

TOWNSHIP OF MACHAR
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
Monday, March 14, 2022

6:30 pm 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: Treasurer/Deputy Clerk Angela Loney and Senior Administrative Assistant – Planning Teresa Coombs.

Guest scheduled: Liz Bradley. Guests observing: Lynn and Brian Kennedy, Faye Oei, Fay Boyd and Mike Mitchell, Jodi Bennett, Linda McKenzie and Dave Jenson, Sandy Zurbrigg, Marv Nolan, Mark Smuck, John Mowat, Don and Valerie Green, Stephanie Apollonio, Jeff Griffith Doug and Lynne Edwards, Paul Rabinovitch, Verna Sohm, Phil and Anne Pelletier, Pearl Ivens and BLEO Caitlin Deevey. **Guests attend by teleconference due to Covid-19 protocols.

GUESTS

6:30-6:45 pm Liz Bradley follow up presentation Short Term Rentals Septic System Inquiries

Per Ms. Bradley's previous presentation, Council supported further research into the North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority's procedure in following up on citizen complaints re: over capacity and speaking to other municipalities on their individual handling of short-term rentals. Five options were detailed by Ms. Bradley, all with varying levels of municipal involvement and spending commitments (Noise By-Laws, Licensing and Zoning restrictions). Mayor plans to look into other municipalities. Council accepted the suggestions and indicated that they would take it under review. Ms. Bradley's Task Force recommendation is not feasible for the Township at this time. Council suggested police and By-Law be called for specific noise infractions. The municipality has no one trained to do septic inspections, so a By-Law to give it the authority to inspect would be costly. That is the NBMCA's mandate.

BUSINESS

1. Adoption of Feb 28, 2022 minutes, Resolution

34-22 Scarlett, Wood

THAT we adopt minutes of Feb 28, 2022. CARRIED

2. By-Law for destruction of outdated records, Resolution

35-22 McLaren, Flowers

THAT we give 1st, 2nd, 3rd and final reading to By-Law No. 6-22; to authorize the destruction of certain outdated Township records. CARRIED

3. Application to purchase Lakeshore Road Allowance 5-097, Resolution

Reviewed. Property has zoning concerns.

36-22 Wood, Scarlett

THAT we authorize Application to Purchase Lakeshore Road Allowance 5-097 for processing upon weather suitability and confirmation of zoning compliance. CARRIED

COMMITTEES

4. Shared Services; 2022 Budget Worksheets for Arena & Fire

Council appreciated the drafts, Fire looked promising but noted Machar's Arena portion would be \$116,576 in 2022, up \$28,317 from \$88,259 in 2021. Council requests lower drafts, per Machar's Resolution 135-21, Council will need to agree by Resolution by Apr 1 (Mar 28 meeting) and per

Council's letter reply to the Statement read by Mayor Coleman on Feb 11, the budget increase will need to be up to, but not more than 3%.

37-22 Scarlett, McLaren

THAT we acknowledge receipt of 2022 Budget Worksheets for Arena and Fire reflecting proposed increases of 32.08% and 4.15% respectively,

FURTHER THAT we request lower drafts for our next Council meeting. CARRIED

a. Proposed Firefighter Certification Model, Fire Chief Response

South River Machar Fire Chief has addressed concerns with a proposed firefighter certification model that would introduce mandatory minimum certification requirements for specific fire prevention services in Ontario. Comparisons to Paramedic and Police certification is unrealistic as those models are financially subsidized and not volunteer based. On a volunteer-based model, this model will have negative impacts to volunteer family and work life and will impact firefighter retention.

38-22 Wood, Scarlett

THAT we support South River Machar Fire Chief's comments to the Ministry of the Solicitor regarding Mandatory Certification 22-SOLGN001,

FURTHER THAT we request the Ministry of the Solicitor General reconsider this certification process and do not proceed with the regulation. CARRIED

5. Almaguin Community Safety and Well Being Plan, Resolution

Mandated Jan 2019 by Ontario's Police Services Act, the Plan was created using a collaborative multi-level approach recognizing that it is more than crime that sets the safety and well being in a community. The ultimate goal is to address root causes to circumstances creating emergency responses for residents. Council agrees the Plan is very well done, interesting and very relevant in the wake of COVID 19 pandemic restrictions and it's impacts.

39-22 Flowers, Scarlett

THAT we approve Community Safety and Well-Being Plan Almaguin Highlands 2021-2025. CARRIED

6. District of Social Services Admin Board; information on the Meadow View 55+

Powassan's independent living option for those 55+, rentals ranging from at \$850-\$1,550/month excl hydro (heat/air). Affordable units will be available and set at 20% below the average market rent for the area. Applications for those units are income tested for eligibility. Information included on why renting can be a good option for retirees.

7. Eastholme, E District of Parry Sound Home for the Aged 2022 annual levy increase

Reviewed. Machar's contribution is increasing 4.2% from \$85,909 in 2021 to \$89,517 in 2022.

8. FONOM (Fed of N ON Munic) Northern ON Transportation Taskforce, 2022 Conference

Reviewed. Council mentioned the pilot highway 2+1 to run from North Bay to New Liskeard sounds interesting. Mayor Carleton plans to attend the conference.

9. POA (Provincial Offences Act) Municipal Partner's Distribution 2021 Q4 distribution

Reviewed. Machar's 2021 revenue totals \$4,660.01.

10. Parry Sound EMS (Emergency Medical Services) Advisory minutes of Feb 24, 2022

Reviewed.

11. Joint Building Committee permit summaries for Feb 2022, Resolution

Reviewed.

40-22 Wood, Scarlett

THAT we accept Building Permit Summaries for Feb 2022. CARRIED

INFORMATION

- 12. Town of Aurora Resolution** – Request that the Government of Ontario be requested to immediately engage municipalities to determine an alternative land use planning appeals process in order to dissolve the OLT (Ontario Land Tribunal) and eliminate one of the most significant sources of red tape delaying the development of more attainable housing in Ontario.
- 13. Town of Bracebridge Resolution** – Requests for a provincial re-examination of the “local share” hospital capital calculation methodology, to better reflect the limited fiscal capacity of municipalities, and the contributors to health care services they already provide to a community.
- 14. Town of South Bruce Peninsula Resolution** – The Town recently amended the MAT (Municipal Accommodation Tax) program to confirm that their Town owned campground will contribute to MAT in the same manner as all of their privately-owned campgrounds. Council fully supports the position of local campground owners and has passed the following resolution.
- 15. Town of Collingwood Resolution** – Can no longer remain a member of the Ontario Municipal Water Association and requests that they terminate the Town’s membership in OMWA effective immediately as the OMWA website lists Mr. Ed Houghton as Executive Director.
- 16. Township of Woolwich Resolution** – Requests the Government of Ontario to provide stable, reliable and predictable funding for mental health organizations in their 2022 budget.
- 17. Town of the Blue Mountains Resolution** – Requests that staff Report PDS.22.037, entitled “Ontario Housing Affordability Task Force Recommendations – Information Report”, and that Council direct Town staff to monitor any provincial policy and legislative changes that may be proposed by the Province to address Housing and Affordability issues.
- 18. North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, News Release, Additional Community Sharps Bin Installed in the City of North Bay** – In partnership with the AIDs Committee of North Bay & Area (ACNBA), that an additional community sharps bin has been installed in North Bay. Located at 147 McIntyre St W, Suite 102 is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For more information, call the Health Unit at 705-474-1400 or 1-800-563-2808, or learn more at www.myhealthunit.ca/sharps.
- 19. North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, News Release, Think You’ll Win? Health Unit Launches Campaign to Help You Learn the Odds** – Think You’ll Win? A gambling harm reduction campaign that adds perspective to the odds of winning big. The campaign features four scenarios that may seem unbelievable. But are statistically more likely to happen than winning big.
- 20. AMO Communications, AMO Policy Update, Fire Certification Regulation Response, Federal Transit Investment** – Municipal governments are generally supportive of efforts to modernize and enhance the volunteer and full-time fire services that serve Ontario communities. That said, changes must be made in a constructive and thorough manner which recognized the role that Ontario municipalities play in the provision of those services. The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, the Honourable Chrystia Freeland, announced recently that the federal government intends to introduce legislation to invest up to \$750 million in one-time funding for local transit systems to cover pandemic shortfalls.
- 21. AMO Communications, AMO Policy Update, Consolidated Homelessness Prevention Program, New PTSD Rehabilitation Centre for First Responders, Getting Ontario Connected Act, 2022, AMO Statement on Ukraine** – The provincial government is consolidating three programs into a new Homelessness Prevention Program. It combines the Community Homelessness Prevention initiative, Home for Good, and the Strong Communities Rent Supplement Program into one. An annual funding increase of \$25 million is also being added. The new treatment centre would provide a comprehensive mental health rehabilitation program to first responders affected by work-related stress or trauma. The province announced new legislation to help make it easier and faster to build high-speed internet infrastructure across the province. The legislation, if passed would reduce delays to help meet the government’s commitment to connect every community with access to high-speed internet by the end of 2025. Municipal governments are encouraged to review the legislation as it proposed changes to two Acts. Municipal governments in every part of Ontario stand with the people of Ukraine in the face of unconscionable tragedy, invasion and war. Visit the Canadian Red Cross website to find out how to help or donate.

- 22. AMCTO, Issue at a Glance: Infrastructure** – Is a briefing note series that provides local government professionals with quick, digestible information on a range of key policy matters. Stay tuned for more Issue at a Glance to come!
- 23. AMO Communications, AMO WatchFile, Feb 24, 2022, In This Issue** –
- Support your Asset Management Goals.
 - AMO/LAS Municipal Energy Symposium Mar 31 – Apr 1.
 - Webinar: Prevention strategy, H&S rep training update, & rebates from WSIB.
 - Webinar: Jump-start your Digital Transformation with an e-signature solution.
 - Webinar: Breaking down barriers – Accessible digital solutions or your community.
 - Free Risk Management webinar: Back-to-basics.
 - Canoe webinar date changed – Madvac/Exprolink.
 - Kraft Hockeyville nominations are now open: Nominations close Apr 3.
 - Careers.
- 24. AMO Communications, AMO WatchFile, Mar 3, 2022, In This Issue** –
- AMO’s Response to the Province’s Housing Affordability Task Force Report.
 - Lead Where You Live: AMO’s Guide to Running for Municipal Election.
 - Survey on best practices for source water protection.
 - AMO/LAS Municipal Energy Symposium Mar 31 – Apr 1.
 - Webinar: Prevention strategy, H&S rep training update, & rebates from WSIB.
 - Webinar: Jump-start your Digital Transformation with an e-signature solution.
 - Webinar: Breaking down barriers – Accessible digital solutions for your community.
 - Blog: Will you be ready for your 15 minutes of fame?
 - Don’t miss – Canoe webinars in Mar.
 - Now booking 2022 Road & Sidewalk assessments.
 - LED lighting upgrades qualify for incentives.
 - LAS in-person energy workshops are back!
 - Register for OMSSA’s Inclusive Leadership workshop.
 - Register to vote in the 2022 Ontario Municipal and School Board Elections.
 - Careers.
- 25. Sudbury E, Nipissing & Parry Sound, Ministry of Agric, Food and Rural Affairs, Species At Risk Farm Incentive Program (SARFIP) 2022 Intake!** – 2022 important dates:
- Applications will be accepted starting Mar 14, 2022, at 9 am.
 - The program will close when the budget is fully allocated.
 - Eligible invoice dates: Apr 1 to Dec 15, 2022.
 - Claim deadline: Dec 25, 2022.
- 26. Sudbury E, Nipissing & Parry Sound, Ministry of Agric, Food and Rural Affairs, News, Mar 2022** –
- OMAFRA Dateline, calendar of events directed to agriculture and regional economic development interests at <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/rural/edr/events-training/htm.com>.
 - Profitable Pastures, Mar 8, <https://events.eventzilla.net/e/profitable-pastures-2138826297>.
 - Ontario Crop Protection Hub Workshop for Berry Growers.
 - Canola & Coffee Speaker Series, Wed, Mar 2.
 - Winter Canola, Mar 9, Ontario Pesticide Education Courses, Mar 3 – 9 am to 1 pm.
 - Managing Farm Finances Workshop, Wed, Mar 9, 2022 at 7 pm.
 - 2022 Species at Risk Farm Incentive Program (SARFIP).
 - Rural Economic Development Program, labour attraction and retention targeted intake.
 - Cost-sharing funding to support enhanced biosecurity for African Swine Fever Preparedness.
 - Rural Economic Development Program.
 - Canadian Agricultural
- 27. Minister of Infrastructure, Introduction of Getting Ontario Connected Act, 2022** – To further support their efforts they would appreciate your feedback on a proposal that they have posted on Ontario’s Regulatory Registry related to these amendments, as well as a proposal for an administrative penalties’ framework under the BBFA, which will be developed in the coming months.
- 28. Blue Sky Net, Building Broadband Faster Act Consultation** – The Building Broadband Faster Act Guideline was released in Nov 2021 to outline the standard for supporting broadband deployment. This was accompanied by a Statement of Intent that provided a roadmap for further legislative, regulatory, and policy tools to facilitate this work. Take note of the comments due-dates, you can find the proposals here:
- www.ontariocanada.com.

29. **Almaguin Adult Learning Centre, In Like a Lion, AALC Mar Calendar 2022** – Online workshops are in full swing now – Food & Finance, Soft Skills Solutions, and Getting ahead are all taking place each week. Anyone interested in taking these courses can sign up at www.almaguinadullearning.org/workshpsignup.
30. **NDMNRF, Agriculture, Youth Employment and Skills Program (YESP), Now Open News Release** – Applications are now open for a limited time. Employers can apply between Feb 28, 2022 and Mar 21, 2022 for their project to be considered.
31. **NDMNRF, Passion for Profit: Professional Development for Creatives Event – Free Accounting Series for Creatives** – The Business Centre is cohosting with Creative Industries and Accurate Business Solutions a three-part series on Accounting for the Creative sector.
32. **NDMNRF, OTF Funding to Rebuild Your Organization’s Resiliency, Opening Soon!** – This fund supports the recovery efforts of organizations impacted by COVID-19 and helps them respond with immediate, medium, and longer-term recovery projects.
33. **NDMNRF, & Crown Forests and Lands Policy Branch Director, Seeking Input About The Use Of Floating Accommodations On Waterways Over Ontario’s Public Lands** – Would like to make you aware of a Bulletin recently posted to the Environmental Registry of Ontario <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-5119>. They are seeking to engage municipalities on potential ideas and approaches to manage “camping” and the use of floating accommodations on waterways over Ontario’s public lands.
34. **NDMNRF, Excellence in Agriculture Awards Program Nominations, Applications Open Now!** – Applications for the 2022 Excellence in Agriculture Program are open until Apr 5, 2022.
35. **BAO, Life Lin: Thanks for Your Professionalism; Con-ed Audit, Beyond Magazine, Electronic Death Registration** –
 - BAO’s adaptive approach has worked thanks to you!
 - BAO magazine for families focuses on consumer protection, sector’s professional service.
 - BAO is auditing the required 6 hours of con-ed for licensees.
 - Ministry update on Electronic Death Registration.

41-22 Scarlett, Wood

THAT we support agenda items 16 **Township of Woolwich Resolution** – Requests the Government of Ontario to provide stable, reliable and predictable funding for mental health organizations in their 2022 budget. CARRIED

INFORMATION -COVID-19

36. **North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, News Release, Face Coverings Recommended to Slow the Spread After Self-Isolation** – For isolation guidance, visit www.myhealthunit.ca/COVIDGuide.
37. **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 in North Bay and Parry Sound this week. For more information, visit www.myhealthunit.ca/GetVaccinated or contact the Health Unit call centre.
38. **North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, Public Service Announcement, COVID-19 Vaccines Clinics This Week, By Appointment or Walk-in** – Walk in or book and appointment for the following clinic locations this week:
 - Corbeil
 - Mattawa
 - North Bay
 - Parry Sound
 - Surgeon Falls
 - Sundridge
39. **Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare, News Release, Elective/Non-Urgent Surgeries and Procedures Resuming** – The gradual and cautious resumption of non-urgent surgical activity at MAHC follows the provincial lifting of Directive #2, which instructed hospitals to pause non-urgent surgical procedures in response to growing COVID-19 case counts and hospitalizations across the province to ensure critical care capacity and human resources were available to aces for hospitalized patients.
40. **Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare, News Release, MAHC Expanding Inpatient Visiting to Second Phase** – All visiting guidelines are available on the MAHC website and include exceptions for critically ill and/or palliative patients.

- 41. Ius Laboris Canada Global HR Lawyers, Mathews Dinsdale, Arbitrator Rules COVID-19 Pandemic Was A “Once-in-a-Lifetime” Event That Did Not Trigger Layoff/Severance Provisions** – On Feb 22, 2020, Alberta Arbitrator Moreau dismissed the grievances finding that the language of the collective agreement did not contemplate the circumstance of COVID-19. In this article, they will review this significant decision for employers across Canada.
- 42. BAO, Bereavement Authority of Ontario, Registrar’s Directive, Restrictions on Capacity Limits Are Listed Plus Other Changes** – The directive will lift the requirement for proof of vaccination in all bereavement settings and removes the restrictions on capacity limits at all funeral services. Licensees are reminded to use caution in easing requirements, they were put in place to ensure the safety of you, your staff and the families you serve. Masking requirements will remain in place at this time. The changes are effective Tue, Mar 1.

ADDITIONAL/ROUND TABLE/NOTICE OF MOTION

Pay List by Fund for Feb, Resolution

Reviewed.

42-22 Wood, McLaren

THAT we approve Pay List by Fund as of Feb 28, 2022; \$201,959.88 Grand Total. CARRIED

CLOSED SESSION

43-33 Scarlett, 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, advice that is subject to solicitor/client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose. Time 7:25 pm. CARRIED

44-22 McLaren, Wood

THAT we come out of Closed Session with agreement as follows: authorize the Mayor and Clerk Administrator to sign Memorandum of Agreement Amendment of Mar 4, 2022 regarding investment of Donated Funds for the South River Machar Fire Department. Time 8:05 pm. CARRIED

ADJOURN

45-22 Scarlett, Flowers

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 28, 2022. CARRIED

Mayor Lynda Carleton

Treasurer/Deputy-Clerk Angela Loney, Dipl.M.A.

AL/TR.