

TOWNSHIP OF MACHAR
MINUTES – TELECONFERENCE MEETING
Monday, May 11, 2020

Call to Order, Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof; Councillor Bart Wood with respect to 3. as he is in private negotiations with another internet service provider.

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

Guest scheduled: Marvin Nolan.

Joint Services Agreements Summary of Understanding

Mr. Nolan wanted to summarize his understanding of the information that he received at the Apr 20 meeting and asked that Council confirm or correct. His summary was confirmed, the Township has made substantive progress to arrive at a shared services agreement. Machar Clerk Administrator has discussed next steps with South River Clerk Administrator. Both are currently busy with the Covid-19 pandemic and the associated difficulties. Machar has put the existing by-laws into digital format, so they're ready to edit as soon as we can have a meeting. Mr. Nolan queried operations in the interim. Mayor Carleton confirmed they'll remain status quo and thanked Mr. Nolan for his interest.

BUSINESS

1. Adoption of Apr 20, 2020 minutes, Resolution

Page 2; 11. Building permit/Building permit applications, Page 8: FONOM; of be/to be.

67-20 McLaren, Scarlett

THAT we adopt Apr 20, 2020 minutes as amended. CARRIED

a. Explore South River inquiry; update

Machar will be included on the map, photos and written information has been provided.

b. South River; Skate Park Ad Hoc Committee

Information received from South River on Recreation/Arena. An update was also included on Arena employee. A local resident has enlisted the support of local businesses and residents to explore the possibility to build a skate park in South River. South River has struck an ad hoc committee. No action has been taken at this time, only research is being done to determine the feasibility of the project. The committee discussed possible involvement from the Township and agreed to keep the Township informed as they gather information. They hope to have a preliminary report by May 6, 2020 to share. Mayor Carleton queried involvement of other municipalities too.

2. 2020 Budget Package Review

Budget amounts have been input, several are outside of the Township's control and are levied/mandated by external entities (Eastholme, DSSAB, Land Ambulance, Police, etc). Revenue Highlights and Expenditure Highlights provided. Total Revenues = \$1,688,798 and Total Expenditures = \$3,683,626. Net Deficit = \$1,994,828. Net Deficit represents the amount to be raised from taxation. Overall Levy Change, Dollar Tax Change and Percentage Tax Change calculated in the Province's OPTA program (Online Property Tax Analysis). Estimated Levy of \$1,878,715 = 0% Overall Levy Change. Estimated Levy of \$1,994,828 per draft Budget = 5.10% Overall Levy Change (\$116,113). Estimated levies between the 2 amounts and affects were reviewed. Comparison of

2019 Residential Tax Rates reviewed. Comparison of 2019 Residential Tax Rates to potential 2020 Machar Tax Rate at the 4% Overall Levy Change and 5.1% Overall Levy Change were reviewed. The 2020 Tax Impact on Median/Typical Property were reviewed for the 2 scenarios: Single Family Home 5.1% Overall Levy Change = \$ Tax Change \$57.09 and % Tax Change 4.28% Single Family Home 4% Overall Levy Change = \$ Tax Change \$42.54 and % Tax Change 3.19% It was noted that Machar is lower than our immediate neighbouring comparator municipalities (Strong, Joly, Sundridge, South River) by \$403.50 to \$1,738.57 in 2019 and even at our 2020 potential tax rates to their 2019 tax rates for the 2 scenarios is still lower by \$325.35-\$345.79 to \$1,660.42-\$1,680.86. Council were also provided with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario March 2020 Economic and Fiscal Update indicating at this time the government is responding to the immediate circumstances created by Covid-19. The provincial government is postponing the assessment update for 2021. Assessed values for 2021 will be based on the same valuation date as they are for 2020. The Clerk Administrator cautioned this means we could have a difficult budget next year as well and so this should be a consideration to keep in mind this year. Discussions ensued with various questions, ideas and thoughts put forward for discussion and consideration. Councillor Wood asked for a report on Reserve funds. Council requested a 2020 Tax Impact on Median/Typical Property be provided for the Overall Levy Change of 4.44% which is an Estimated Levy of \$1,979,828 (per draft Budget less \$15,000). It was noted the Township operates very lean, achieving a lower tax rate which subsequently means overall levy changes appear more significant. The overall dollar tax change and overall percentage tax change may be a better indicator to use.

3. Cogeco Update on CRTC RFP Broadband Fund

The CRTC Broadband Fund RFP was originally due on Mar 31, but was extended to Apr 30 as a result of Covid-19. On Mon, Apr 27, Cogeco was advised that the deadline for the submissions of applications was delayed a further month and are now due on Jun 1. As a result of Cogeco efforts and collaboration in the Parry Sound District over the past year, Cogeco was on schedule and thoroughly prepared to submit applications by the initial deadline in Mar. This is only the 1st of 5 rounds of CRTC funding. Cogeco have reiterated their desire to help expand their network in our Township and significantly enhance the broadband service for our residents and businesses by leveraging the numerous broadband funding programs available via the CRTC along with Federal and Provincial Governments. An effective broadband connection has come to the forefront in our Township over the past 6-8 weeks during Covid-19. This has been a priority of Council for some time. The Clerk Administrator reiterated this need to the Ministry when responding on our Covid-19 difficulties. As Covid-19 continues to impact all Canadians and the world, this may present an opportunity to share our municipal challenges that have occurred or have been magnified as a result of the virus and subsequent quarantine, ie work from home and e-learning constraints, etc. This could come in the form of a letter from our Township and directed to the CRTC and all funding programs for their consideration. Cogeco would include this in their application for our Township to further demonstrate why the funding programs should consider all applications for our area as a priority. Cogeco thanks the Mayor and Clerk Administrator for our assistance and support over the past months as they strive to obtain funding to expand their network in our area and connect as many of our residents as possible. Covid-19 has provided extreme challenges for our Township and residents in many ways, and especially considering internet capabilities. Letter to be sent.

4. Pay List by Fund for Apr 2020, Resolution

68-20 Wood, Flowers

THAT we authorize Pay List by Fund as of Apr 30, 2020 \$140,852.53 Grand Total. CARRIED

COMMITTEES

5. Machar Planning; Rezoning Update 1-011, Resolution

Email received in response to progress invoice sent for planner costs. The municipality has been more than patient in waiting for the applicant to make progress and complete the items necessary. We remain anxious to complete this matter, but still await reply on the Site Plan Agreement.

69-20 Scarlett, Wood

THAT we approve reply 1-011 regarding Rezoning Application and Progress Invoice. CARRIED

6. Machar By-Law Enforcement; Dog By-Law

Municipal By-Law Enforcement Officer has suggested an update and prepared a draft for consideration. Existing By-Law 15-97 and Township of Strong sample 2016-009 also provided. Review and discussion ensued. The by-law is very draft and Council would like to discuss with the Municipal By-Law Enforcement Officer at a meeting after Covid-19 restrictions have been lifted.

7. Machar Public Works: Parks/Cemeteries; University of Guelph looking for sites with phragmites

University of Guelph is looking for sites with phragmites to evaluate new management solutions. Clerk Administrator will provide Councillor Wood's contact information as the liaison. Clerk Administrator inquired on York University student's Blue Green Algae study conducted last summer. Township interview answers were submitted in Dec. Councillor Wood advised he has a meeting Wed. The student doing the study has encountered difficulties due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

8. Joint Building Committee permit summaries for Apr 2020, Resolution

Impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic, permit activity at the end of Apr 2020 = 11 versus 28 in 2019.

70-20 Scarlett, McLaren

THAT we accept Building Reports for Apr 2020. CARRIED

9. N Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit; Jan 22 & Feb 22 minutes can be found on website

INFORMATION

- 10. Municipality of McDougall** – Resolution 2020-44 in support of the Town of Parry Sound Resolution 2020-16, requesting that public health be funded through regular provincial taxation, not municipal taxation
- 11. Township of Perth South** – Correspondence received from the Municipality of West Nipissing, the Village of Merrickville-Wolford and Norfolk County regarding Provincially Significant Wetlands Designation, as a rural municipality, we share the same concerns raised and thoroughly support the resolutions passed and information provided by these municipalities
- 12. Town of Gravenhurst** – Resolution 61/2020 – requests that the Province of Ontario add Community Gardens, Garden Centres and Nurseries as essential services
- 13. Township of Mapleton** – Resolution 2020-04-14 requests the Province of Ontario review the Farm Property Class Tax Rate Programme in Light of Economic Competitiveness Concerns between Rural and Urban Municipalities
- 14. Township of Armour** – Resolution in regards to high speed internet connectivity in rural Ontario on the need to make substantial investments
- 15. Village of Sundridge** – Notice of a complete application for a zoning by-law amendment to rezone the subject lands to permit a 51-unit residential apartment building and create special regulations for parking, setbacks and mixed use permissions (residential, commercial and institutional uses, such as a library), a public meeting has not been scheduled at this time
- 16. District of Parry Sound Social Services** – As part of the Ontario governments commitment to open child care programs for essential front-line workers, effective 7 am, Tuesday, April 14 the District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board is offering free emergency child care services to eligible emergency frontline workers during the pandemic at the following locations: Home Child Care Program 705-746-9522 ext. 4361, Waubeek Early Learning & Child Care Centre 705-746-8332, Fairview Early Learning & Child Care Centre 705-724-5462, First Steps Early Learning & Child Care Centre 705-386-2552 ext. 5437; For eligibility verification, child care registration and all other inquires please call the program number above
- 17. Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks** – In support of the effort to stop the spread of COVID-19 and help keep Ontarians safe, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks will be postponing public and corporate cleanups until later in the year during Waste Reduction Week, which takes place October 19-25, 2020, of course, May 12, 2020 will continue to be the first official Day of Action on Litter, to mark this occasion this year, we will be focusing on raising

awareness of the impacts of waste in the environment, and what actions each and every Ontarian can take to prevent, reduce or divert waste in your communities, right at home

18. Ministry of Energy, Northern Development & Mines – The Agri-Food Open for E-Business targeted intake will help businesses/organizations quickly expand their marketing channels and respond to new market challenges, increase online sales in the sector and provide consumers with access to more local food; This targeted application intake features two funding streams: 1. **Bring Your Business Online:** Provides a grant of up to \$5,000 to eligible organizations/businesses to help establish an online presence 2. **Develop Online Business Opportunities:** Provides cost-share funding for up to 90 per cent of eligible costs to a maximum of \$75,000 to develop e-business opportunities on a larger scale; In order to be eligible an applicant must:

- be involved in the agriculture, agri-food and agri-products sector;
- be in compliance with all Requirements of Law and agree to remain in compliance with all Requirements of Law for the duration of the project;
- be a legal entity capable of entering into an agreement with the Province of Ontario;
- provide a Canada Revenue Agency Business Number as part of the application process; and be engaged in the project and be contributing cash towards the project

Here is the link to the website for further details:

[http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/cap/ebusiness.htm?utm](http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/cap/ebusiness.htm?utm_source=northern%20ontario%20business&utm_campaign=northern%20ontario%20business&utm_medium+=referral)

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19. AMO Communications – Member Update for April 20, 2020 – Planning Notice Timeline Changes Anticipated, Province Expands List of Essential Workers that can access free emergency child care, New Regulation temporarily eliminates reduced load periods on roads in Southern Ontario, AMO to release OPP Detachment Board discussion paper, AMO Covid-19 webinars series: Municipal Labour Relations during COVID-19

20. AMO Communications – AMO releases OPP Detachment Boards Discussion Paper on the establishment of new OPP detachment boards, designed to help municipal officials assess key issues, lead informed conversations, and lay the foundation for successful governance in the future

21. AMO Watchfile Apr 16, 2020 In This Issue

- COVID-19 resources.
- Join our weekly COVID-19 Communicators Virtual Meeting.
- Communications and virtual attendance at council meetings webinars
- Invitation to member municipalities: Join AMO-Led OPP Detachment Board webinar.
- Main Street Revitalization Initiative final reporting extensions.
- Electronic meetings quorum guidance.
- Digital meeting management for small municipalities.
- AMO 2020 Conference.
- Cancellation deadline extended for exhibitors to July 6 in response to COVID-19.
- AMO's popular social media webinar series available through Municipal Education.
- Review your Employee Group Benefits Plan.
- Municipal Group Buying Program webinar: Procurement.
- Municipal Group Buying Program COVID-19 updates.
- COVID-19 and municipal cybersecurity.

22. AMO Watchfile Apr 23, 2020 In This Issue

- COVID-19 resources.
- Communications and virtual attendance at council meetings webinars.
- Invitation to member municipalities: Join AMO-Led OPP Detachment Board webinar.
- AMO's latest on broadband & cellular connectivity.
- Diabetes Canada requests municipal assistance to clear garbage from around bins.
- WSIB announces \$1.9 billion in financial relief for employers.
- PJ Marshall Award - deadline extended.
- Updated Waste Diversion information on AMO website.
- Government extending Covid-19 services to low-income seniors & disabled persons.
- Guidance on planning timelines posted.
- Consultation extended on proposal under the *Consumer Protection Act*.
- Digital meeting management for small municipalities.
- AMO 2020: Annual General Meeting and Conference.
- Cancellation deadline extended for exhibitors to July 6 in response to COVID-19.
- AMO's popular social media webinar series available through Municipal Education.
- COVID19 can even affect personal insurance.
- Energy Training despite social distancing: Is this possible?
- Municipal Group Buying program: COVID-19 Updates.
- Municipal Group Buying program vendor webinar: Gasboy/Gilbarco.
- Municipal Group Buying program webinar – Procurement.

- ONE Investment: Two important webinars.
- Limerick resolution concerning the devastating loss of lives in Nova Scotia.

23. AMO Watchfile Apr 30, 2020 In This Issue

- COVID-19 resources.
- The municipal CAO during COVID-19 - Special podcast series.
- Tax deferrals.
- 2020-2022 AMO Board of Directors - Call for Nominations.
- Reminder for comments on Draft Blue Box Recommendations.
- Ontario's Cyber Security Community of Practice (CoP).
- BEACON Digital Therapy - Innovative mental health care support.
- AMO 2020: Annual General Meeting and Conference.
- AMO 2020: Exhibitors.
- AMO's popular social media webinar series available through Municipal Education.
- LAS Blog: Natural Gas Program update.
- Road & Sidewalk Assessment webinar: New features in Streetlogix.
- A letter of thanks from Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities.

24. Tribunals Ontario Environment and Land Division Assessment Review Board (ARB) – On April 14, 2020, the Ontario Legislature extended the Declaration of Emergency under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (EMCPA) for 28 days until May 12, for the duration of the emergency, limitation periods and time periods in which a step must be taken in a proceeding before a tribunal are suspended, these time periods are suspended pursuant to O.Reg 73/20 under the EMCPA (“Emergency Order”) the suspension of time periods is subject to the discretion of the tribunal in any particular proceeding; The Assessment Review Board is issuing a further memo to clarify the ARB’s position on the suspension of time periods in its proceedings, the following three categories set out the ARB’s process going forward with respect to our timelines, A. Continued Suspension, B. Timelines/Practices Continuing, C. Hearing Events Before the Board

25. Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – A new Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) was released on February 28, 2020 and will come into effect on May 1, 2020, you can download a copy of the new PPS at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/provincial-policy-statement-2020>

26. Ontario Heritage Trust – April news from the Ontario Heritage Trust – Up front Beth Hanna, CEO of the Ontario Heritage Trust, Doors Open Ontario 2020, Exploring women’s history through provincial plaques; Heritage Matters: Understanding the role of women in Ontario’s past, Partners in heritage: The Women’s Law Association of Ontario

27. Ontario Heritage Trust – Over the past year, the Ontario Heritage Trust has made great strides in the areas of conservation, youth participation and education, and in forging vital partnerships to engage all Ontarians in new ways, here are just a few of our achievements:

- The **Trust works with partners in communities across the province** to steward and interpret our sites. Partner contributions are invaluable in keeping these spaces vibrant and viable for the people of Ontario to experience. From the Moose Cree First Nation who operate the [Hudson’s Bay Company Staff House](#) at Moose Factory to the volunteers of the Thunder Bay Field Naturalists who steward the Harvais property (a reserve for rare orchids), and from event partners to the Friends of [Macdonell-Williamson House](#) (a National Historic Site in Chute-à-Blondeau), whose conservation initiatives have developed the house into a successful cultural, historical and bilingual tourist centre.
- Since reopening in September 2018, the [Cheltenham Badlands](#) has received **over 120,000 visitors who have experienced the site’s new visitor infrastructure**. We are proud to work with Credit Valley Conservation and the Bruce Trail Conservancy in providing new opportunities for the public to experience this remarkable site while protecting its fragile landscape. The National Trust for Canada recognized this initiative with the 2019 Ecclesiastical Insurance Cornerstone Award.
- [The Doris McCarthy Artist-in-Residence Program](#) continues to thrive, providing a unique living and working creative space for Canadian artists. In 2019, we **welcomed eight artists and provided mentorship opportunities** for a further 50 emerging artists. The Trust is grateful to the RBC Foundation’s Emerging Artists Project for its support of this program.
- [Doors Open Ontario](#) 2019 enjoyed **more than 450,000 visits and opened almost 1,000 sites across the province**. We capped off the 2019 season in late October with an event organized in partnership with the Niagara Parks Commission to open the stunning decommissioned William B. Rankine Power Generating Station in Niagara Falls for two days, providing a rare opportunity for approximately 3,000 visitors to tour the facility and see a part of Ontario’s industrial heritage that has been closed for the past decade.

28. Algoma, Manitoulin & West Sudbury Ag News May 2020 – Upcoming Events, Funding Programs, Agri-Food open for E Business targeted intake, Business Technology Improvement Fund, Information, If I get Sick Farm Action Plan, Plastic Bale Wrap Study, OMAFRA AgriSuite, Are you between 18 and 29 and live in rural Ontario, Rural Change Makers

29. **FCM (Federation of Canadian Municipalities) President's Corner, Keeping municipal services going strong** – Gearing up for Canada's recovery
30. **FCM Communiqué** – FCM AGM and Election 2020 update was scheduled for Jun will be postponed and held virtually in early Oct (date still to be determined)
31. **Municipal World Magazine** – What's Inside: Smart and Private: They can go together, Opening the door for women in local government, Media monitoring in a modern world, Creating and maintaining the resilient organization, Applying nudge theory in local government, Markets are conversations, A model for regional collaboration in New Brunswick, CRTC decision threatens high-speed access, From the mountains to the taps, Building Trust: Eight tips from the pros, Connecting courage with creativity in Airdrie, A word for the editor, Governance zone, Curmudgeon's corner, The reading room, Connecting the dots, Coming Events
32. **Municipal Monitor Q1 2020 M** – Features: Beyond Hearts & Minds, Data Security for Municipalities, Smart Seating, The Elephant in the Office, Plus: AMCTO'S Online Learning Portal, Departments: President's Message, Special Section: 2020 Vision Look and Leap Ahead
33. **MPAC 2019 Annual Report provides an overview of operational and financial performance**
34. **MPAC Apr 2020 In Touch** – Covid-19 resources, MPAC welcomes new board members, Upcoming municipal webinars, MPAC's 2019 Annual Report is now available, Sharing our cyber security journey, Increased people portal data refreshes, Partnerships in action

72-20 Wood, Flowers

THAT we support Municipality of McDougall Resolution 202-44 in support of the Town of Parry Sound Resolution 2020-16 requesting that public health be funded through regular provincial taxation, not municipal taxation. CARRIED

73-20 Wood, Scarlett

THAT we support Township of Armour Resolution in regard to high speed internet connectivity in rural Ontario on the need to make substantial investments. CARRIED

INFORMATION: COVID-19

35. **Township of Armour** – Letters to the Province in response to COVID-19 – Travel Restrictions to Small Communities Almaguin Region's longstanding concerns in healthcare, housing, lack of resources and rural internet, therefore, asking your government to implement travel restrictions which will prevent those living in large cities from coming into our small underserved communities, regardless if they own seasonal properties; Post-Secondary Education Students in Health Care Placement, request that your government assess this matter and return these students to their placements or, as an alternative, credit these students the time there are putting in at hospitals or health centres as a placement so that they may graduate
36. **Town of Oakville** – Letter to Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier Ford; to discuss options to address the need for up to three months of rent relief for small businesses that have been hardest hit by the crisis, Federal and Provincial governments can assist businesses to address the spectre of impending rent with the following essential steps:
 - **An immediate moratorium on commercial evictions**
 - **A program of direct rent subsidies to business equivalent to the business's sales volume reduction**
 - **Measures to continue throughout the recovery period to allow business to ramp back up**
 - **As these measures have been for the greater public good, Government should compel landlords and banks to share the cost of the emergency measures, they should not be borne solely by the lessee**
37. **Township of Montague** – Resolution supports the proposal in principle from the Town of Midland for the federal government to provide grant funding to municipalities to forgive tax payments, proposal residential properties (primary residence only) waive 100% assessed at or below \$500,000, waive 50% currently assessed below \$1,000,000, waive 25% currently assessed above \$1,000,000, industrial/commercial and farm properties waive 100% currently assessed at under \$10,000,000, waive 50% currently assessed between \$10,000,000 and \$50,000,000 and waive 25% assessed above \$50,000,000, Federal Government transfers funds to municipalities as a 1 time grant
38. **District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board** – United Way Simcoe Muskoka, in partnership with its Regional Advisory Board, invites organizations operating in Ontario to submit an Expression of Interest through the Reaching Home –**Rural and Remote Communities COVID-19**

funding stream; through the **Government of Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan**, decisive action is being taken to help communities address the impacts of the COVID-19 among people experiencing, or at risk of homelessness, and to provide additional support to the homeless-serving sector during this period; A total of \$1,299,284 will be allocated (pending funding availability) in rural communities across Ontario for a **one year funding period of May 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021**

- 39. NBPSDHU Communications** – Testing for COVID-19 has increased in the North Bay Parry Sound District's Health Unit's region, the number of residents who were tested for COVID-19 between April 13 and 19, more than doubled from the seven days previous, the increase aligns with the province's announcement to expand COVID-19 testing in Ontario; In addition to testing the general public who are experiencing symptoms, the province is now requesting the proactive testing of several priority groups, Ontario is committed to protecting the most vulnerable in our communities and those that protect them, Priority groups include: Hospital inpatients; Residents of long-term care and retirement homes; Health care workers, caregivers, care providers, paramedics, and first responders, including police and firefighters; Remote, isolated, rural and Indigenous communities; Other congregate living centres, including homeless shelters, prisons and group homes; Specific vulnerable populations, including patients undergoing chemotherapy or hemodialysis and requiring transplants, as well as pregnant persons, newborns and cross-border workers; Other essential workers, as defined by provincial orders
- 40. North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit News Release** – First Person Confirmed Positive for Covid-19 in Long-Term Care in Health Unit's District, as part of the enhanced testing of long-term care homes Cassellhome residents and staff were tested on May 1, 2020. The individual who tested positive is a resident male between 60-79 years of age who did not have symptoms. The individual is currently isolating in a Covid-19 isolation unit at Cassellhome. The Health Unit has tested symptomatic residents of long-term care homes in the district prior to the release of the provincial plan and all results came back negative.
- 41. MPAC** – We convened a special virtual meeting with our Municipal Liaison Group, representing more than 40 municipalities and sector associations across the province, to review how MPAC is responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and hear directly from municipalities about how best to support you during this unprecedented time; Extended Payment Terms, earlier this month municipal billing partners received the Q2 levy invoice for services to be rendered for the period April-June, due May 1st, to ensure we are fair and transparent, municipalities who have already remitted payment will be provided the same one-time deferred option, if needed, for the Q3 invoice, we encourage those that can pay based on existing timelines to do so but are pleased to offer this extra flexibility if needed; Assessment Update Postponement, The 2020 provincial Fiscal and Economic Update announced the postponement of the province-wide reassessment that was set to update values from a valuation date of January 1, 2016 to January 1, 2019, as of today, we do not know when the next Assessment Update will take place or what the future valuation date will be, we do not know the property assessments for the 2021 property tax year will continue to be based on the January 1, 2016 valuation date
- 42. MPAC – Supporting Municipalities through Covid-19** – convened a special virtual meeting of Municipal Liaison Group, one time levy payment deferral to municipalities who need it, postponed Mar 30 mailing of Post Roll Amended Notices, resumed regular mailings of in year notices, released Q1 new assessment forecast that captures new construction and/or additions, will continue to move forward with special projects related to enhancing Municipal Connect, has started to receive requests for reconsiderations from property owners who believe the Covid-19 pandemic has affected the value of their property, if the property's assessed value reflects the local market as of the legislated valuation date of Jan 1, 2016 the value will remain unchanged, any influence the Covid-19 pandemic may have on property values was not in effect on Jan 1, 2016, for that reason RfRs that exclusively cite Covid-19 as the reason will not result in a value change for the 2020 property tax year
- 43. United Way Centraide North East Ontario** – Federal government of Canada has awarded United Way Canada with funds to respond to the urgent needs of seniors (55+) who are impacted by COVID-19 in communities across Canada; United Way Centraide North East Ontario (UWCNEO) is in receipt of a portion of those funds totalling \$116,858 that we will be quickly distributing to charities in the over 100 municipalities in North East Ontario; UWCNEO's mission is to respond to immediate urgent local need by supporting; Basic needs such as food, hygiene products etc. including delivery of groceries or pre-made food o seniors, Reducing social isolation through things like telephone check ins, or mental health supports, Support for charities enhancing services to seniors

- 44. FedNor** – We are reaching out to share information about the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy, an initiative to help businesses keep and rehire staff for up to 12 weeks to prevent job losses, this subsidy, which can provide up to \$847 per week, is available to employers retroactive to March 15, 2020; Eligible employers include individuals, taxable corporations, registered charities, non-profit organizations and partnership consisting of eligible employers; More information on the [Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy](#)
- 45. Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs** – Given the evolving situation, the government has made an amendment to the emergency order under the [Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act](#) as set out in O Reg. 104/20, this decision is endorsed by the Chief Medical Officer of Health, Effective immediately, the Ontario government is allowing the use of allotment and community gardens across Ontario, provided that people physical distancing and do not gather in groups of more than five; The order is available at the following link: www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/200104
- 46. Public Safety Division and Public Safety Training Division** – Update on the Prosecution of Provincial Offences Act Charges Laid Alleging Violations of the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act
- 47. AMO Covid-19 Update** – Staff Reassignment Flexibility Provided, The Ontario government has announced support to municipalities through an order O.Reg. 157/20 under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act to provide municipal government with the flexibility for redeployment and other measures where there is local need during the outbreak including child care, social assistance, and by-law enforcement, a similar order (O.Reg. 154/20) has been issued for District Social Service Administration Boards; Electricity Disconnection Ban Expanded, On March 19, 2020, the Ontario Energy Board extended the ban on electricity disconnections for non-payment for residential customers to July 31, 2020, now low-volume and small business customers will also be protected by the ban during this period, OEB made this change to ensure the risk of loss of electricity service, on account of arrears, would not be an added source of uncertainty at this time
- 48. AMO Covid-19 Update:** Municipal Fiscal Issues and other items of Municipal Interest, both added operational costs and lost revenues, help with massive losses in transit revenue, and potentially support infrastructure investment, seeking \$10 billion in federal funds, hybrid allocation based model based on additional gas tax funding of \$7.6 billion, Ontario extends Emergency Orders until May 6, 2020, MPAC offers municipalities a quarterly payment deferral, AGCO to resume limited Cannabis Store Licensing, Guidance posted on Suspension of Land Use Planning Timelines, Government extending Covid-19 Response Services to Low Income Seniors and Disabled Persons, Electronic meetings resource
- 49. AMO Covid-19 Update** – What You Need to Know Today – Provincial Direction on COVID-19 Re-Opening Approach, New Orders regarding Long-Term Care Homes, Additional Pandemic Pay for Some Frontline Workers, Community Gardens, PPE for Municipal Purposes, Suspension of timelines in the Ontario Heritage Act
- 50. AMO Covid-19 Update** – Pandemic Pay extended to Paramedics, Province expands list of essential workers that can access free emergency child care, including municipal workers
- 51. AMO Covid-19 Update** – Province Allowing Certain Businesses to Reopen May 4th – Including Municipal Construction Projects. The government announced that it will allow [certain businesses to reopen under strict health and safety guidelines](#). This includes a resumption for additional essential municipal construction projects as well as site preparation, excavation, and servicing for institutional, commercial, industrial and residential development. Marinas and golf courses are allowed to start to get ready for the coming season but are not allowed to open to the public.
- 52. AMO Covid-19 Update – Emergency Orders extended to May 19, CMOH Direction on Seasonal Residences, More Businesses to Open** – Chief Medical Officer of Health recommendation is to not prohibit access to secondary residences through legal order, but will continue to provide public communications that discourage their use, select businesses can reopen as long as they comply with all public health measures and safety guidelines, includes garden centres and nurseries, hardware stores, retail stores with a street entrance (via curbside pickup) and central and residential construction sites and related demolition work, dates begin this Fri, May 8
- 53. RAIN Program** – Fill out this survey to support the RAIN staff develop new programs to support the agricultural industry during these times and looking forward, The Sustainable New Agri-food Products and Productivity funding program was created to respond to opportunities and mitigate challenges of explaining agri-food in northern Ontario, the COVID-19 crisis has created new challenges and opportunities for the sector, please take a few minutes to answer the questions in

the following link to help SNAPP respond to this unique time, Here is the link to the survey:

<https://zfrmz.com/CPxtbZqf0jsd7k7IPLR>

54. **SPARK Ontario** – Is partnering with the Ontario government to connect volunteers with opportunities to support seniors, people with disabilities and other Ontarians requiring assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic, we are asking not-for-profit organizations and community response efforts to post their volunteer opportunities at SPARK Ontario and connect with the thousands of Ontarians who want to help, Interested in volunteering? Sign up at sparkontario.ca
55. **FCM Communiqué** – New federal support for sectors distressed by COVID-19; Highlights: \$1.7 billion to clean up “orphaned and inactive” oil and gas wells, \$962 million for regional economic development agencies, \$750 million in federal loans to energy companies to reduce methane emissions
56. **FMC Communiqué** – COVID-19: New support for distressed sectors; Municipalities innovating to #FlattenTheCurve; New safety guidelines will help protect essential workers; Celebrating women elected officials; Resource: how to defer property taxes
57. **FCM Communiqué** – FCM seeks emergency funding for municipalities, Municipal leaders are working flat-out to support Canadians through the COVID-19 pandemic, across the country, we’re all taking extraordinary steps to protect people and businesses- and to help them weather the economic storm, but this pandemic has our communities on the brink of financial crisis, revenues are falling, costs are rising, and municipalities can’t run operating deficits, that leaves local leaders with stark choices-but this is no time to look at cutting back services, that’s why, earlier today, FMC publicly called on the federal government to commit to emergency municipal operating funding – to keep essential services running strong, and to keep Canadians safe and supported
58. **FCM Voice** – FCM calls for emergency support for cities and communities, Message of solidarity from mayors, How GMF built a successful green municipal program, Municipalities innovating to #FlattenTheCurve, Listen in: Brock Carlton on FCM’s leadership role in international development, Last week Ann MacLean Award nominations, Tool: How to include climate resiliency in your plans and operations, CN is Committed to Healthy and Safe Operations
59. **FCM Voice** – Covid-19 bringing local realities to federal decision makers, community innovation in the face of Covid-19, the GMF (Green Municipal Fund) seeks an affordable housing expert, Resources community & learning with UCLG’s (United Cities and Local Governments)

74-20 Scarlett, McLaren

THAT we support the Township of Armour letter dated Apr 16, 2020 re: Post Secondary Education Students in Health Care Placements. CARRIED

ADDITIONAL/ROUND TABLE/NOTICE OF MOTION

Service Delivery Review

We received a letter dated Mar 2, 2020 pleased to advise that the Government of Ontario approved funding of up to \$100,000 towards our Service Delivery Review per our submission. We received the Transfer Payment Agreement for the project on Mar 5, 2020 and returned signed Agreements on Mar 10, 2020 by courier as required. The Covid-19 pandemic emergency was declared by the Province on Mar 17, 2020. We were advised by email on Apr 22, 2020 that the Municipal Modernization Program Transfer Payment Agreement has been signed by the Minister as of Mar 22, 2020 and advising that during this time, the Ministry are not able to send a hard copy of the agreement, however after the emergency period they will send a copy of the signed agreement to us as required. The Interim Progress Report is due Jun 15, 2020, a draft of the Independent Third Party Reviewer's Report is to be submitted to the Province by Aug 31, 2020 and published by Sep 18, 2020. The time frames were concise to start with and have now been impacted by Covid-19. The Clerk Administrator has reached out to the Ministry regarding an extension to the dates and counterpart municipalities to determine the status of their projects. The Ministry is looking at a possible extension of up to several months for the Final Report, but a decision has not been made at this time. The Interim Progress Report due by Jun 15, 2020 will not likely be extended. The Interim Progress Report will include an update to the estimated cost of the project, and a statement indicating whether the recipient has retained the independent 3rd party reviewer. Per information received, the time frame circumstances, the process and company selected at counterparts and the samples reviewed initially, Administration will seek out a price from same.

71-20 McLaren, Scarlett

THAT we instruct Administration to obtain a price for Service Delivery Review. CARRIED

ADJOURN

75-20 McLaren, 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, Apr 25, 2020. CARRIED

Mayor Lynda Carleton

Clerk Administrator Brenda Paul, AMCT

BP.