

THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ARMOUR

TRI COUNCIL MINUTES

February 26, 2024

The combined in-person/virtual TRI Council meeting of the Councils of the Township of Armour, the Township of Ryerson and the Village of Burk's Falls was held on Monday, February 26, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Katrine Community Centre.

Those in attendance for were:

Township of Armour Council present included Mayor Rod Ward; Councillors Jerry Brandt, Wendy Whitwell, Dorothy Haggart-Davis and Rod Blakelock; Staff: John Theriault, Clerk-Treasurer/ Administrator, Charlene Watt, Deputy-Clerk and Amy Tilley, Waste Management Administrator.

Village of Burk's Falls Council present included Mayor Chris Hope, Councillors John Wilson, Ryan Baptiste, Sean Cotton and Ashley Brandt; Staff: Denis Duguay, CAO-Clerk, Tammy Wylie, Treasurer and Graham Smith, Arena Manager.

Township of Ryerson Council present included Mayor George Sterling, Councillors Glenn Miller, Delynne Patterson, Beverly Abbott, and Dan Robertson; Staff: Brayden Robinson, CAO/Treasurer, Nancy Field, Clerk, Dave McNay, Fire Chief; Ken Stevenson, Deputy Chief and Cam Haffner, Fire Prevention Officer.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rod Ward at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Rod Ward welcomed all of the participants.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

The notes of the regular meeting held on October 23, 2023 were approved as amended.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST: None

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Budgets and Reports

Fire Department

The Fire Chief presented the 2024 final draft fire budget. The operating budget for the fire department is increasing by 8.86% or \$40,100 and the capital budget is increasing by \$630,689 or 574.68% giving a total increase of \$670,789 or 119.30%. In the operating budget the wages are increasing by \$22,600, the new equipment is increasing by \$9,100 and the vehicle expense is increasing by \$6,800. The capital budget includes the purchase of a new pumper for \$669,400 and the engineering of the new fire hall for \$50,000. Questions were asked and answered. The Township of Armour passed a resolution approving the 2024 Fire Department's budget.

Arena

The Arena Manager presented the 2024 final draft arena budget and a 2023 summary report. The operating budget is increasing by \$60,443 or 21.61% and the capital budget is increasing by \$28,250 or 26.65% giving a total increase of \$88,683 or 23.00%. Operating changes include an increase in revenues of \$35,450, an increase of \$58,254 in salaries & benefits, \$6,528 in insurance, \$9,991 in utilities, \$5,900 for the maintenance of the Zamboni \$4,500 for the Agricultural Society's tents and other increases which are due mostly to the increase in use of the arena. Increases in the capital budget are related to the repair and maintenance of the facility. Questions were asked and answered. The Township of Armour passed a resolution approving the 2024 Arena budget.

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Library

The Library CEO presented the 2024 final draft library budget. The total library budget is increasing by \$8,119 or 4.57%. This increase is mostly due to inflation. Questions were asked and answered. The Township of Armour passed a resolution approving the 2024 Library budget.

TRI Council also discussed the possibility of amending the Shared Services Agreement to change the calculation of each municipalities' share of the budget from being based on the number of membership cards to a set percentage. This subject will be discussed further in the future.

Waste Management

The Waste Management Administrator presented the 2024 final draft waste management budget. The total waste management budget is increasing by \$21,271 or 7.76%. Due to an increase in hours and a replacement of an employee, the salaries are increasing by \$35,231, which is offset by a \$15,000 reduction in the capital budget. Questions were asked and answered. The Township of Armour passed a resolution approving the 2024 Waste Management budget.

Blue Box Program Transition

The Waste Management Administrator presented a report on the transitioning of the blue box to full producer responsibility. The report covered some background information. The report included some discussion items and some questions which need to be answered before finalizing the transition. TRI Council discussed the report and the Waste Management Administrator will be completing more research and report back at a future TRI Council meeting.

Update New Fire Hall

The Township of Ryerson provided a report presenting an update on the new fire hall project. EMS has dropped out of the project. Therefore, this project will now be the sole responsibility of the three municipalities. The report advised each partner of their share of this project. It also provided a schedule of how the project should move forward. The preliminary costs to start this project have been included in the 2024 Fire Department budget. If the partners agree with the construction schedule and to cover their share of the cost of this project, then this project can move forward. The Township of Armour passed a resolution approving the construction schedule and their share of the cost of this project.

The Village of Burk's Falls, because of the financial burden this project will impose on each municipality, requested that this project be delayed five (5) years.

Update New Library Project

The Clerk-Treasurer/Administrator of the Township of Armour provided a report presenting an update on the new library project. The report covered the work which has been accomplished for the replacement of the library. It also requested some direction and some decisions from the three municipalities. After some discussion, the Township of Armour passed a resolution supporting the inclusion of monies in their budget to bring this project to the tendering stage.

Representative on the OPP Detachment Board

TRI Council reviewed an email which provided information on the creation of an OPP Detachment Board. One representative will need to be appointed to represent the Township of Ryerson, the Village of Burk's Falls and the Township of Armour. Each municipality passed a resolution appointing Dan Robertson to the OPP Detachment Board.

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Water and Sewer Expansion and Connections

TRI Council discussed how water and sewer connections are completed and where the systems are available in our community. The Village of Burk's Falls was asked why a request for a connection has not yet been completed. The Village of Burk's Falls advised TRI Council that the agreement giving them authority over the water and sewer connections on Commercial Drive is presently in their lawyers' hands and that they should receive a response within a week.

Agricultural Society – Fall Fair/Arena Ice

TRI Council discussed a request from the Agricultural Society to the Village of Burk's Falls to remove the arena ice during the Fall Fair, which they are looking at making into a three-day event. Based on the information provided by the Agricultural Society, the agreement the Society has with the Village of Burk's Falls requires the Village to take out the ice for the Fall Fair. The Agricultural Society needs to know if they can use the arena so that they may advise their vendors.

The Village of Burk's Falls is requesting that the agreement be forwarded to them for review. They also invited the Agricultural Society to attend their Council meeting to discuss this issue.

Other Business

TRI Council was advised that although there presently are problems with the new hospital build, in this region, we need to stay positive and support it. We also need to stay involved in the conversation so that our needs are taken into consideration.

TRI Council was also advised that the Burk's Falls Health Team and the Sundridge and District Medical Centre both received an ongoing grant which will create five-and one-half positions in the health community. This will improve services in our region.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is scheduled for May 27, 2024 and will be hosted by the Village of Burk's Falls.

ADJOURNMENT:

The TRI Council meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution #TRI-1 - Moved by Dorothy Haggart-Davis, seconded by Chris Hope; That the TRI Council of the Township of Armour, Township of Ryerson and the Village of Burk's Falls approve the notes of the TRI Council meeting held on October 23, 2023, as amended. Carried

Resolution #TRI-2 - Moved by Dorothy Haggart-Davis, seconded by Rod Blakelock; That the Council of the Township of Armour approves the 2024 Burk's Falls and District Fire Department budget, in the net amount of \$1,233,078, with the Township of Armour's share being \$589,905. Carried

Resolution #TRI-3 - Moved by Wendy Whitwell, seconded by Jerry Brandt; That the Council of the Township of Armour approves the 2024 Armour Ryerson Burk's Falls Memorial Arena budget, in the net amount of \$474,359, with the Township of Armour's share being \$158,120. Carried

Resolution #TRI-4 - Moved by Rod Blakelock, seconded by Dorothy Haggart-Davis; That the Council of the Township of Armour approves the 2024 Burk's Falls Armour & Ryerson Union Library, in the net amount of \$185,739, with the Township of Armour's share being \$70,432. Carried

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RESOLUTIONS cont'd:

Resolution #TRI-5 - Moved by Dorothy Haggart-Davis, seconded by Wendy Whitwell; That the Council of the Township of Armour approves the 2024 TRI R Waste Management budget, in the net amount of \$295,421, with the Township of Armour's share being \$143,908. Carried

Resolution #TRI-6 - Moved by Dorothy Haggart-Davis, seconded by Jerry Brandt; That the Council of the Township of Armour approves the construction schedule for the proposed new fire hall presented in the February 26, 2024 Fire Hall Project Update TRI Council report from the Township of Ryerson and agrees to fund their share, in the estimated amount of \$1,435,200, of this project. Carried

Resolution #TRI-7 - Moved by Wendy Whitwell, seconded by Rod Blakelock; That the Council of the Township of Armour approves the addition of their share of the cost of bringing the new library project to the tendering process stage, estimated at \$18,960, to their 2024 budget. Carried

Resolution #TRI-8 - Moved by Rod Blakelock, seconded by Wendy Whitwell; Be it resolved that Council of the Township of Armour appoints Dan Robertson to be the representative of the Township of Armour, the Township of Ryerson and the Village of Burk's Falls on the OPP Detachment Board. Carried

Resolution #TRI-9 - Moved by Glenn Miller, seconded by Jerry Brandt; That the TRI Council of the Township of Armour, Township of Ryerson and the Village of Burk's Falls adjourn this regular TRI Council meeting at 9:15 p.m. until the next regular TRI Council meeting scheduled for May 27, 2024 to be hosted by the Village of Burk's Falls. Carried

Original signed by Rod Ward
Rod Ward, Mayor

Original signed by John Theriault
John Theriault, Clerk