred of projects focused on volunteerism, learning, financial awareness, social inclusion, elder abuse prevention, mental well-being and physical activity. The application window is nine weeks and closes at 5 pm on Apr 28, 2022. Here is the link to the website: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/information-seniors-organizations>.
- 31. NDMNRF, Ontario Enhancing Supports for Black Youth and Entrepreneurs** – The economic empowerment program includes three new initiatives that will enable community organizations and Black-led employer and business leaders to design programs that help Black youth and young professionals achieve social economic success by building pathways to jobs:
- The Career Launch initiative will support locally developed programs that help Black children and youth across professional networks and skills development in high opportunity fields.
 - The Career Advance initiative will connect Black youth and young professionals with training and work placement opportunities in high opportunity industries.
 - The Sector-Innovation Networks support Black business leaders in high-growth sectors of the economy.
- 32. NDMNRF, Canada Performing Arts Workers Resilience Fund** – It’s now open and closes on Mar 4, 2022. The purpose and objective of the Canada Performing Arts Workers Resilience Fund is to retain Canadian skilled workers through a temporary program that invests in sector-led and delivered initiatives, which improve the economic, career, and personal circumstances of independent and self-employed workers in the live performance sector.
- 33. NDMNRF, Livestock Veterinary Innovation Initiative, Now Live/Open!** – There will be a continuous intake running for six weeks from Feb 15, 2022 to Mar 31, 2022.
- 34. NDMNRF, Investing in COVID-19 Community Resilience Stream ICCP Fed, Ventilation Projects, Open Now** – The Government of Canada is adapting the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program to respond to the impacts of COVID-19. The Program, delivered through bilateral agreements with provinces and territories, is being adjusted to add some flexibilities, expand project eligibility and accelerate approvals.
- 35. Northeastern Ontario Tourism, Feb Newsletter** –
- 2021 Northern Ontario Fixed Roof Accommodations Survey.
 - 2022 Spring Training Week Survey.
 - Fall & Winter Training Planning.
 - CEBA and RRRF Loan Repayment Extended by Federal Government.
 - Introducing the Ontario Staycation Tax Credit.
 - Applications Now Open for 2022 Skode Program.
 - Applications for Ontario COVID-19 Small Business Relief Grant Now Open.
 - Canada Extends Expanded Access to Local Lockdown Program and Worker Lockdown Benefit.
 - Canada Small Business Financing Program.
 - Business Benefits Finder.
 - Canada Small Business Financing Program.
 - Indigenous Youth & Community Futures Fund.

29-22 Scarlett, Wood

THAT we support agenda items 14 & 15 as follows: Township of Clearview to provide more funding to rural municipalities to support infrastructure projects related to major bridge and culvert replacement, Municipality of Shuniah supporting the expansion of Northern Ontario School of Medicine to address the urgent need for physicians in Northern Ontario. CARRIED

30-22 Flowers, McLaren

THAT we support agenda item 17 as follows: Township of Alnwick/Haldimand to proclaim 2022 as the Year of the Garden. CARRIED

INFORMATION – COVID-19

- 36. North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, Public Service Announcement, COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics This Week, By Appointment or Walk-in** – Individuals should bring a health card or another form of identifications, if possible. Walk in or book and appointment for the following clinic locations: Burk’s Falls, North Bay, Parry Sound, Sturgeon Falls, Sundridge, Verner
Fore more information, visit www.myhealthunit.ca/GetVaccinated.
- 37. North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, Public Service Announcement, Individuals 12 to 17 Soon Eligible for COVID-19 Booster Dose** – Clinic appointments can be booked online at www.Ontario.ca/BookVaccine.com.
- 38. North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, Public Service Announcement, COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics This Week, By Appointment or Walk-in** – COVID-19 vaccine appointments are available at clinics taking place throughout the Nipissing and Parry Sound districts this week. Individuals can book an appointment at www.Ontario.ca/BookVaccine, or by calling the Health Unit call centre 1-844-478-1400. Walk ins welcome at all clinics.

- 39. Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare, News Release, HDMH South Wing Out of COVID-19 Outbreak** – The outbreak has lasted a total of 10 days with only the initial one patient case and one staff case attributed to the outbreak. The unit has reopened to admissions as well as visitors according to MAHC’s visitation policy, currently at Phase 1 to allow the patient’s designated are partner to visit once a day between siting hours of 10 am to 4 pm.
- 40. BAO, Bereavement Authority of Ontario, Registrar’s Directive: COVID-19 Changes Go Into Place Feb 17** – Effective Thu:
- Capacity limits for indoor funeral services are increasing to the number of people who can maintain two metres physical distance.
 - Capacity limits are removed if the location opts to require proof of vaccination or if the funeral service is held outdoors, such as at a cemetery.
 - Pre-scheduling and login of visitors will no longer be required.
 - Food and beverage services may resume.
 - Cremation witnessing no longer limited to five people.
 - Staffing requirements may return to regular practice, with no need to segregate into separate teams for employees.
 - All time limits on making arrangements with families or storing decedents are removed.
 - Masking requirements will remain in place at this time.
- 41. AMCTO, The Municipal Experts, Advocacy Update: 2022 Pre-Budget Submission** – AMCTO is participating in the Province’s Pre-Budget Consultation, providing recommendations to ensure a resilient municipal sector. Read their full 2022 Pre-Budget Submission online.
- 42. Ius Laboris Canada Global HR Lawyers, Mathews Dinsdale, Federal Government Announces Easing of COVID-19 Boarder Measures** – As of Feb 28, 2022 at 12:01 am the Government of Canada will announce the easing of certain COVID-19 boarder measures in light of Canada’s high vaccination rate and detecting hospitalization rates.

ADDITIONAL/ROUND TABLE/NOTICE OF MOTION

Councillor Scarlett inquired about future recreation events, having just completed the Family Fun Day at Eagle Lake Narrows. Mayor Carleton noted the Community Garage Sale is scheduled for Sat, May 21, 2022. Councillor Wood noted the Lions are beginning to plan Canada Day. Deputy Mayor McLaren asked and it was confirmed we’ll be doing the Halloween Walk again in 2022. Several new ideas put forward: Scavenger Hunt, Machar Rally, Beach Party, Geocache, Fishing Derby/Free Fishing Weekend.

CLOSED SESSION

31-22 Wood, Scarlett

THAT we proceed into Closed Session in order to address a matter pertaining to; security of the property of the municipality or local board, personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees, advice that is subject to solicitor/client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose. Time 7: 52 pm. CARRIED

32-22 McLaren, Wood

THAT we come out of Closed Session. Time 8:24 pm. CARRIED

ADJOURN

33-22 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, Mar 14, 2022. CARRIED

Mayor Lynda Carleton

Clerk Administrator Brenda Paul, AMCT

BP/ss