

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HORTON

Finance Committee Meeting

April 17, 2014

There was a Meeting of the Finance Committee held in the Municipal Council Chamber on Thursday April 17, 2014. Present was Chair Don Eady and Councillor Jamey Larone. Staff present was Jennifer Barr, Treasurer/Tax Collector and Mackie McLaren, CAO/Clerk.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Eady called the meeting to order at 2:15 pm.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There was no declaration of pecuniary interest by Members of the Committee or Staff.

3. MINUTES OF APRIL 4, 2014 MEETING

Chair Eady asked the Members and staff to review the Minutes. Several questions were answered by staff.

4. FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES – DONATION REQUEST

The Members discussed this request. After discussion the Members agreed not to recommend support of this application.

5. SENIOR GAMES – DONATION REQUEST

The Members considered this request. Mayor Eady said he is aware that Horton residents participate in the games. This year they are being held in Deep River.

Moved by Jamey Larone, Seconded by Don Eady that the Finance Committee recommends Council approve a \$100 donation to the 2014 Renfrew County Senior Games.

Carried

Councillor Larone asked that the Games Committee forward Council a copy of their program and activities.

6. MacKILLICAN & ASSOCIATES – 2013 MANAGEMENT LETTER

Jennifer Barr presented a copy of the Auditor's Management Letter. The Committee Members reviewed and discussed the suggestions in the letter.

The Members and Staff agreed to implement the following suggested changes:

- CAO/Clerk to sign the monthly bank reconciliations as having been reviewed.
- Several spot checks will be conducted during the year of the bar supplies and tickets at the Community Centre bar.
- Staff will ensure that all rental agreements for the Community Centre are signed by the applicants.
- Staff will put a presentation together with regards to bi-weekly payroll.

7. FINANCIAL INDICATORS – NEIGHBOURING MUNICIPALITIES

Jennifer Barr presented copies of the Financial Indicator reports from several neighbouring municipalities. This report is produced annually by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. The Committee Members had previously asked for this information to compare the Horton indicators with our neighbouring municipalities. The Members reviewed this information.

8. PROCUREMENT BY-LAW

Jennifer Barr informed the Members that she is in the process of reviewing information and is putting a draft together for review. It was agreed that when prepared the draft be sent out to the Members with the old by-law attached for comparison.

9. TITLE ISSUE WITH AN ABANDONED PROPERTY (TAX SALE ISSUE)

Jennifer Barr reported that the Committee had directed her to seek a basic legal opinion from a local law office in Renfrew. This has been carried out and the lawyer agrees that there is a title problem. He said it would take further legal fees to resolve the title. The CAO/Clerk said the owners have basically walked away from the property because they believe the cost would be very high.

Jennifer Barr suggested that the tax account proceed to the tax sale process. It would not be a purchasable property because of the title search, but it may be deemed a municipal property at the end of the process. This would permit us to apply for reimbursement of the County and School Board taxes paid by the Township. A notice about the title problem will have to be placed on the sale notices. By deeming the property, the property will be exempt of taxes.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Jamey Larone, Seconded by Don Eady that this Finance Meeting be adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Carried

CHAIR

CAO/Clerk