

THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ARMOUR

MINUTES

January 23, 2024

The regular meeting of the Council of the Township of Armour was held on Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance were: Mayor Rod Ward; Councillors Rod Blakelock, Jerry Brandt, Wendy Whitwell and Dorothy Haggart-Davis; Delegations: Amy Tilley, Waste Management Administrator; Guests: Rocco Frangione, Albine Cook, Isabel Pereira, and Nieves Guijarro. Staff: John Theriault, Clerk-Treasurer/ Administrator, Charlene Watt, Deputy-Clerk, Jason Newman, Senior By-law Enforcement Officer and Bryan Austin, By-law Enforcement Officer.

INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Council acknowledged the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe and recognized the historical and contemporary contributions of the local First Nations and the peoples of Turtle Island.

AGENDA:

Council passed a resolution to approve the amended agenda for the meeting of January 23, 2024.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

The minutes of the public meeting held on January 9, 2024 were approved as circulated.

The minutes of the regular Council meeting held on January 9, 2024 were approved as amended.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF:

No pecuniary interest and general nature thereof were declared.

DELEGATIONS:

Amy Tilley, Waste Management Administrator, presented her January 2024 Report. The report included the final bag tally for 2023, an updated draft 2024 Waste Management Budget and an update on the transitioning of the blue box program to full producer responsibility. Council discussed the report. Questions were asked and answered. The Draft Budget will be included in the February 26, 2024 TRI Council agenda for discussion.

ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL: None

APPLICATIONS: None

BY-LAWS:

By-law #7-2024 being a by-law to adopt a pre-consultation By-law and rescind By-law #9-2007 was read in its entirety and passed by resolution

By-law #8-2024 being a by-law to establish fees and charges for the Township of Armour was read a first and second time.

By-law #9-2024 being a by-law to appoint a Chief Building Official and a Building Inspector was read in its entirety and passed by resolution.

REPORTS:

The new By-law Enforcement Officer for the Township of Armour was introduced to Council. Council welcomed him and wished him success in his new position. Council reviewed the By-law Enforcement 2023 annual report. Questions were asked and answered.

Council reviewed the Recreation Coordinator's January Report. Questions were asked and answered.

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REPORTS cont'd:

Council reviewed the AHHC minutes of the January 4, 2024 meeting. The next meeting will be held on February 1, 2024.

A verbal report was given on the January 17, 2024 meeting of the Library Board.

Council reviewed the notes for the January 18, 2024 Agricultural Society's meeting.

A verbal report was given on the January 23, 2024 Blue Sky meeting.

A verbal report was given on the 2024 Winterfest.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Council reviewed a letter from the Township of Georgian Bluffs asking for their support in requesting that the Province commit to undertaking, with AMO, a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario. Council passed a supporting resolution.

Council reviewed a letter from the Town of Mono asking for their support in requesting that the Province recognize a Road Safety Emergency and take actions to solve this problem. Council passed a resolution of support.

Council reviewed a news release from Ontario News advising that Ontario is taking the next steps to further reduce wait times for surgeries and diagnostic procedures.

Council reviewed an invitation from MAHC to join for a community chat about the future of made in Muskoka healthcare.

Council reviewed an invitation from MAHC to join them for a community chat about the replacement of our local hospitals.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Council reviewed and discussed a planning report providing an update on the changes to the *Planning Act* and the Provincial Planning Statement.

Council reviewed and discussed a staff report providing an update on the new library project. Staff was directed to include the report in the next TRI Council agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

Council reviewed the updated 2023 Council Statement of Remuneration and Expenses and passed a resolution approving it. It will be posted on the Township's website.

Council reviewed and discussed a planning report on the possibility of creating "Flag Lots" in the Township of Armour. Council passed a resolution directing the Municipal Planner to draft a Zoning By-law amendment to include "Flag Lots" in the Township's Zoning By-law.

Council discussed subjects they would like to see added to the February 26, 2024 TRI Council agenda. The subjects to be discussed included:

1. Shared Services Budgets;
2. Library Budget;
3. Report – update on the new Fire Hall Project;
4. Update on new Library Project;
5. Discussion on the transitioning of the blue box program to full producer responsibility;
6. Agricultural Society's Fall Fair / Arena Ice

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NEW BUSINESS cont'd:

Council reviewed a proposal to amend the Procedural By-law to include the "Indigenous Land Acknowledgement" and some new electronic meeting protocols. After some discussion Council advised Staff that further review would be required before Council Procedures are amended.

Council reviewed a request from Almaguin Pride for a donation to support the events they will be holding in our area in 2024. Council passed a resolution approving a donation.

Council discussed the possibility of giving a rebate to employees of the Township when they request to rent the Katrine Community Centre. Council passed a resolution approving a rebate.

Council discussed a proposal to create and maintain an ice trail track at the Katrine Community Centre for skating only as a pilot project. The cost of this project would be \$2,000 per month plus HST. After some discussion, Council defeated a resolution approving the pilot project and suggested to have the budget included in next year's quote.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution #22 – Moved by Wendy Whitwell, seconded by Dorothy Haggart-Davis; That the Council of the Township of Armour approve the agenda of January 23, 2024, as amended. Carried

Resolution #23 – Moved by Rod Blakelock, seconded by Jerry Brandt; That the Council of the Township of Armour approve the minutes of the public meeting held on January 9, 2024, as circulated. Carried

Resolution #24 – Moved by Wendy Whitwell, seconded by Dorothy Haggart-Davis; That the Council of the Township of Armour approve the minutes of the regular council meeting held on January 9, 2024, as amended. Carried

Resolution #25 – Moved by Rod Blakelock, seconded by Dorothy Haggart-Davis; That the Council of the Township of Armour have read and approve By-law #7-2024 being a by-law to adopt a pre-consultation by-law and to repeal By-law #9-2007 and that we authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign this by-law and affix the seal of the Corporation thereto. Carried

Resolution #26 – Moved by Jerry Brandt, seconded by Rod Blakelock; That the Council of the Township of Armour have read a first and second time By-law #8-2024 being a by-law to update the fees or charges for services provided by the Township of Armour and to rescind By-law #49-2023. Carried

Resolution #27 – Moved by Wendy Whitwell, seconded by Jerry Brandt; That the Council of the Township of Armour have read and approve By-law #9-2024 being a by-law to appoint a Chief Building Official and a Building Inspector and to rescind By-law #13-94 and that we authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign this by-law and affix the seal of the Corporation thereto. Carried

Resolution #28 – Moved by Rod Blakelock, seconded by Dorothy Haggart-Davis; That the Council of the Township of Armour supports the Township of Georgian Bluffs and requests that the Province commit to undertaking, with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario. Carried

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RESOLUTIONS cont'd:

Resolution #29 – Moved by Wendy Whitwell, seconded by Jerry Brandt; That the Council of the Township of Armour supports the Town of Mono and requests that the Province recognize a Road Safety Emergency in Ontario and take the actions listed in resolution #4-1-2024 from the Town of Mono to help solve this emergency. Carried

Resolution #30 – Moved by Jerry Brandt, seconded by Dorothy Haggart-Davis; That the Council of the Township of Armour approve the 2023 Council Statement of Remuneration and Expenses as presented by the Deputy-Treasurer. Furthermore, that the statement be posted on the Township of Armour’s website. Carried

Resolution #31 – Moved by Rod Blakelock, seconded by Dorothy Haggart-Davis; That the Council of the Township of Armour direct the Municipal Planner to prepare a Zoning By-law amendment to add “Flag Lots” to the Township of Armour’s Zoning By-law based on the proposed provisions, except for provision (i), for Flag Lots included in his report of January 17, 2024. Carried

Resolution #32 – Moved by Dorothy Haggart-Davis, seconded by Wendy Whitwell; That the Council of the Township of Armour approve a donation, in the amount of \$250 to Almaguin Pride to support the events they wish to hold in our region in 2024. Carried

Resolution #33 – Moved by Dorothy Haggart-Davis, seconded by Jerry Brandt; That the Council of the Township of Armour approve that employees of the Township of Armour be allowed to rent the Katrine Community Centre at the same rates as a non-profitable or charitable organization. Carried

Resolution #34 – Moved by Rod Blakelock, seconded by Jerry Brandt; That the Council of the Township of Armour approve a pilot project which would see the creation of an ice trail track at the KCC for skating only at a cost of \$2,000 per month plus HST.
Defeated

Resolution #35 – Moved by Jerry Brandt, seconded by Dorothy Haggart-Davis; That the Council of the Township of Armour adjourn this regular council meeting at 10:15 p.m. until the next regular council meeting scheduled for February 13, 2024 or at the call of the Mayor or the Clerk. Carried

Original Signed By Rod Ward

Rod Ward, Mayor

Original Signed By John Theriault

John Theriault, Clerk