

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HORTON

Meeting Notes of Mayor's Meeting

January 3, 2014

Mayor Eady held a meeting at the request of David Bennett, who is leading the Community Centre Expansion project. Present was Mayor Don Eady, Councillor Glen Campbell and David Bennett. Staff present was Kathleen Rogers, Recreation Program Manager and Mackie McLaren, CAO/Clerk

Mayor Eady called the Meeting to Order at 3:20 p.m. and stated that he had received an email from the CAO/Clerk this morning with information from Mr. Bennett who had asked for this meeting because of an upset contractor and a question on where Mr. Bennett's authority as Chair of the Recreation Maintenance Sub Committee ends and the Infrastructure Committee starts. He said he invited Council Campbell to join the meeting as Councillor Campbell had called a company to carry out the winter maintenance on the heating systems.

Mayor Eady responded to the second issue first. He noted that the Recreation Committee is in the process of changing its governance structure. It was agreed at their December Meeting that there would no longer be Sub-Committee Chairs but the Committee as a whole would respond to the issues at each Meeting. This change was supported at the Committee Meeting and is coming to the January Council Meeting for approval. Mayor Eady said that if there are maintenance issues, it would be discussed at the Committee level and a recommendation would come forward to Council. Mr. Bennett accepted this explanation.

Mr. Bennett said that he was approached by a contractor who said he wasn't given an opportunity to quote on the furnace cleaning this fall, and he had been pushing the same contractor hard for reduced pricing on the installation of the hydronic tubing and heating for the expansion which the contractor provided.

Councillor Campbell said that there was no problem with this contractor's work. This past year there was a tender call for a three year contract for spring and fall maintenance on the heating and air conditioning systems in our municipal buildings. No tenders were received even though this contractor had expressed some interest before the tender closed. He had contacted this contractor last fall to service the furnaces at the Community Centre and when he came to site, he left without coming in and doing the service so he called another contractor who came immediately and found some issues that weren't noticed before, that they corrected. He said that he has faith in this company now that they found the issues. Councillor Campbell also noted that the concerned contractor will have the maintenance of the new furnace at the Municipal Office for the next 12 years of warranty service. He said he asked the contractor to service the furnaces at the Community Centre and Public Works Garage as these furnaces are forced air oil. The Fire Hall and now the Municipal Office are propane. Councillor Campbell restated that he has no preference over contractors; he just called the company that came last year.

Mr. Bennett asked if Councillor Campbell would assist in putting together a response to the contractor that approached him. Councillor Campbell said yes.

Mr. Bennett said that this contractor's original quote for the in floor heating was \$2200 but it was reduced to \$1500 after Mr. Bennett explained to him that he had no more money than \$1500 to do this job.

Councillor Campbell said the 2012 service that the second company performed is the reason that he called them back. He asked why the company that is concerned did not bid on the 3 year contract. Mr. Bennett said he has heard from several contractors that they didn't like the way the contract would have tied the successful contractor down. Councillor Campbell said it was a full 3 year contract with cost of living increases built in. He will still ask the contractor why he didn't bid if they meet.

Mr. Bennett asked what he does when he sees maintenance that needs to be performed at the Community Centre. Mayor Eady suggested that Mr. Bennett call Councillor Bob Kingsbury, Chair of Recreation Committee. Mayor Eady said that there may be some overlaps with the Infrastructure Committee. He said that communication is the key. Details have to be worked out. He said the furnace issue goes back to 2010 when the furnaces quit and the complaining contractor had issues starting them.

Councillor Campbell said Horton contractors should get a chance to bid and they did the work in the past, but not this time because of his good experience with the other contractor last year. He said he still hopes to put out the furnace and maintenance contract tender again. He prefers a 3 year contract vs year to year. The tender was based on a tender from another municipality who had recently called tenders for the same type of work. He noted that this is the first time he has heard that Mr. Bennett pushed the contractor for reductions.

Mr. Bennett discussed the maintenance that is required to the rink boards and gates. He will work with Bill Yantha, our maintenance person and will contact the Recreation Chair when the work is to be performed. He estimated 10 to 12 hours of work is required. There are several safety hazards.

Mayor Eady suggested that the Recreation Committee and staff requires a "calendar" similar to the Waste Management calendar which sets out month by month when certain work is to be done. Work on the boards could have been scheduled during the summer months. He said that this type of maintenance work needs to be reviewed and budgeted for before the budget is approved.

Mr. Bennett said he will set up a meeting to explain the situation with the contractor. He will discuss the maintenance work with Chair Kingsbury for the 2014 budget. He will also list repair items for the Infrastructure Committee to complete.

Mr. Bennett said there is a need for a video surveillance system at the rink so other work can be carried out while they monitor the rink activities through the surveillance system. He will get pricing on wireless remotes.

The group discussed the rink maintenance and organization of the public skating and shiny this season. Kathleen Rogers and David Bennett will revamp the rink schedule.

Mayor Eady thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting ended at 4:02 p.m.

Mackie J. McLaren, CAO/Clerk