

**TOWNSHIP OF MACHAR
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
Monday, July 27, 2020**

Call to Order, Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof; Councillor Bart Wood with respect to item 3. as he is a member of the fundraiser and project committee.

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

Guests scheduled by teleconference: Carl and MaryAnne Pahapill, Chartered Professional Accountants.

2019 Consolidated & Trust Fund Financial Statements

Our audit was completed prior to the pandemic, however timing of completion is pending Joint Boards. We received a clean audit report. The Consolidated Financial Statements for Dec 31, 2019 were presented/accepted. Highlights; Municipal debt = Fire, Employee Benefits Payable = accumulated sick leave, Landfill closure and post closure liability is lower per updated triennial review, Tangible Capital Assets is higher due to completion of the Eagle Lake Rd rehabilitation project, PSAB Annual Consolidated Surplus includes amortization and capital versus Municipal Surplus is unconsolidated. Reserves have increased and this is confirmed supported by the bank balance. The municipality is healthy, whereas some are not. The Auditor expressed appreciation to the Clerk Administrator and her team.

BUSINESS

1. Adoption of Jul 13, 2020 minutes, Resolution

113-20 Scarlett, Flowers

THAT we adopt Jul 13, 2020 minutes. CARRIED

2. Regional Broadband Project Update, Resolution

Blue Sky applied to the CRTC for a regional broadband project that includes Machar. They have not heard on that application. They will be applying to the newly announced Provincial ICON Broadband Fund. The application will go into their Intake – Phase 1. Blue Sky is wondering if it is possible to reiterate our support for this application to the Province. The deadline for ICON is Aug 21.

114-20 Scarlett, Wood

THAT we provide a letter of support to Blue Sky Economic Growth Corporation for the regional broadband project that includes the Township of Machar for application to the newly announced Provincial ICON Broadband Fund, Intake – Phase One. CARRIED

Mayor Carleton referred an inquiry from Xplornet. Xplornet has developed a network project to ring fibre and wireless sites to a substantial number of communities in Machar. The network will deliver speeds up to 100 Megabits per second when completed. Their intention is to submit their project to the Ontario government's broadband program later this summer. They'd like to brief us on their plans and will be able to show the project's specifics for Machar. Administration to schedule.

Councillor Wood advised NLTS will have 1 tower up shortly, and another 1 soon after that.

3. Request for donation to South River Skateboard Park

Machar youth has been working since the Fall of 2019 to bring a skateboard park to South River. The South River Lions Club has committed \$10,000 as part of their 100th Anniversary celebrations, added to the \$8,000 raised, this has led to the creation of the South River Skateboard Park Committee. Business owners have been enlisted to assist in the building of the concrete which substantially reduced the costs. Dufferin Park has been selected as the location. The Village of South River will take on the maintenance and insurance of the park once it's built. The Canadian

Ramp Co has been chosen as the park designer and ramp builder. The project has grown in value to nearly \$50,000, the last piece is raising the final \$30,000. To this end, a donation of \$5,000 was requested as the project will be a significant asset for the residents and youth of the community, hoping to become a reality in the Spring of 2021. Discussion ensued on comparator donations and funds available (2020 budget is set). Council approved a donation of \$2,500. We can also assist fundraising efforts by posting a flyer (if available) in office and on our website events page to encourage citizen donations, as well as including information to citizens in our next newsletter.

COMMITTEES

4. Machar Public Works minutes of Jul 16, 2020, Resolution

115-20 Wood, McLaren

THAT we accept Public Works minutes of Jul 16, 2020; including approval of Consent to Remove Trees, Alter and Conduct Works on an unopened Road Allowance 2-021-05. CARRIED

The Clerk Administrator advised updated figures were now available upon receipt of FIR 2019; Landfill cost per household/Machar taxpayer = \$252.61. Non resident cost will be \$300 annually. Mayor Carleton would like a letter drafted to the Province regarding unorganized municipalities; Lount, Laurier, Ballantyne don't contribute financially to many services as they're unorganized, they pay minimal taxes to the Province, and additionally are indicating issues with having no landfill.

116-20 Scarlett, McLaren

THAT we give 1st, 2nd, 3rd and final reading to By-Law No. 13-20; Landfill disposal fees effective Sep 1, 2020. CARRIED

5. South River Shared Services Monthly Reports

Reviewed and discussed. Chief Arena Operator is on reduced hours Jul 12-Sep 12, 2020.

6. Explore South River Project; Experiences, Brand, Maps, Stories, Media

Art themed logo and a number of icons help tell the story of the range of things to do in the South River area. The logo will appear on interpretive signs and map. A variety of stories have been put together highlighting the history of our region. The first of these tells the story of Happy Landing put together by Leslie Taylor (Sohm) and was released by Highlander Brew Co at an event to launch their electric vehicle charging station at the brewery. Look for other signs to be appearing in the region through the summer. They have a Canada Summer Job posting out to recruit a media producer to help tell stories with video/audio. Be sure to connect at www.facebook.com/ExploreSouthRiverProject/

7. Explore South River map and interpretive story sign location, Resolution

They are designing interpretive signs for Machar and South River and would like to put these signs in locations to encourage people to explore. They would like to include these locations on the print and digital maps they're producing, and looking to confirm the locations are acceptable.

117-20 Wood, Scarlett

THAT we give permission to PARC Association to put signs in the Township of Machar as applicable; Mikisew story, Eagle Lake Narrows story, Ghost towns story (Bray Lake Park). CARRIED

8. Eastholme, Home for the Aged seeking an Administrator, Annual General Meeting will be held within 90 days from the date that the emergency measures are terminated, so far no residents confirmed with Covid-19, residents can now have outdoor visits with a family member

9. District of Parry Sound Social Services Admin Quarterly Report Jul 2020

INFORMATION

10. **Municipality of Whitestone Resolution** – supports Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing in his request to the Federal Government to improve broadband internet access across Northern Ontario in smaller communities
11. **Township of Lake of Bays Resolution** – supporting in principle the Muskoka Parry Sound Riding Cooperative Broadband Initiative to develop and implement a riding wide gap analysis and broadband strategy to ensure the availability of reliable broadband services to all resident's business within the Muskoka and Parry Sound Districts
12. **Municipality of Chatham-Kent Resolution** – supports Private Members Bill M-36, Emancipation Day, the government should designate Aug 1 of every year in Canada
13. **Township of Perth South letter to Agricorp** – the Farm Property Class Tax Rate program was developed by the province to support agriculture in Ontario, program administered by Agricorp/MPAC and municipalities, Assessment Roll is returned by MPAC in Dec of each year for the following year, 2020 Assessment Roll as returned requires many adjustments in the form of Tax Incentive Adjustments, returned with an overstated Residential Class and an understated Farmland Class and when used in the determination of the Tax Rate at budget time results in a rate that is less than it would otherwise be, current process places an administrative burden on municipalities and diverts staff time from other administrative work, simply do not have time to spare, a review of the delivery of this program may be very beneficial, the province and MPAC need to ensure that each farm operation meets the requirements of the program, but there must be a more efficient and effective way, a less disruptive classification process
14. **N Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit – Harmful Blue-Green Algae in Callander Bay and Lake Bernard** – more about harmful algae at www.myhealthunit.ca/algae
15. **N Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit – Harmful Blue-Green Algae in Whitestone Lake, Dunchurch** – due to the many factors involved, government authorities are unable to determine where and when there are no toxins, users are advised to exercise their judgment before using the water, follow safety measures...
16. **Minister Steve Clark letter to Heads of Council** – government introduced the Protecting Tenants and Strengthening Community Housing Act 2020 which supports the government's plan to make life more affordable for Ontarians, amendments support the following priorities: More Homes, More Choice: Ontario's Housing Supply Action Plan, Community Housing Renewal Strategy, Transforming the Delivery of Building Code Services
17. **Ontario Expanding Access to the Modern Digital Economy** – MOI's broadband and cellular program accepting applications until Aug 21, ICON investing \$150 m over 4 years, it appears Provincial funding will be limited to 25%
18. **Ontario Made Program** – helping consumers easily identify, access and purchase local products, will help raise awareness of what is manufactured right here and support local manufacturing, in the coming months will encourage manufacturers to add their Ontario Made products to searchable website and receive a digital Ontario Made logo as we promote the very best this province has to offer, link to website www.supportontariomade.ca/
19. **Free RapidSkills Program – Working at Heights, Forklift Operator and Electrical Safety** – in partnership with the Government of Ontario, Georgian College is proud to introduce the RapidSkills Program, for a limited time, the RapidSkills program tuition and training costs are free for eligible participants and employers www.georgiancollege.ca/corporate-training/training-areas/manufacturing-skill-trades/rapidskills/#About-RapidSkills
20. **RTO 12 Summer Voucher Program for Tourism Operators and AGM Notice** – intended to get seasonal and permanent residents into businesses, first come, first serve/participate program, also hoping to run a Fall Fuel and Fun Voucher Program, AGM on Wed, Jul 15
21. **Explorer's Edge Cottage Country Spirit Launch Summer 2020** – local travel package program provides incentives for permanent and seasonal household residents ONLY in the Explorers' Edge catchment to book an experience or overnight accommodation, refers to 5 x \$10 Experience Vouchers to be used "same as cash", travellers will get \$50 worth of vouchers by registering for one of 3,000 available packages (limited number of packages available) www.explorersedge.ca/cottagecountryspirit/ between Jul 16-Oct 12, if your business is not yet registered contact jack@explorersedge.ca
22. **AMO Policy Update – Emergency Orders Extended, ICON Program, and Mandatory Mask Bylaws** – Province has extended all emergency orders currently in force to Jul 22, made to provide flexibility to protect public health and safety as more businesses reopen and people go back to work to align with the Reopening Ontario Act if passed, application intake for the \$150 m Improving Connectivity for Ontario program opens, to help expand access to reliable broadband and cellular service in

underserved and unserved parts of the Province, 2 intake periods and each intake has 2 stages, 1st intake deadline is Aug 21, resources page on mandatory face masks bylaws/directives for information to municipal governments considering similar bylaws

- 23. AMO Policy Update- AMO Submission to Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs Hearings on Municipal Covid-19 Impact will be presenting on Jul 15, New Long-Term Care Bed Funding Approach, and Stage 3 Orders** – LTC Bed Development Funding and New Visiting Rules; over the next 5 years the Province will be investing \$1.75 b in long-term care homes, also updating design standards to include air conditioning for any new and renovated homes, beginning immediately and to be completed by 2022, up to 7,800 new beds and 11,000 redeveloped beds are expected to be created, new regulation identifies which regions of the province are at Stage 1, 2 or 3 of the reopening plan, 2nd order is a new order that sets out the reopening rules that will apply beginning Fri, Jul 17 for those regions moving into Stage 3, also establishes a wide range of restrictions on businesses that are permitted to open, ensuring compliance with the advice, recommendations, and instructions of public health officials
- 24. AMO Policy Update – Federal/Provincial Funding Agreement reached for municipal relief, Extension of Emergency Orders until Jul 29, 2020, Proposed Marriage Licence extension could be used for up to 24 months from the end of the Declaration of the Emergency, and Docked Licensed Boats to sell and serve alcohol** - \$19 b for Covid-19 support, Ontario will receive \$7 b, is set for a 6-8 month period, will be distributed over 7 priority areas that include:
- testing, contact tracing and data management
 - health-care capacity and mental health services and addictions
 - vulnerable populations, including long-term care facilities
 - personal protective equipment
 - early learning and child care
 - municipal operations, with a proposed public transit element
 - sick leave
- 25. AMO Policy Update – Ontario Legislature Recessed on Summer Recess, Standing Committee Now Looking at Infrastructure, Stage 3 Openings Information (Reopening Info and Assistance)**
- 26. AMO Watchfile Jul 9, 2020 In This Issue**
- COVID-19 resources.
 - Consultation open on elevator safety and availability initiatives.
 - AMO’s Virtual Conference: a Canadian first!
 - AMO leads the way: Virtual 2020 Exhibit Hall!
 - Save the date for Land Use Planning: Beyond the Basics Training.
 - LAS Blog: You are invited to AMO’s Virtual 2020 Conference.
 - Visit the LAS Booth at the AMO Virtual Conference.
 - ONE Investment - Municipalities go global with Investments.
 - Careers with Kingsville and Seguin.
- 27. AMO Watchfile Jul 16, 2020 In This Issue**
- COVID-19 resources.
 - Supporting Ontario’s Safe Employers Program now open.
 - AMO’s Virtual Conference: a Canadian first!
 - AMO leads the way: Virtual 2020 Exhibit Hall!
 - Save the date for Land Use Planning: Beyond the Basics Training.
 - Virtual Energy Training - Make social distancing work for you!
 - Improved lighting cuts costs and saves energy.
 - Municipalities head to Bay Street with new powers.
 - ONE’s Main Street to Bay Street podcast.
 - Career with Norfolk County.
- 28. AMO Watchfile Jul 23, 2020 In This Issue**
- COVID-19 resources.
 - Contact tracing to safely resume municipal operations.
 - The Enabling Accessibility Fund - Youth Innovation Component.
 - 10 Good Reasons to Attend the 2020 AMO Conference!
 - AMO’s 2020 Exhibit Hall.
 - Save the date for Land Use Planning: Beyond the Basics Training.
 - Simplify appointment scheduling for in-person services.
 - Career with Simcoe County.

29. **AMO Conference 2020 Update: 14 Workshops that you don't have to choose from** – each panel discussion will be taped in advance and will be broadcast on the program schedule in 1 of 3 time slots – 1 time slot each day, broadcast within the virtual conference environment along with a live Q&A with the panelists, view all of the others at your leisure
30. **2021 Census of Population questionnaire has been published on Statistics Canada's website** – Statistics Canada will conduct the next census in May 2021, and the questions being asked reflect our needs for information based on rigorous testing, for an exclusive and in-depth look at the census, its history, the laws that regulate it, and how it is planned and conducted, please consult *Painting a Portrait of Canada: The 2021 Census of Population* online
31. **July news from the Ontario Heritage Trust** – Up front, Beth Hanna CEO, Celebrating Emancipation Day, Sharing stories of Ontario's Black heritage, MyOntario: A conversation with the people of Ontario, Expanding the narrative, The International Decade for People of African Descent: 2015-2024, To meet its mandate, the Trust raises more than 65% of its funding, Give today
32. **Enbridge Gas Inc 2021 Rate Application** – Rate Zones/Residential Annual Bill Increase: EGD \$1.99, Union South \$8.91, Union North East \$10.72, Union North West \$10.40
33. **FCM's next chapter: A Message from the CEO** – we have an opportunity to launch a transformation, helping your municipality excel is key to FCM's next chapter, FCM needs to be efficient, ambitious and relentlessly focused on outcomes
34. **The Friends Friendly Focus Summer 2020** – a non-profit charitable organization providing services to individuals with physical disabilities and seniors www.thefriends.on.ca
35. **Village of Sundridge Notice of a Public Meeting Zoning By-Law Amendment** – purpose is to permit a 50-unit apartment building and provide exemptions for parking and/or setbacks if required, an existing operational restaurant is also located on the subject lands; Tue, Aug 11 at 6 pm, will be a virtual and in person meeting, please call or email the Village prior to the day of the public meeting to be provided with a link or phone number for the meeting or instructions on how you may attend in person, please provide written comments prior to the public meeting, if you have already provided written comments, you are not required to submit further comments

INFORMATION – COVID-19

36. **Town of Parry Sound Resolution** – requesting that both the Federal and Provincial Governments establish a municipal financial assistance program to offset the financial impact of the Covid-19 pandemic
37. **City of Oshawa Resolution** – that the Federal, Provincial, and Regional Government help local municipalities assist their local social cultural, service clubs, and children/youth minor sporting organizations with clear and definitive relief funding programs directed to help sustain the aforementioned groups through these trying times inflicted on them by the affects of Covid-19
38. **N Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit – Releases Details about Mandated Face Coverings** - will take effect Fri, Jul 24, 2020, must be worn in enclosed public spaces
39. **The Tourism Economic Development and Recovery Fund has been launched** - is an application based, cost sharing program designed to provide non capital funding to projects, also supports innovative tourism recovery projects aimed at increasing tourism within Ontario to address the reduction in global travel as a result of Covid-19 www.ontario.ca/page/available-funding-opportunities-ontario-government#section-12
40. **Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing recently announced Bill 197 – Economic Recovery Act** – the bill includes important changes to a number of Acts to assist municipalities in their recovery efforts involving the Covid-19 outbreak, will strengthen 3 critical needs Ontario faces: restarting jobs and development; strengthening communities; and creating opportunity for people, will be hosting technical information briefing on the proposed community benefits charges framework, including proposed changes to development charges and parkland dedication, it's more critical than ever to position Ontario as a top-tier destination for investment, domestic growth, and job creation, greatest challenges lie ahead of us and we cannot overcome them alone, time for everyone to play a role in rebuilding Ontario together, every community must recover if all of Ontario is to grow and prosper again
41. **Jeff Yurek, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding Environmental Assessment modernization** – next steps in government's Made-in-Ontario Environmental Plan to build EA program that ensures strong environmental oversight and a strong economy, as part of proposed Covid-19 Economic Recovery Act, proposing to move forward with the next phase of modernization to further reduce delays and focus resources on projects with a higher potential for

environmental impacts to help communities get important infrastructure projects built faster, while maintaining strong environmental oversight, including transit and highways, posted information notice on the environmental registry, also seeking input on proposed amendments to 8 Class EAs, 45 comment day period closing on Aug 22, proposing regulatory exemptions from the EA Act to eliminate duplication and reduce delays for projects and activities related to Indigenous land claim settlements and other agreements with Indigenous communities

- 42. Service Ontario Office of the Registrar General** - the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services (MGCS) has been working with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO), and representatives from a small number of municipalities to implement an extension to the three-month validity period for unused marriage licences as well as a waiver of the \$75 provincial fee for replacement licences, if required, for couples impacted by the COVID-19 provincial emergency. This requires legislative and regulatory amendments to be made prior to implementation, which were introduced on July 8, 2020 (News Release). Timing of these amendments is subject to the legislative process, but we estimate the earliest the proposed legislative amendments would come into force, if they are passed and receive Royal Assent, would be August 2020. To support couples, who cannot wait for the proposed amendments and need to obtain a replacement licence, municipalities have discretion as to whether they collect the \$75 fee from the couple or assume this cost on their behalf. If a municipality assumes the cost, and issues a licence without collecting a fee, \$48 will still be payable to the province for each blank marriage licence required by the municipality to replenish its stock. Municipalities may wish to consult their respective legal counsel if they are considering doing so.
- 43. Ministry of the Attorney General, the Covid-19 Economic Recovery Act 2020 – amendments to the Provincial Offences Act are now in effect** – allowing defendants to request a trial by mail or other electronic method permitted by the court house, allowing early resolution discussions remotely in all cases, allowing any participant to attend any proceeding remotely by audio or video unless the presiding judicial official orders otherwise, allowing the judiciary to order in-person attendance where the interests of justice or a fair trial require it, permitting provincial offences officers to seek search warrants remotely in all cases, allowing defendants to provide credible and trustworthy information upon applying for a re-opening without the need to attend court to have an affidavit commissioned, further consequential, complementary and housekeeping amendments come into force on Jul 21, enable municipalities to make greater use of technology to deliver just services remotely, helping the Ministry modernize the justice sector, making it easier, faster and more affordable to access justice no matter where people live
- 44. AGCO (Alcohol and Gaming Commission of ON) – Ontario amends liquor laws to provide more choice and flexibility to businesses and consumers in the delivery of alcohol and to provide more flexibility for boat operators with a liquor sales licence to sell and serve alcohol** – may use contractors in the delivery of liquor, will give consumers more options for delivery services when purchasing from Ontario retailers, including the LCBO and The Beer Store, allowing boat operators with a liquor sales licence to sell and serve alcohol while their vessel is docked, will also be authorized to temporarily add a physical extension to their docked boat, ie a patio until Jan 1, 2021
- 45. OEB Information for Sharing – Covid-19 Energy Assistance Program** – CEAP is a program to support residential customers struggling to pay their energy bills because of the Covid-19 emergency, provides a one time, on bill credit to eligible residential electricity and natural gas customers to help them catch up on their energy bills and resume regular payments, can apply as of Jul 13 through their electricity and natural gas utilities or unit sub-meter provider, funding is limited, will process applications in the order in which they are received, an application does not guarantee funding, full details available at www.oeb.ca/CEAP
- 46. AMO Policy Update – Stage 3 Re-Openings** – the Regions/Counties of Durham, Halton, Niagara, Haldimand-Norfolk, Lambton, and York as well as the City of Hamilton will be permitted to begin Stage 3 on Fri, Jul 24, will join the 24 public health regions that entered into Stage 3 on Fri, Jul 17, given current public health considerations the City of Toronto, Peel Region, and the Windsor-Essex region will be continued in Stage 2 for at least another week
- 47. FCM Communique – Covid-19 Municipalities react to “safe restart” agreement** – is promising start at addressing the financial crisis municipalities face in this pandemic, as we work to protect frontline services for Canadians and prepare to help lead Canada’s much needed recovery
- 48. FCM Voice – Safe restart deal: promising start for municipalities, FCM’s 2020 virtual elections: information on the voting process, New survey for youth on public transit during Covid-19** – Brock Carlton reflects on the evolution of the Green Municipal Fund, Tip sheet on managing post-lockdown anxiety, Showing love the Pomerleau way

ADDITIONAL/ROUND TABLE/NOTICE OF MOTION

Mikisew Provincial Park

Councillor Wood referred a concern received regarding Mikisew Provincial Park showers not available due to Covid-19 and guests have been observed washing in the lake with soap. Inquiry to be made.

Eagle Lake Marine

Mayor Carleton attended ground-breaking for the new build. Building is expected to go up quickly.

118-20 Flowers, Scarlett

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 17, 2020. CARRIED

Mayor Lynda Carleton

Clerk Administrator Brenda Paul, AMCT

BP.