

TOWNSHIP OF MACHAR
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
Monday, July 11, 2022

Call to Order, Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof; Mayor Carleton in item 2 as she works part-time at the law offices for the applicant.

Council present: Mayor Lynda Carleton, Deputy Mayor Ron McLaren, Councillors Blair Flowers and Bart Wood. Councillor Neil Scarlett was absent with notice due to illness. Staff present: Clerk Administrator Brenda Paul and Treasurer Deputy Clerk Angela Loney. Staff attending: By-Law Enforcement Officer Caitlin Deevey.

Guests registered (35). Guests attending by teleconference: Steve Anderson and Doug Edwards, Jocelyn Palm, Mark Savill, Liz Bradley, Mark Smuck, Fay Boyd, Helen Staal, Michael Spencer, Sylvie Guenard, Christina Schenk, Linda McKenzie, Dave Jensen, John Mowat, Lisa Regan, John Kelly, Pearl Ivens, Tina Burke, Stephanie Apollonio, Katy Anderson, Beth Lowes, Paul Rabinovitch.

GUESTS

6:30-6:45 pm Steve Anderson and Doug Edwards; By-Law for Septic Systems

Presentation received: Eagle Lake and the natural environment draw many visitors to the area and is key to the economy of Machar. The health of Eagle Lake has been a subject of discussion and decision making for many decades and continues to be so. In the ELCA (Eagle Lake Conservation Assoc) Eagle Lake Community Plan Summary and Action Guide 2008 it was stated that the lake is very sensitive to phosphorus levels. One source is faulty septic systems and information on proper maintenance of a septic system was presented for all owners to follow. In the plan, there was actually a recommendation for the ELCA to work with the Township in a septic re-inspection program on Eagle Lake asap and to continue to educate septic system owners in proper maintenance and operation of their systems. Additional sources were referenced: Hutchinson Environmental Sciences Lakeshore Capacity Assessment for Eagle Lake 2013, Township Official Plan Sec. B4.8 (Lake Capacity), recent test data from the Lake Partnership Program 2013-2019 indicated that Average Total Phosphorus Concentration has trended upward in both the North and South Basins. The proposal intends to be proactive, instead of reactive, indicating many municipalities in Ontario have established Sewage System Maintenance and Re-inspection Programs to ensure the systems are in compliance with the Building Code and are functioning properly. Components of Re-inspection: Educational – information on parts of the system and their function, maintenance tips and signs of trouble are given to users, Residential Systems – inspected every 5 years, typical inspections are non-intrusive (information of system researched prior to inspection), reviewed with owner and current homeowner practices, inside tank inspection done in some inspections, information about the systems is a key component to a re-inspection. Suggestion: Machar should have its own set of septic records for every property (North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority is the authority for septic) in order to capture a current picture (base) and create a foundation for managing septic systems going forward. Septic sewage removal contacts have not indicated any ongoing problems, however many of the residences being served have working septic systems, potentially older cottages could have no working system and are not pumping out. NBMCA have not received too many problems reported. If there are problems NBMCA is responsible for investigating and ensuring problems are rectified. NBMCA is apparently the only holder of the records and the records have not been digitized for analysis. Building the base will involve introduction under by-laws of a mandatory septic tank pump-out for every system of the Township within a reasonable time frame (2 years maximum). The septic tank clean out company will cooperate in providing records that identify the date of clean out, the size of unit, the structure of the unit, and identify any recommendations for problem improvement. A copy of that record would be voluntarily sent from the owner to the Township to verify that the work has been done. This also permits the Township to verify the site of the septic tank matches the number of bedrooms that the property has on record with the Building Dept permits. This is very important because some properties may have added quarters (permit support or otherwise) beyond the original building permit. If the mandate to have a current pump-out is not abided to then the Township would assess a penalty on the owner's taxes equal to a multiple of a nominal cost for a pump-out redeemable upon a current pump-out having been proven.

With this base having been established, subsequent proof of a pump-out within a 3-5 year period will keep the system current. An additional proviso they suggest would be that no property could be sold in Machar without a proof of current septic tank pump-out similar to the water testing certificate that is now a part of sale and the property tax reconciliation which always accompanies a sale.

Presentation concluded, questions from Council were answered: proposal is Township wide, not Eagle Lake specific, no problems with Eagle Lake now, concern with septic system over capacity (STRs), many properties may have never had a pump-out. Mayor Carleton expressed thanks for the presentation and information, it's a lot to digest and at present we simply don't have the resources to implement it. Council has been dealing with numerous issues including Noise By-Laws, fireworks, Short Term Rentals, building, etc. It's certainly hard to regulate and legislate good practice and common sense with respect to septic care and maintenance, especially when it's in everyone's best interest, as well as the property owners themselves. We have received objections to constant regulations and policy on everything including septic. This is very comprehensive and a problem to regulate everyone, the good and the bad. Education is hopefully the key. We will take this under review. The presenters inquired when we could meet again. Mayor Carleton responded we'll review and get back to them, time frame unknown.

6:45-7:00 pm Jocelyn Palm, Near North Enviro Education Centre; to present a Survey Project gathers information about living in the Almaguin region to identify local priorities and advance community knowledge: Inspiring Sustainable Communities

Presentation received: Inspiring Sustainable Communities; a survey project that the Near North Enviro Education Centre (a charitable organisation with an office in Sundridge) is conducting to assess many aspects (economic, cultural, environmental and leadership) of life in Almaguin. The survey gathers information about living in the Almaguin region with the hope of being able to identify local priorities and advance community knowledge. NNEEC Three Pillars: Environmental Sustainability, Economic Security, Social Diversity. Current Programs: Community Adventure Program, Almaguin Turtle Project, Invasive Species Abatement, Community Learning Garden, Climate Change Forest Study, Environmental Health, And now the survey Rural Keystone: Almaguin Edition. The survey aligns with NNEEC's three pillars, surveying 24 communities, includes 7 categories: Demographics, Environment, Community, Education & Jobs, Food Security, Belonging & Leadership, Opinions not Covered. NNEEC is doing this survey to better understand the communities we serve, to create empirical data that targets the issues most prevalent to rural living, use this data to help identify local priorities where NNEEC can play a role, gather data that allows us to identify trends, evaluate successes and failures empirically. NNEEC is seeking our support in the promotion of the survey and to take the survey. Survey is available now at www.nneec.ca to be completed, a 5 minute survey to impact your future and opportunity to win a \$100 gift card! Presentation was well received and supported. Surveys should be completed by end of Aug.

BUSINESS

1. Adoption of Jun 27, 2022 minutes, Resolution

102-22 Wood, Flowers

THAT we adopt Jun 27, 2022 minutes. CARRIED

a. Fireworks input

Communications received (4): 2 emails forwarded from ELCA; cottager; always felt a sense of sadness for the birds and wildlife on the lake when fireworks go off on holidays and wondering if this topic ever comes up with the association, it's so harmful to them and would love to know if there is any every discussions about cancelling them, unsigned; very, very angry right now dealing with the 3rd night of fireworks in contravention of current by-laws limiting fireworks to the actual date of the holiday (clarity provided Canada Day between 8 pm and 11 pm on Jul 1 and the weekends directly preceding and following it), 4-083; disappointed in decision to allow a permit for fireworks at the Narrows this past Jul 2, tonight (Jul 7) someone was lighting fireworks on an island in East Bay, would greatly appreciate more transparent feedback, would greatly appreciate a written response to queries, 4-052-44; disappointment and anger with recent unanimous decision to allow a fireworks display at the Narrows Beach, small group of people presented a poorly planned request to use the Narrows Beach for a firework display,

local group of “Crackers” realized that this firework display was no longer supported by the residents and disbanded, need a Council we can trust to respect the concerns of taxpayers and respond in an effective, knowledgeable manner, this most recent flip flop suggests that you do not have the capacity to understand environmental issues.

Council expressed the majority of comments they received on the fireworks were supportive.

The By-Law Enforcement Officer did receive calls on fireworks on Jul 7 and followed up as best can be done, a Fireworks By-Law is not easily enforced. The Fireworks By-Law/Regulation is featured on our Website events page, by-law page, in the Spring and Summer Newsletters.

2. Consent 4-005 Requirement; convey forced road, Resolution

Further to survey required at 66’ width, all costs are the responsibility of the applicant.

103-22 Wood, Flowers

THAT we authorize the Clerk Administrator to execute Acknowledgement and Direction for transfer of Parts 3 and 4 on Plan 42R21855 for conveyance of road as a condition of Consent. CARRIED

3. Pay List by Fund for Jun, Resolution

Reviewed; Landfill payment for May 17, 18, 19, 20, 2022 construction queried; trench.

104-22 McLaren, Flowers

THAT we authorize Pay List by Fund as of 30 Jun 2022: \$169,979.29 Grand Total. CARRIED

COMMITTEES

4. South River Machar Medical minutes of Jun 21, 2022, Resolution

Discussed; camera security system, obtaining quote on new chairs for waiting room.

105-22 Flowers, Wood

THAT we support motions in Medical Centre minutes of Jun 21, 2022 as follows: adopt the minutes...of Apr 19, 2022, Pay Lists/Budgetary Control as of Apr 30, 2022 & May 31, 2022, agree to purchase...Security System (cameras) in the amount of \$4,689.50, adjourned until Jul 19, 2022... CARRIED

5. Central Almaguin Planning minutes of Mar 2, Apr 6, May 4 and Jun 1, Resolution

Reviewed. Mayor Carleton advised funding taken back as the Province won’t allow a Restricted Use By-Law, the Province wants the Board to do an Official Plan for Lount (Unorganized municipality).

106-22 McLaren, Flowers

THAT we acknowledge Planning minutes of Mar 2, Apr 6, May 4 & Jun 1, 2022. CARRIED

INFORMATION

- 6. FOCA (Federation of Ontario Cottagers’ Assoc) Elert Jun 2022; Short-term Rental: Municipal Developments** – Municipality of Trent Lakes has approved a phased-approach, Tiny Township has directed zero-tolerance mandate related to by-law infraction, Seguin Township which had banned STR in 2020 has decided to re-open public consultation on the issue, Responsible Cottage Rental, FOCA supports a philosophy of responsible use. ATTACHED
- 7. Township of Greater Madawaska, Annual Emergency Exercise Exemption** – Requests the Province of Ontario to amend Ontario Regulation 380-04 under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act to provide and exemption to the annual exercise requirement for municipalities that have activated their Emergency Control Group and/or Emergency Response Plan in response to an actual emergency that year in recognition of the significant resources used to respond to the

emergency plan and procedures; effective of such a response in evaluating that municipalities emergency response plan and procedures.

8. **Municipality of Shuniah Resolution** – Support for the City of Brantford in their request to release all of Federal and Provincial Documents related to the former Mohawk Institute Residential School.
9. **Township of West Lincoln Resolution** – Requesting the Government of Ontario to revisit the provisions of Bill 109 and work with all stakeholders, including municipalities represented by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario to deliver legislation that allows municipalities to plan, grow and deliver communities that adhere to local, provincially-approved Official Plans, rather than strict statutory timelines.
10. **Township of West Lincoln Resolution** – Requesting support by encouraging the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada to provide more funding to rural municipalities to support infrastructure projects, including those projects related to major bridge and culvert replacements.
11. **Municipality of Brighton Resolution** – Requesting the Municipality of Brighton and its Council endorses the follows:
 - That the Minister of the Solicitor General and the Commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police, as well as the Premier’s Office, be requested to make the necessary changes to the Amber Alert system and create a new alert called the Draven Alert, which will protect vulnerable children who have not been abducted but are at high risk of danger, injury or death and alert the public that they are missing.
12. **County of Frontenac Resolution** – Requests the Community Schools Alliance Action Plan and Social and Economic Impact for Small Communities in Ontario Study the province increases the Rural and Northern Education Fund (RNEF) to \$50 million. Should the current moratorium on accommodation reviews and school closures be lifted, we ask that the moratorium remain in place for schools that qualify for the RNEF until through review of the education funding formula is completed.
13. **Municipality of Tweed Resolution** – Requests the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs to review the administration fee provided to Municipalities for the administration of the Ontario Wildlife Damage Compensation Program.
14. **City of Owen Sound Resolution** – Removal of municipal Councillors under prescribed circumstances and requesting that the Ministry:
 - Study the merits of allowing the recall of municipal councillors under carefully prescribed circumstances, including displays of hatred, misogyny and all forms of discrimination; and
 - Facilitate strengthened and ongoing orientation and training sessions for councils, local boards, and committees.
15. **Hastings County Resolution** – Request the Province of Ontario to develop and implement a community warning program similar to Amber Alert for those persons of special needs or circumstances who leave the caregivers or locations and potentially put themselves at risk.
16. **Enbridge Gas Supplies** – On May 31, 2022 Enbridge Gas filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) for an order or orders approving the clearance of disposition of amounts recorded in certain deferral or variance accounts. A paper copy of the evidence filed in is this proceeding s available upon request and can also be viewed on Enbridge’s website.
17. **AMCTO, The Municipal Experts, Advocacy Update: New Ford Government Cabinet Appointed** – On Jun 24, a new cabinet was sworn in the Lieutenant Governor Elizabeth Dowdeswell. With an increased number of MPP’s, Premier Ford promoted the Conservative caucus’ most experienced MPP’s, some of whom have held Cabinet posts before, and rewarded some of the newest MPPs.
18. **AMO Events, Celebrating Canada Day, AMO Conference Keynote Announced, 2022** – AMO is proud to announce it’s AMO 2022 Conference keynote speaker, Dr. Samantha Nutt.
19. **AMO Communications, AMO Policy Update, New Cabinet Sworn In** – AMO President Jamie McGarvey sent a congratulatory letter to Premier Ford on Jun 3 and discussions with the incoming government have started, Letter to Cabinet Ministers will also be sent highlighting issues that touch municipal governments in either a policy, regulatory, or program manner. AMO is looking forward to priority discussions on key municipal issues including housing affordability and homelessness climate change and sustainable infrastructure, transportation and transit, broadband and connectivity, rural and northern economic development, responsive and effective health, mental health and social services, and the fiscal sustainability of municipalities.
20. **AMO Communications, Secretary Treasurer’s Nomination Report On The 2022-2023 AMO Board of Directors** – Elections to the Mao Board of Directors will be held during the Annual Conference & General Meeting, on Mon, Aug 15, 2022 at 12:00 pm to 5:30 pm and Tues, Aug 16, 2022 from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm.

- 21. AMO Communications, AMO Policy Update: Introductory letters to Cabinet, Housing Resuming Timing, Blue Box Update** – ON Jun 24, 2022, Premier Ford announced this new Cabinet. Over the next four years, AMO and the province will have an opportunity to work together to address the truly complete issues we face together: issues that shape our ability to attract the people and investment necessary for Ontario economic growth. Ontario legislature to resume on Aug 8. Blue Box transition and upcoming Jul 15 deadline for providing curbside collection services.
- 22. AMO Communications, AMO Watchfile, Jun 23, 2022, In This Issue** –
- Call for Nomination to Amo Board of Directors.
 - Conservation Authorities Act Regulations Webinar – Recording Available Soon.
 - Survey Reminder: Flood Hazard Identification Mapping Program.
 - Last Chance to Request Your Delegation Meeting.
 - AMO 2022 Conference Programming – Supporting Members Needs!
 - Get the risk ad claims system your municipality deserves.
 - Final Countdown – One week to energy reporting deadline.
 - Blog: Advantages of E-Permitting for Municipal Government and Citizens.
 - Careers.
- 23. AMO Communications, AMO Watchfile, Jun 30, 2022, In This Issue** –
- Conservation Authorities Act Regulations Webinar – Recording Available.
 - AMO 2022 Delegation Requests Extended to Tomorrow!
 - Resources on non-full-time employee enrolment in OMERS.
 - Gender-responsive Public Budgeting Online Course.
 - Careers.
- 24. MPAC, Jun 2022, InTouch** –
- E-permitting pilot project moves forward.
 - Meet with MPAC at AMO 2022.
 - Continued promotion of VoterLookUp.ca.
 - VoterLookUp Marketing Refresh.
 - Partnering together to promote VoterLookUp.
- 25. AGCO, Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario** – Update to municipalities on recent changes and permissible activities:
- Registrar’s 2021-22 policy for Temporary Patio Approvals for Liquor Sales Licensees.
 - Caterer’s Endorsement to a Manufacturer’s Licence.
 - Areas under the exclusive control of the license holder
 - Arena not under the exclusive control of the licence holder.
- 26. IESO Engagement, Reminder** – Discussion session for municipalities on Jul 14. This session will continue the dialogue that began earlier this year to engage with municipalities in the development of a process to procure new supply to meet Ontario’s future electricity needs.
- 27. Almaguin Adult Learning Centre, AALC Jul Calendar 2022** – Continuing to work with their learner throughout the summer and they’re happy to help anyone who need it. Wish everyone a safe and happy Canada Day!
- 28. Release, MAHC Welcomes New Board Directors** – Pleased to announced three new Board of Directors and two new Committee Appointees Member following their election at the virtual Annual General Meeting on Mon, Jun 20. The recording of the Annual General Meeting and the associated annual report is posted on the MAHC website.
- 29. Ius Laboris Canada, Global Hr Lawyers, Mathews Dinsdale, Employers’ Advisor Jun 2022** –
- Come on Nylene: court of appeal affirms award of 26 months’ pay to terminated employee in “exceptional circumstances.”
 - Check yourself: B.C. Government eliminated mandatory voting for union certification in favour of card check.
 - Digital platform workers’ rights act: Blurring the distinction between employees and independent contractor performing digital platform work.

INFORMATION – COVID-19

- 30. CTV News Toronto; Ontario has entered another wave of Covid-19, experts say** – as hospitalizations and wastewater data slowly creep upwards, Bogoch (Toronto infectious diseases specialist Dr. Isaac Bogoch) points to an increase in the number of people testing positive, while testing is limited, 7 day average for new cases detected was 34% week over week in the province’s most recent data, 585 people in Ontario hospitals, up from 486 a week earlier.

31. North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, Public Service Announcement, COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics This Week, by appointment or Walk-in- The following clinics taking place this week:

- North Bay, Parry Sound, Sundridge.

32. North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, Public Service Announcement, Reminder: COVID-19 Self Isolation Measures Still in Effect – Reminding individuals to review the public health measures if they:

- Test positive for COVID-19;
- Have COVID-19 symptoms;
- Live with someone who has tested positive or has COVID-19 symptoms;
- Have been identified as a close contact.

Mayor Carleton requested items from 6 and advised she had discussions with MP Scott Aitchison and his suggestion to request a copy of Huntsville’s Short Term Rental By-Law for our information.

ADDITIONAL/ROUND TABLE/NOTICE OF MOTION

CLOSED SESSION

107-22 McLaren, Wood

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. Time – 7:34 pm. CARRIED

108-22 Wood, McLaren

THAT we come out of Closed Session. Time – 8:08 pm. CARRIED

ADJOURN

109-22 Flowers, McLaren

THAT we give 1st, 2nd, 3rd and final reading to Confirming By-Law and that we adjourn until our Regular meeting scheduled for Mon, Aug 8, 2022. CARRIED

Mayor Lynda Carleton

Clerk Administrator Brenda Paul, AMCT

BP/ss.