

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HORTON

## Special Council Meeting

November 8, 2013

There was a Special Meeting of Council held in the Municipal Council Chamber on Friday November 8, 2013. Present was Mayor Don Eady, Councillor Bob Kingsbury, Councillor Glen Campbell, Councillor Jamey Larone and Councillor Margaret Whyte. Staff present was Mackie McLaren, CAO/Clerk and Jennifer Barr (item 4).

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Eady called the Meeting to Order at 2:40 p.m.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There was no declaration of pecuniary interest by Members of Council or staff.

3. RECREATION COMMITTEE

Plumbing Supplies Estimate for Community Centre Addition

Mayor Eady informed the Council Members that Council is waiting on an estimate for plumbing supplies to install in the floor of the community centre addition before the concrete floor is poured. The CAO/Clerk advised that Nathan Corbin Plumbing has estimated \$2,500 for materials with donated labour.

Mayor Eady asked if Council wanted to approve the quote, and asked what funds would be used to pay this expenditure. He suggested that it come from the Lot Development Fund for Recreation.

Moved by Glen Campbell

Resolution No. 2013-

Seconded by Margaret Whyte

That Council approves the \$2,500.00 plumbing supply estimate for the Community Centre Expansion project and that the funds come from the Lot Development Fund Account.

Discussion

Councillor Campbell said he knew this expenditure would be required ASAP so it is installed before the concrete floor is poured. He said he is donating extra plumbing to take the water upstairs to the upper meeting room. He said we then have to look at a Business Plan on supplying and cost for the extras required for the expansion.

Councillor Larone said he had no issue with this estimate. He wants to keep the project rolling and happy to see work completed to date. He said he believes it is important to for the Expansion Sub-Chair David Bennett to continue to communicate with Council to arrive at the final dollar costs. He said he would carry out his own material takeoff exercise for his own information. He expressed concern that the cost estimates have not come in as quickly as needs to be. He will not support a last minute invoice if this was not planned.

Councillor Kingsbury said his interpretation was what the requirements to complete pouring the concrete floor were. We will deal with the costing of the rest of the building construction.

Councillor Whyte said we have to proceed with the plumbing work.

Carried

4. FINANCE COMMITTEE

OPP Costing Update and Assessment Update

Jennifer Barr, Finance Manager was invited to join the meeting. She presented a report on the OPP costing meeting she and Mayor Eady attended in Bancroft November 4. She pointed out that if the proposed model is adopted, there will be an 85% increase in OPP costs resulting in a 13% overall levy increase. She suggested that direction be sent to the Committees and Chairs to hold the 2014 budget line because of this billing method and asset management costs. She reviewed her response to the Ministry's questionnaire.

Mayor Eady noted that approx. 177 Ontario municipalities pay \$300 per property or less, 94 pay \$400 or more and the rest are in the middle. Almost all the Northern Ontario municipalities are over \$300 who stand to have their share reduced. This is a tax or a direct bill from the Province. The Province gives more grants to Northern Ontario municipalities as they receive a different funding system. He added that a large number who will see a policing reduction also receive the Provincial Gas Tax Rebate which Horton does not receive. Horton doesn't have the Industrial and Commercial tax base to offset this increased cost. The funding model for us is wrong.

Ms. Barr suggested that that Horton consider voicing our objections by circulating a resolution. Council agreed and authorized the CAO/Clerk to draft a resolution for consideration at the December Council Meeting.

Mayor Eady suggested that this discussion should take place at the County level as well. Council Members agreed.

Jennifer Barr informed Council that she participated in a webinar on assessment yesterday. Council Members will receive information.

5. REVIEW DRAFT OF PROCEDURAL BY-LAW

Mayor Eady reviewed a copy of the draft Procedural By-law that was drafted and reviewed late in 2011 but not brought forward since. He stated that this updated by-law is required to re-determine the status of committees which set out the number of Council Members and public members on each and what number or combination of makes a quorum.

Mayor Eady pointed out that Council had spent a day in 2011 and reviewed all but the last several pages of the draft by-law. The changes noted had been incorporated into this draft in a colored font. The Council Members reviewed the changes.

Councillor Kingsbury discussed the Recreation Committee Membership. The draft listed two Council Members plus 5 ratepayers. It was suggested at the last Council Meeting that Recreation become a Committee of the Whole of Council plus the public members but he suggested that this was not an answer. It would create only one standing committee that would be a Committee of the Whole. He said we need to go back to the original committee set up where the public members were all chairs of the sub-committees that operated under the Recreation Committee i.e. bar, maintenance, kitchen etc. He noted that the current committee list approved at the inaugural council meeting in December 2010 set out 2 council members and 7 sub chairs. Anyone else could sit in the gallery.

Mayor Eady said this one way of proceeding. He asked if all council members could attend the next Recreation Committee Meeting to explain how the sub-committees and Recreation Committee work.

The CAO/Clerk was asked for input. He said that there are governance issues with members of the public, who are not sub-chairs permitted to sit at the table and participate in the discussion and make recommendations to Council. He said he had prepared a report in late 2012 or early 2013 which recommended all Committees become Committees of the Whole.

Councillor Whyte noted that there are three different Recreation Meetings each month, the regular meeting, and fundraising and building expansion committees for the community centre expansion. She suggested that they be combined to one meeting.

Mayor Eady said that there were lots on Recreation's plate and noted that most of the issues for the rest of term involve all Council Members. He said we need to decide on how we would restructure the Committee and how many people permitted to vote on issues at committee. We can direct the CAO/Clerk to research the history on the make-up of the committee. Council has to be present when any changes are introduced.

Councillor Larone suggested when we meet with the Recreation Committee Members that we explain the changes to the Members. We can give them options on what sub-chairs come to meetings. Restructuring now puts the onus back on the Members. The Members must respect the Chair.

Councillor Whyte suggested the public members should select their 5 voting members as referenced in the draft Procedural By-law.

Councillor Larone suggested the Procedural By-law should include a requirement that Recreation Committee be given an opportunity to change members.

The CAO/Clerk was directed to prepare a report on Recreation governance for the Council Members to review. This is to be prepared for Monday November 11, 2013.

Mayor Eady asked if Councillor Whyte, Chair of Recreation Committee was satisfied with the discussion and direction to the CAO/Clerk for a report. Councillor Whyte said yes, as did all Council Members.

Mayor Eady recapped the discussion and asked the Members to continue to review the draft on their own. The CAO/Clerk will draft a report on Recreation Committee governance and have it available for review by Monday November 11. He is to circulate the report to all members and Council will decide if they need a follow up meeting right away.

The Members agreed that the next Special Council Meeting to continue the review of the Procedural By-law will be Friday November 22, 2013 at 1:00 p.m.

## 6. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

## 7. CONFIRMING BY-LAW

Moved by Jamey Larone  
Seconded by Margaret Whyte

Resolution No. 2013-

That Council enacts By-law 2013-52, being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the November 8, 2013 Special Council Meeting.

Carried

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8. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Glen Campbell  
Seconded by Bob Kingsbury

Resolution No. 2013-

That Council adjourns this Special Council Meeting at 4:12 p.m.

Carried

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MAYOR

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CAO/Clerk