

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

Held at the Municipal Office
On Wednesday, February 6, 2019

PRESENT: Mayor Erwin Butikofer
 Councillor at Large Gordon Cuthbertson
 Blake Councillor Mark Thibert
 Crooks Councillor Brian Wright
 Pardee Councillor Curtis Coulson
 Pearson Councillor Gary Gardner
 Scoble Councillor Brian Kurikka

Rosalie A. Evans, Solicitor-Clerk

1. PRELIMINARY MATTERS:

- (a) Call to Order: Mayor Butikofer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
- (b) Attendance: Attendance was recorded.
- (c) Accept/Amend the Agenda:

Res. No. 2019-02-018

Moved by: Councillor Kurikka
 Seconded by: Councillor Thibert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda circulated for this regular meeting of Council be amended to add, as Item 4.16, a discussion relating to the procedure for "Town Hall" meetings, and that the agenda, as so amended, be approved.

CARRIED ✓

- (d) Declarations of Interest:

No declarations of interest were brought forward.

2. HEAR DEPUTATIONS FROM AUDIENCE MEMBERS:

No deputation requests had been received for this meeting.

3. CONSENT AGENDA: MINUTES, REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

- 3.1 Minutes of the Open Session portion of the Regular Meeting of Council held on January 16, 2019
Administration had recommended that Council approve the minutes for both the open session (Item 3.1) and the Closed Session (Item 7.1), with any error corrections, as required.
- 3.2 Minutes of the meeting of the Recreation Committee held on January 14, 2019
Administration had recommended that Council receive the minutes.
- 3.3 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Regarding Spending approval prior to Budget
Administration had recommended that Council authorize spending as set out in the Report.
- 3.4 Report from Treasurer/Deputy Clerk Regarding Financial Indicators Report for 2018
Administration had recommended that Council receive the report for information.
- 3.5 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Regarding Administrative Activity
Administration had recommended that Council receive the report for information.
- 3.6 Information Correspondence List
Administration had recommended that Council receive the correspondence for information.

The Clerk advised that a correction needs to be made to the January minutes. The passage of the confirming by-law is missing from the minutes, and there are two items both numbered "7".

Res. No. 2019-01-019

Moved by: Councillor Coulson

Seconded by: Councillor Wright

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the recommendations from Administration with respect to all of the items on the consent agenda portion of this evening's meeting, being Items 3.1 (as amended), through 3.6, as well as Item 7.1 in the Closed Session portion of the agenda

CARRIED ✓

4. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED REQUIRING DIRECTION:

4.1 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Regarding Streetlights

The Solicitor-Clerk overviewed the report with Council and responded to questions.

Res. No. 2019-01-020

Moved by: Councillor Cuthbertson

Seconded by: Councillor Coulson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, pending further discussion at the budget meeting scheduled for Friday, February 8th, Administration advise the Ministry of Transportation that Council cannot afford to undertake more than the two least expensive intersections, being Cloud Lake Road and Oleksuk Road, in 2019.

CARRIED ✓

4.2 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Regarding batteries/WEEE Recommended Consultation Input

The Solicitor-Clerk overviewed the report and responded to questions. She noted that, pending Council's approvals, the submission will be sent immediately following adjournment of the Council meeting, as the submission deadline is today.

Res. No. 2019-02-021

Moved by: Councillor Coulson

Seconded by: Councillor Thibert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Administration is authorized to submit the responses set out in the Report.

CARRIED ✓

4.3 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Regarding the Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program

The Solicitor-Clerk overviewed the report for Council and responded to questions. Mayor Butikofer asked that the recommended resolution also contain a paragraph highlighting that the government did not do any municipal consultation, either when this program was introduced, or throughout its lifespan (to date), and that the Province should consult with municipalities before implementing programs that have such great financial impact on those municipalities.

Res. No. 2019-02-022

Moved by: Councillor Kurikka

Seconded by: Councillor Wright

WHEREAS the Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program ("CLTIP"), under the direction of the Minister of Finance, but, historically, administered by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, removes taxable assessment from the municipal tax roll;

AND WHEREAS the Provincial government did not consult with municipalities when the CLTIP was implemented, and has not consulted with municipalities about the CLTIP since its inception;

AND WHEREAS almost half of the land area that comprises the Municipality of Neebing is either formally or informally protected from development, resulting in significant limitations for development to increase taxable assessment;

AND WHEREAS the Province continues to actively reach out to property owners to expand the land protected under the Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program, despite the Municipality's expressed concerns;

AND WHEREAS the Municipality's repeated requests to the Provincial Government for relief in the form of financial compensation, or in the form of placing a cap on the amount of land in any one municipality that can be accepted into this program have been repeatedly refused;

AND WHEREAS this is an ever-increasing problem for many Ontario municipalities, not solely the Municipality of Neebing;

AND WHEREAS municipal council representatives have been told that the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund contains financial compensation to Ontario municipalities for the CLTIP;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Neebing repeats its prior requests that the Province provide relief to Ontario municipalities who are bearing the cost of this Provincial program, by:

- (a) directly compensating municipalities for their lost revenue as a result of the CLTIP; and/or
- (b) placing a cap on the amount of land in any one municipality that can be accepted into the CLTIP;

AND, FURTHER, THAT, should the Province continue to state that it provides compensation through the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund ("OMPF"), that the Province clearly demonstrate which portion of the OMPF is intended to financially compensate for the CLTIP by setting it out as a separate line item in its reporting to municipalities with respect to their OMPF grants;

AND, FURTHER, THAT the Municipality of Neebing requests that the Provincial government open Province-wide consultation with municipalities about the CLTIP;

AND, FURTHER, THAT the Province commit to consultation with municipalities prior to implementing programs like the CLTIP that have significant financial impact on municipalities;

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks;

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to other Ontario Municipalities impacted by the CLTIP program for their support.

CARRIED ✓

4.4 Report from Solicitor-Clerk (at Councillor Cuthbertson's request) regarding two resolutions for ROMA

Councillor Cuthbertson provided background information and responded to questions.

Res. No. 2019-02-023

Moved by: Councillor Cuthbertson

Seconded by: Councillor Gardner

WHEREAS "Zone 9" as defined by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Rural Ontario Municipal Association, comprises a large geographical area;

AND WHEREAS it is difficult for one person to effectively represent all of the municipalities in Zone 9 given its size;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Neebing requests that Zone 9 be divided into two different geographical zones; one for Northwestern Ontario and one for Northeastern Ontario;

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to all of the municipalities in Zone 9 for their support;

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Rural Ontario Municipal Association, with an express request that it be placed on the table for discussion at an upcoming meeting, and a formal reply sent to the Municipality of Neebing.

CARRIED ✓

Res. No. 2019-02-024

Moved by: Councillor Cuthbertson

Seconded by: Councillor Gardner

WHEREAS the Rural Ontario Municipal Association undertakes the election of its Zone representatives at its annual meeting, held in Toronto, in January;

AND WHEREAS almost one half of all of the municipalities in Northern Ontario's Zone 9 of the Rural Ontario Municipal Association have fewer than 1,000 population and do not have budgets that support attendance at this conference;

AND WHEREAS the Rural Ontario Municipal Association does not allow voting by proxy;

AND WHEREAS the Rural Ontario Municipal Association allows voting by all registered delegates at the conference, meaning some municipalities have more than one vote;

AND WHEREAS these rules are unfair to northern Ontario municipalities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Neebing requests that the Rural Ontario Municipal Association limit the number of vote per municipality to one;

AND, FURTHER, THAT The Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Neebing requests that the Rural Ontario Municipal Association allow municipal councils, by resolution, to give proxies to representatives of other municipalities attending the conference, to vote on their behalves;

AND, FURTHER, THAT this resolution be forwarded to all of the municipalities in Zone 9 for their support;

AND, FURTHER, THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Rural Ontario Municipal Association, with an express request that it be placed on the table for discussion at an upcoming meeting, and a formal reply sent to the Municipality of Neebing.

CARRIED ✓

4.5 Report from Solicitor-Clerk regarding agreement with Volunteer Fire Fighter

The Solicitor-Clerk overviewed the report and responded to questions.

Res. No. 2019-02-025

Moved by: Councillor Kurikka

Seconded by: Councillor Wright

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Mayor and Solicitor-Clerk are authorized to execute an agreement with Ethan Boyer, on terms and conditions, and in form and content satisfactory, to the Solicitor-Clerk and the Fire Chief.

CARRIED ✓

4.6 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Regarding Council Retreat

The Solicitor-Clerk overviewed the Report and responded to questions. On consensus, she was directed to contact the facilitator to see whether she would be available for a special council meeting on February 27th at 6:00 p.m., and to report back to Council in this regard.

No resolution was passed.

4.7 Correspondence from Gillies received January 9th, 2019 regarding concerns Police Service Board

The Solicitor-Clerk overviewed the report and responded to questions. Council members have no issue with members of the Police Services Board attending a future Gillies Council meeting, but have no authority to direct the Police Services Board in this regard.

No resolution was passed.

The Solicitor-Clerk asked about cultural awareness training. She was directed to contact Cindy Crowe to see whether she provides such training and report back.

4.8 Correspondence from Gillies received January 17, 2019 regarding Shared Services Discussion

The Solicitor-Clerk overviewed the Report with Council and responded to questions.

Res. No. 2019-02-026

Moved by: Councillor Cuthbertson

Seconded by: Councillor Gardner

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Administration provide a letter to the Township thanking them for their interest, and declining the offer for summer maintenance.

CARRIED ✓

4.9 Correspondence from Design House Publications, received January 23rd, 2019, recommending that Neebing consider spending an additional \$40 per month for Canada Post delivery of the Neebing News

The Solicitor-Clerk overviewed the report with members of Council and responded to questions. Several members indicated that they had, indeed, received the Neebing News this month in their Canada Post mailboxes.

Res. No. 2019-01-027

Moved by: Councillor Kurikka
Seconded by: Councillor Thibert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council agree to pay the additional \$40 per month to have Canada Post deliver the Neebing News;

AND, FURTHER, THAT this agreement does not extend the previously-determined

CARRIED✓

4.10 Correspondence from Biomass North Development Center received January 23, 2019 Regarding membership

Members present discussed the correspondence. On consensus, it was determined that a membership would not be purchased.

4.11 Correspondence from Dick Facca, received January 23rd, enclosing a petition relating to road maintenance at Lake Lenore

On consensus, this matter was tabled, to be lifted from the table after Closed Session.

4.12 Correspondence from Jamie Jarvis, received January 31st, suggesting "Pickle Ball" Court Construction

Res. No. 2019-01-028

Moved by: Councillor Gardner
Seconded by: Councillor Cuthbertson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the correspondence be referred to the Neebing Recreation Committee.

CARRIED✓

4.13 Correspondence from the Chronicle-Journal, received January 15th, regarding Community Service Awareness Pages for 2019

Res. No. 2019-01-029

Moved by: Councillor Wright
Seconded by: Councillor Cuthbertson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Chronicle-Journal be advised that Neebing wishes to purchase an ad for the Remembrance Day page.

CARRIED✓

4.14 Correspondence from the Chronicle-Journal, received January 19th, regarding Advertising/articles in the "Northwest Passage" and Print/Delivery of "Neebing News"

Members present discussed the correspondence. A copy of the magazine in question was circulated for members to review.

On consensus, Council determined that it did not wish to contribute to the next edition. Administration was requested to follow up with Ms. Kew-Pattison regarding the "Neebing News", for clarification and information.

4.15 Report from Economic Development Officer Intern Regarding A Slogan for Neebing

In accordance with a decision made at the last Council meeting, this matter is scheduled to be lifted from the table at this meeting. Members present discussed the matter briefly.

Res. No. 2019-02-030

Moved by: Councillor Kurikka
Seconded by: Councillor Cuthbertson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Report be tabled indefinitely.

CARRIED (REPORT TABLED)✓

4.16 Format of Town Hall Meetings

Members discussed the manner in which Town Hall meetings had been created. No one had attended today's meeting, which caused a spell of "down time" for members present. Mrs. Evans suggested that the Town Hall meeting could be incorporated into the Council agenda "proper", so that if no one attended, the regular meeting could commence. Members agreed with this suggestion, and to change the start time of the Council meeting from 6:30 to 6:00 as a result.

Res. No. 2019-02-031

Moved by: Councillor Thibert
Seconded by: Councillor Wright

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Solicitor-Clerk bring forward amendments to the Procedural By-law to incorporate the "town hall" meeting session into the regular Council meeting, and to change the start time for regular Council meetings to 6:00 p.m.

CARRIED✓

5. TABLE BY-LAWS

No by-laws were presented for passage at this meeting.

6. NEW BUSINESS - ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Wright advised that a constituent had complained to him about the tax payment due dates. Our due date always seems to be scheduled before the constituents receive their pension checks, which causes hardship. Administration will review the policy and bring forward a report.

Mrs. Evans advised that the NOMA spring conference information had been circulated. The event is planned for April 24th (1:00 p.m.) to April 26th (2:00 p.m.) at the Victoria Inn. Councillors Coulson, Kurikka and Cuthbertson, and Mayor Butikofer, requested to be registered to attend.

Mrs. Evans updated Council on one resignation from, and one application to, the Neebing Economic Development Advisory Committee. An appointment by-law will be brought to the next meeting.

The first meeting of the Waste Management Committee was scheduled for February 13th at 5:00 p.m. Mrs. Evans will advise the members.

7. CLOSED SESSION:

Res. No. 2019-02-031

Moved by: Councillor Cuthbertson
Seconded by: Councillor Thibert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the time being 7:31 p.m., Council close the next portion of the meeting to the public, under those paragraphs of Subsection 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 for which the meeting was closed, to consider item 7.1 (minutes of the Closed session of the prior Council meeting);

Under paragraph 239(2)(b) to consider items 7.2 and 7.5, involving personal matters about identifiable individuals;

Under paragraph 239(2)(c) to consider item 7.3, involving a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality;

Under paragraph 239(2)(d) to consider item 7.2, involving labour relations or employee negotiations; and

Under paragraph 239(2)(e) and (f) to consider items 7.4 and 7.5, advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, and potential litigation

CARRIED ✓

Members reviewed the item scheduled for closed session. During closed session, the following procedural resolution was passed:

Res. No. 2019-02-032

Moved by: Councillor Coulson
Seconded by: Councillor Thibert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the time being 8:02 p.m., Council rise from closed session and report in open session.

CARRIED ✓

Item 4.11, tabled earlier in the meeting, was lifted from the table for discussion.

4.11 Correspondence from Dick Facca, received January 23rd, enclosing a petition relating to road maintenance at Lake Lenore

Res. No. 2019-02-033

Moved by: Councillor Wright
Seconded by: Councillor Kurikka

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the correspondent be advised that the Municipality of Neebing is not prepared to undertake maintenance of the private roads at Lake Lenore;

AND, FURTHER, THAT the correspondent be advised that the Municipality of Neebing has no issues with the property owners continuing to maintain the private road on the subdivision road allowance, as has been undertaken historically.

CARRIED ✓

7.1 Minutes of the Closed Session portion of the Regular Meeting of Council held on January 16, 2019

The approval of the minutes was included in the consent agenda resolution. No errors or omissions were noted.

Items 7.2 through 7.5 were dealt with in a single resolution:

7.2 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Regarding Roads Department Staffing

7.3 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Regarding Strategic Land Purchase

7.4 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Relative to the Petition at Item 4.11 of the Agenda

7.5 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Relative to a By-law Enforcement Matter (update)

Res. No. 2019-02-034

Moved by: Councillor Thibert
Seconded by: Councillor Coulson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, with respect to Items 7.2, 7.3 and 7.5 on this evening's Closed Session agenda, Administration is authorized to proceed as directed in Closed Session;

AND, FURTHER, THAT, Item 7.4 be received for information.

CARRIED ✓

8. CONFIRMING BY-LAW

8.1 By-law 2019-004 to Confirm the Proceedings of the Meeting

Res. No. 2019-02-035

Moved by: Councillor Thibert
Seconded by: Councillor Gardner

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 2019-004, to confirm the proceedings of the meeting, be passed as presented in the agenda.

CARRIED ✓

9. ADJOURN THE MEETING:

There being no further business to attend to, Mayor Butikofer adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL


Erwin Butikofer
MAYOR


Rosalie A. Evans
SOLICITOR-CLERK

