

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HORTON

Fire Committee Meeting

January 19, 2011

There was a meeting of the Fire Committee held in the Municipal Council Chambers on Wednesday January 19, 2011. Present were Chair Margaret Whyte and Mayor Don Eady. Staff present were Fire Chief Randy Corbin, Deputy Chief Allan Cole and Mackie McLaren CAO/Clerk.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Whyte called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There was no declaration of pecuniary interest.

3. MINUTES OF DECEMBER 15, 2011 MEETING

The Committee Members reviewed the Minutes which had already been approved by Council.

Deputy Chief Cole expressed concern that the Minutes set out the possible future use of the property by the owner of the property off Goshen Road behind the former Horton Public School. The owner has been working his property with heavy equipment but has not formally made the township aware of the details of his proposed use of the property. After discussion the Committee agreed that the minutes should be amended so that the second paragraph on page 2 would read "Deputy Chief Cole said the Department has a concern with a resident who is in behind the old Horton School ..."

4. BUSINESS ARISING

Mayor Eady said that he is waiting on information from the Committee on additions to the 911 signs to take to the County. Chief Corbin said that they will provide the information to Mayor Eady when the Department has drafted the proposal.

Letter to landowner re cost to attend large fires

The Committee reviewed a draft of the Fire Chief's letter to the owner of the property behind the former Horton Public School at the end of Goshen Road and authorized it be mailed.

Radio Equipment installed

Deputy Chief Cole reported that the radio equipment has been installed in the Municipal Office and Fire Hall. He reported that the installer noticed that the tower for the garage antenna is leaning and must be shimmed up.

Fire Reserve – 2010 budget revenue

The CAO/clerk informed the Committee that the \$28,250 fire reserve shown as revenue in the 2010 budget was from the funds budgeted for the reserve and not funds that were unspent in previous years. Mayor Eady said that the reserve was set up for fire truck and equipment purchase and the department should try to put this money back into the reserve account if it is not needed in 2010.

Chair Whyte reported that Council discussed the need for a thermo-imaging camera and were open to the possibility. Mayor Eady asked about the availability and was told about 2 weeks. He suggested we should look at this purchase if there are funds left over in the 2010 budget at year end. He informed the Committee that he spoke to fire fighters who said the camera is a really good fire fighting tool that is required. The CAO/Clerk was asked to request a donation from the Township's insurance company for the purchase of this equipment.

5. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations that appeared before the committee.

6. FIRE CHIEF REPORT

Chief Corbin reported that the Department had a call out on Christmas Day – furnace malfunction in residential house - and they attended one false alarm since the last Meeting.

Chair Whyte informed the Committee that a ratepayer asked her if the department carries out fire prevention checks and smoke alarm checks. Chief Corbin said they have a program started on awareness. He said they have a program in place to inspect commercial properties.

Mayor Eady said that Councillors Campbell and Larone are inspecting all municipal properties and they may ask the Department for guidance on smoke detectors.

7. BUDGET VS. ACTUAL REPORT

The CAO/Clerk presented a report on the actual 2010 costs to the budget to date. There may be some invoices still outstanding. He noted that the reimbursement from last two highway responses has been received.

Mayor Eady spoke on the 2011 budget process. He and CAO/Clerk reviewed the draft budget between Christmas and New Year's. He wants to review the results of that meeting with Councillor Larone, Co-chair of the Finance Committee and with the new Acting Treasurer before it is presented to the Committee for input. He hopes his could be done by the next Committee meeting date. The Committee agreed to receive an advance copy before the next meeting.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Eady asked about a 6:30 meeting start time. After discussion the Committee Members agreed to this revised start time.

The CAO/Clerk presented the 2010 tax insert information for the Fire Department for review. The Members made several suggestions for the 2011 tax insert.

9. NEXT MEETING

The Committee agreed that if there was a need for a meeting in February that they would meet on February 16 at 6:30 p.m. If there was not a need, the next meeting would be March 23, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.

10. CONFIRMING RESOLUTION

Moved by Don Eady, seconded by Randy Corbin

That the Committee pass this confirming resolution to cover any actions or directions given during the open portion of this Committee Meeting which are minor in nature and which were not set out in By-law or Resolution.

Carried.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Randy Corbin, seconded by Allan Cole

That this Committee Meeting be adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Carried.

Chair

CAO/Clerk