

**MINUTES OF McMURRICH/MONTEITH TOWNSHIP
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2024**

The Council of the Township of McMurrich/Monteith met Tuesday, January 16, 2024 inside the Municipal Office/Fire Hall.

Present: Mayor Glynn Robinson, Council Members: Terry Currie, Wesley Dyson, Daniel O'Halloran and Vicky Roeder-Martin.

Staff present: Cheryl Marshall, Clerk/Treasurer; Allyson Pedwell, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer;

Audience: Dave Gray, Jim Kiers, Gary Courtice, Margaret Ann MacPhail, Wendy Whitwell, Norm Hoffstetter, Tim Bryson

1. Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Mayor Glynn Robinson.

Amend the agenda to move items

2. Declaration of pecuniary interest: none

4.Delegations:

4.1 Almaguin Highlands Economic Development: Wendy Whitwell of ACED asked for support from McMurrich/Monteith on an ongoing basis. There are 8 members that currently support ACED and ACED is asking the 5 other municipalities to support. FEDNOR given ACED \$400,000 for the next 3 years. They bring a voice to the table, what is needed to support the community, expertise with 3 employees, input into what comes to the table. Member Roeder-Martin asked about support in grants. Response: there is support in grant and special fee for writing grants completely. Mayor Robinson inquired about the cost. Response: \$10,000 plus a formula based on 3rd household, 3rd assessment and 3rd population. 10 partners would be approximately \$20,000. See Resolution below. **Carried**

5.Presentations:

5.1 Gary Courtice - Regional Fire Training Officer: Gary gave an introduction on his 9 years as a Regional Training Officer and his certifications. Explanation how a single station was not a safe fire ground between the hours of 8:30am and 4:30pm. The idea of training in a group provides a safe environment with other departments knowing each other. Monthly meetings for Fire Chiefs include discussions on equipment, personnel etc. After every call there is a post incident analysis and review on Webex about what went well, operating guidelines, equipment needed, etc. Training is every 2 weeks for each station. Biggest challenge is certifying new firefighters (after 2022) within the 2-year period which is from the Ontario Fire Marshall. Retention is a big challenge. Live Fire Unit: 2019 agreement to build own and it did not go through. 2020-2024 still trying to work out the unit with the 5 stations. To purchase a unit is \$490,000 however the stations can purchase sea cans and bring up to standard for \$100,000. Maintenance cost is \$10,000 split between 5 stations for 5-7 years. Liability is high, when considering on rent it out. All firefighters are trained on all apparatuses. See resolution below.

3. Unfinished Business Carried Forward:

3.1 Buck Lake Subdivision (con 2, Lot 9 & Pt Lt 10). Council discussed a larger turnaround being proposed. Mayor Robinson indicated that the road needs to be brushed out in order to meet standards. Subdivision agreement is at the planning board and one hold up is the turnaround. Member O'Halloran believes that the fire station should not be bringing expensive fire equipment up the road. See Resolution below. **Carried**

6. Staff Reports:

6.1. Public Works: written report - Member O'Halloran questioned the price of new grader (650,000-700,000) compared to the repairs (30,000-50,000). Council would like information on leasing programs from comparable companies as well as quotes on repairs. A package was prepared for Council at a previous meeting. Loader is reported back and running. See resolution below. **Carried**

6.2 Fire Dept: written report - Council inquired about the new tires purchased. Vehicle was unsafe to drive - all 4 tires were replaced with all season tires. Mayor suggests purchasing chains for tires and train fire department members how to use them. Fire Chief reminded Council that if a call is unsafe they will not respond, therefore not needing to purchase chains. Council briefly discussed scenarios. Council supportive in dispatch service. See resolution below. **Carried**

6.3 Admin: written report- Parliamentary Protocol Training in April for Administration staff to attend. Fred Dean Municipal training to be postponed until February 9, 2024. Council would like to see more on administrative reports, a general idea of what staff do in a month. See resolution below. **Carried**

7. Adoption of Council & Committee minutes & receiving local board minutes

4.1 Council Meeting Minutes – November 7 and 23, 2023 as amended.

8. Bylaws

8.101-2024 Confirmation of Council Meetings - December 5 and 19, 2023
Carried

8.2 02-2024 Interim Tax Levy for 2024 **Carried**

8.3 03-2024 Tax Ratios for 2024 **Carried**

8.4 04-2024 draft Boundary Road Agreement - Twp of Ryerson **Carried**

9. Notice of Motions:

None

10. Correspondence: deferred to next meeting

11. Council Reports:

12. Closed Session: Section 239 (2)

(d) Labour relations or employee negotiations (HR matters)

13. Council Concerns:

14. Dates to Remember:

Special Council Meeting – Council Training with Fred Dean – Wednesday, January 17th – 10am

Recreation Committee – Thursday, January 18th – 7pm

Strategic Plan Committee – Monday, January 22nd – 7pm

Ad-Hoc Landfill Committee – Thursday, February 15th – 7pm

Special Council Meeting – Friday, January 26th – 2pm

Regular Council Meeting – Tuesday, February 6th – 7pm

Sprucedale Winter Carnival – Sunday, February 18th

15. Adjournment:

Council adjourned the meeting at 9:58pm until Friday, January 26, 2024. Resolution shown below.

RESOLUTIONS:

2024-01 O'Halloran/Dyson

Be It Resolved that Council amends the agenda to include move Delegation Item 4.1 and Presentation 5.1 up before item 3.1. **Carried**

2024-02 Dyson/O'Halloran

Be It Resolved that Council support in principle joining Almaguin Highlands Economic Development and to further discuss during budget deliberations. **Carried**

2024-03 O'Halloran/Dyson

Be It Resolved that Council support in principle the design of the turning area of the Buck Lake Development prepared by Duke Engineering as attached. **Carried**

2024-04 O'Halloran/Dyson

Be It Resolved that Council directs staff to research lease options on a new Grader and to receive quotes for labour and parts on the required repairs including tires. **Carried**

2024-05 O'Halloran/Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council accepts the recommendation of Public Works Superintendent and agrees to prepare a Request for Tender for a roller to fit the grader. **Carried**

2024-06 Currie/O'Halloran

Be It Resolved that Council supports the shared purchased of upgraded dispatch equipment for Fire Services as outlined in Fire Chief report. **Carried**

2024-07 Roeder-Martin/O'Halloran

Be It Resolved that Council permits the closure of the municipal office April 12, 2024 to allow staff to attend a training session hosted by Township of McKellar. **Carried**

2024-08 Roeder-Martin/O'Halloran

Be It Resolved that Council accepts the minutes of the Council meetings held December 5 and 19, 2023 as amended. **Carried**

2024-09 Currie/Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council accepts first, second and third readings and hereby passes Bylaw 01-2024 which confirms the proceedings of the Council meetings held December 5th and 19th, 2023. **Carried**

2024-10 Currie/Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council accepts first, second and third readings and hereby passes Bylaw 02-2024 which provides for the Interim Tax Levy for 2024. **Carried**

2024-11 Currie/Dyson

Be It Resolved that Council accepts first, second and third readings and hereby passes Bylaw 03-2024 to set the Tax Ratio for 2024. **Carried**

2024-12 Currie/O'Halloran

Be It Resolved that Council accepts first, second and third readings and hereby passes Bylaw 04-2024 to enter into an agreement with Township of Ryerson regulating the maintenance and repair of boundary highways. **Carried**

2024-13 Currie/Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council receives Resolution 2023-290 from Township of Perry and agrees to place \$20,000 into the capital budget to build the first stage of the Live Burn Building – a joint project with the four adjacent Fire Departments – Perry, Kearney, Magnetawan and Burk's Falls. **Carried**

2024-14 O'Halloran/Dyson

Be It Resolved that Council receives Resolution 2023-309 from Township of Perry and confirms there is interest in discussing regional fire services and to permit the following council member to attend: Vicky Roeder-Martin. **Carried**

2024-15 O'Halloran/Dyson

Be It Resolved that Council receives correspondence from the Township of Clearview dated December 12, 2023 including Staff Report LS-032-2023 regarding cemeteries and that we send a resolution of support for their correspondences to Bereavement Authority of Ontario, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and MPP Graydon Smith. **Carried**

2024-16 O'Halloran/Dyson

Be It Resolved that Council receives all correspondence as listed on the agenda. **Carried**

2024-17 O'Halloran/Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council enter into a closed session at 9:28pm to discuss items under Section 239 (2) (d) Labour relations or employee negotiations (HR Matters). **Carried**

2024-18 Dyson/O'Halloran

Be It Resolved that Council comes out of a closed session at 9:43pm. **Carried**

2024-19 O'Halloran/Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council directs staff to prepare a letter of concern relating to our Township not being included in any doctor catchment area and forward to MPP Grayden Smith. **Carried**

2024-20 O'Halloran/Dyson

Be It Resolved that Council accepts the reports and directions given to Staff from the closed session held January 16, 2024. **Carried**

2024-21 O'Halloran/Dyson

Be It Resolved that Council authorizes a 4.5% increase to all job positions payrate effective January 1, 2024. **Carried**

2024-22 O'Halloran/Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council authorizes the submission of an application for funding for a purchase of a playground unit up to \$25,000 from Hydro One grant program. **Carried**

2024-23 O'Halloran/Dyson

Be It Resolved that Council adjourns this meeting at 9:58pm until Friday, January 26, 2024 at 7:00pm. **Carried**

Original Signed by:
Mayor, Glynn Robinson

Original Signed by:
Clerk, Cheryl Marshall