

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

Held at the Municipal Office
On Wednesday, October 5, 2016

PRESENT: Mayor Ziggy Polkowski
Councillor Erwin Butikofer
Councillor Bill Lankinen
Councillor Roger Shott
Councillor Brian Wright
Councillor Mike McCooeye
Councillor Curtis Coulson

Rosalie A. Evans, Solicitor-Clerk
Cheryl Jaspers, Administrative Assistant

1. PRELIMINARY MATTERS:

(a) Call to Order: Mayor Polkowski called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

(b) Attendance: Attendance was recorded.

(c) Accept/Amend the Agenda:

Res. No. 2016-10-240

Moved by: Councillor McCooeye

Seconded by: Councillor Coulson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda circulated for this regular meeting of Council be amended to remove Item 3.6 from the Consent agenda portion of the meeting agenda and re-number it as 4.10, for discussion.

CARRIED ✓

(d) Declarations of Interest: No declarations of interest were received.

2. HEAR DEPUTATIONS FROM AUDIENCE MEMBERS:

2.1 Public Meeting with respect to Potential Closures of Bunt Lane and Cloud Bay Road North

Ms. Amy Breukelman and Mr. Ben Breukelman addressed Council with respect to a proposal to close "Bunt Lane". This road is used by them to access farm fields, and there is a concern with respect to loss of this access resulting in potential longer trips on municipal roads with farm vehicles. Not only is this a farm efficiency issue, but also poses potential risk of accident/injury. The Breukelmans were assured the entry would not be closed to them – merely to the general public. It was noted that the Neebing Emergency Services has used the lane in the past to fill tankers. The potential and wording for signs were discussed.

The Breukelmans do not object to the road closure provided their access is maintained.

There were no other members of the public present to address the potential road closures.

Res. No. 2016-10-241

Moved by: Councillor Lankinen

Seconded by: Councillor Butikofer

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Administration is directed to bring the road closure by-laws forward to the next regular meeting of Council for both Bunt Lane and Cloud Bay Road North; and

Administration work with the Breukelmans on acceptable terms of use, possible property sale, and signage.

CARRIED ✓

3. CONSENT AGENDA: MINUTES, REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

3.1 Minutes of the Special meeting of Council held on September 21, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

Administration recommended that the minutes for the special meeting, with any error corrections, as required, be approved.

3.2 (&7.1) Minutes of the Open Session Portion of the Regular meeting of Council held September 21, 2016, at 6:30 p.m.

Administration recommended that the minutes for the open session (Item 3.2) and the closed session (Item 7.1), with any error corrections, as required, be approved. No errors or omissions were noted.

3.3 Minutes of the meeting of the Neebing Recreation Committee meeting held on September 19, 2016

Administration recommended that the minutes for the open session, with any error corrections, as required, be approved. No errors or omissions were noted.

3.4 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Regarding OCIF Funding

Administration recommended that Council receive the report for information, relating to the By-law at Item 5.1 of the Agenda.

3.5 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Regarding Propane Connections to recreational trailers

Administration recommended that the Report be received for information relating to the By-law at Item 5.2 of the Agenda.

3.6 Correspondence from the City of Thunder Bay seeking a letter in support of its Event Centre, received September 21, 2016

Administration recommended Council approve a letter substantively in the format requested.

3.7 Correspondence from the Municipality of Dutton/Dunwich received September 16, 2016 seeking support for its request for 100% Hydro reductions to compensate for the municipality being a "forced wind turbine host municipality"

Administration recommended that the correspondence be received for information.

- 3.8 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Regarding Administrative Activity
Administration recommended that the Report be received for information.
- 3.9 Report from Treasurer Regarding Annual Arrears Report
Administration recommended that the Report be received for information.
- 3.10 Correspondence from the City of Belleville Received September 28th seeking support for its position relating to Provincial Action on Certified Crop Advisors
Administration recommended that the correspondence be received for information.
- 3.11 Information Correspondence List
Administration recommended that the correspondence be received for information.

Res. No. 2016-10-242

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, including Item 7.1, with the exception of Item 3.6.

CARRIED ✓

Councillor Butikofer raised an issue brought up in the minutes relating to the prohibition against overnight parking at boat launches. There was discussion as to whether the prohibition is against parking or against camping. Camping was prohibited historically on the basis of noise complaints. Signs will be examined on the roads tour. Parking areas at the boat launches were briefly discussed. The possibility of restricting use hours was reviewed. Mayor Polkowski suggested that Councillor Butikofer raise the issue with the Neebing Recreation Committee.

4. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED REQUIRING DIRECTION:

4.1 Report from Treasurer/Deputy Clerk Regarding Weather Stations

The Solicitor-Clerk overviewed the report with members present. Councillor Butikofer indicated he had discussed with Mr. Lassi potential solutions to circumstances where it might be necessary to purchase an internet connection. TBayTel and/or Bell could be approached for partnership. It was noted that Mr. Lassi was willing to come out and train staff.

Res. No. 2016-10-243

Moved by: Councillor Lankinen
Seconded by: Councillor McCooeye

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the recommendations from Administration to purchase and install two weather monitoring stations.

CARRIED ✓

4.2 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Regarding Correspondence from the Lakehead Rural Planning Board seeking Council's comments on a proposed plan of Subdivision in Neebing

Members present reviewed the report. A copy of the draft plan of subdivision was circulated.

Res. No. 2016-10-244

Moved by: Councillor Butikofer

Seconded by: Councillor Lankinen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Neebing is in support of the development application for Part of Mining Locations 21B and 33Z, and the original abutting shoreline road allowances, as depicted in the draft plan of subdivision from J.D. Barnes Limited (Reference Number 11-32-785-00) dated September 9, 2011, and will be pleased to co-operate in the processing and eventual approval of the application.

Councillor Shott raised issues with respect to the wording of the resolution. As the plans evolve, there may be a need to tweak them. He felt that the resolution, as worded, might be too restrictive.

Res. No. 2016-10-245

Moved by: Councillor Shott

Seconded by: Councillor Butikofer

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the resolution on the table be amended to replace the word "depicted" with the phrase "as generally conceptualized".

CARRIED ✓

As there was no further discussion, a vote on the main motion, as amended was called by Mayor Polkowski.

CARRIED ✓

4.3 Report from Working Roads Foreman and Solicitor- Clerk regarding Road Maintenance Policy

Members present discussed the report. Mrs. Evans advised Council that she had had a telephone conversation with a landowner passed the end of the maintained portion of Copper Cliff Road East and, as a result, wished to amend the proposed policy such that "100m" passed the maintained portion of the road is amended to read "400m" passed the maintained portion of the road. This was agreed, on consensus.

Members present discussed the need for dust suppression and the policies surrounding the minimums. It was noted that weather (i.e. rainfall) plays a role. Council requested that Administration bring forward a report before the end of this year relating to a 5 (or 10) year capital plan with particular focus on the chip-sealing program.

Res. No. 2016-10-246

Moved by: Councillor Coulson

Seconded by: Councillor Butikofer

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Road Maintenance policy, with the amendment discussed, be passed.

CARRIED ✓

4.4 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Recommending a Write-off Policy

Members present discussed the report. Mrs. Evans responded to questions.

Res. No. 2016-10-247

Moved by: Councillor Lankinen
Seconded by: Councillor McCooeye

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the write-off policy be passed, as presented.

CARRIED ✓

4.5 Report from the Solicitor-Clerk Regarding the Plan for Open House October 12 re Recreation Oliver Lake

The Solicitor-Clerk overviewed the report and responded to questions from members of Council. The obtaining of appropriate name tags was discussed. Administration will order them for members of Council who no longer have them and for Administration as well as for members of the Neebing Recreation Committee, and the Economic Development Advisory Committee.

Mayor Polkowski indicated he would describe Councillor Lankinen's ideas for improved parking, and the community request for changerooms/washrooms in his opening remarks. He also indicated that he felt a member of Administration should attend to take notes (not necessarily minutes) so that people could have the option to speak at the microphone rather than to use the input form to submit questions. Other than those two changes, the format presented by Administration was acceptable to him.

No further changes were requested by members of Council.

Res. No. 2016-10-248

Moved by: Councillor Shott
Seconded by: Councillor Wright

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the plan for the open house for October 12th be approved, subject to the changes referenced by the Mayor.

CARRIED ✓

4.6 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Regarding the Thunder Bay and Area Food Strategy Membership Request

Members present discussed the report and the benefits of membership.

Res. No. 2016-10-249

Moved by: Councillor Shott
Seconded by: Councillor Butikofer

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Neebing join the Thunder Bay and Area Food Strategy as a member.

CARRIED ✓

4.7 Correspondence from the Town of Aurora, received September 26, Regarding OMB Reform, seeking support for its Resolution

Members present discussed the correspondence.

Res. No. 2016-10-250

Moved by: Councillor Lankinen
Seconded by: Councillor Butikofer

BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Corporation of the Municipality of Neebing supports the position taken by the Town of Aurora with respect to reform of the Ontario Municipal Board; and Administration is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Premier, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, the leaders of the opposition parties, AMO and the Town of Aurora.

CARRIED ✓

4.8 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Regarding Policing Cost Advisements for 2017

Members present discussed the information in the report. Councillor Butikofer noted there is still no satisfactory answer to why the Ontario Provincial Police have not acted on comments made repeatedly by the Auditor General.

It was noted that the police must dispatch 2 cruisers for each 9-1-1 "hang up" call. It was suggested that a newspaper article be prepared regarding this, for public awareness.

Council requested a report in future regarding implementation of user fees for "false alarm" types of calls, whereby each household is "entitled" to one such call without charge, but a user fee be imposed for subsequent false calls.

Res. No. 2016-10-251

Moved by: Councillor Wright
Seconded by: Councillor McCooye

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Administration write to the Police to request clarification on the call data in the report, as recommended.

CARRIED ✓

4.9 Report from the Evaluation Committee for the Proposals Received for the Design of the Fire Hall/Base Station

The Solicitor-Clerk provided a verbal recommendation from the evaluation committee that had reviewed the proposals received. The evaluation team was composed of: the Solicitor-Clerk, Chief Ashbee, Deputy Chief Van Ballegooie, Councillors Shott and Lankinen and Gordon Cuthbertson. The methodology used in the review was described, and the recommendation made.

Members of the evaluation committee provided further comment.

Res. No. 2016-10-252

Moved by: Councillor Shott
Seconded by: Councillor Lankinen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the contract for the schematic design and Class "C" cost estimate for the new Base Station/Fire Hall be awarded to Brook McIlroy in accordance with its proposal; and Administration is directed to advise all proponents of the decision.

CARRIED ✓

4.10 Correspondence from the City of Thunder Bay seeking a letter in support of its Event Centre, received September 21, 2016

Council members discussed the fact that the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (“NOMA”) had already passed a resolution in support of the Event Centre for Thunder Bay – as Neebing is a NOMA member, our support should be evident in the NOMA resolution. While Neebing is supportive of Thunder Bay’s efforts, a separate resolution was considered to be superfluous.

No resolution was passed.

5. TABLE BY-LAWS

5.1 By-law 2016-032 to Approve Execution of an Agreement with OMAFRA

Res. No. 2016-10-253

Moved by: Councillor Butikofer

Seconded by: Councillor Coulson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 2016-032, to approve execution of an Agreement with the Province for Ontario Community Infrastructure Funding be passed as presented in the agenda.

CARRIED ✓

5.2 By-law 2016-033 to Amend By-law 697-2005 Regarding Trailer Licencing

Res. No. 2016-10-254

Moved by: Councillor Lankinen

Seconded by: Councillor McCooeye

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 2016-033, to amend By-law 697-2005 regarding trailer licencing by deleting two definitions, be passed as presented in the agenda.

CARRIED ✓

6. NEW BUSINESS - ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members present had the opportunity to raise other items of new business at this point in the meeting.

Mayor Polkowski addressed the issue of the Scoble Townline Road. Plans to have the road ditched this year are rapidly becoming unrealistic as the crews continue to ditch on Copper Cliff Road East. Administration was directed to convene a meeting of the property owners and residents on Klages, Mates and Scoble Townline Roads in order to update them on the situation. The meeting is requested prior to the middle of November.

Members discussed the challenges of finding appropriate sites at which to place the fill removed from the ditches during ditching operations.

Councillor McCooeye advised members present of activity at the Lakehead Rural Planning Board. One new lot was approved in O’Connor. The Board and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry are being taken to court by Rock Solid Holdings, who is disputing the Board’s position that its property in Gorham Township is not zoned for aggregate extraction.

Councillor Shott advised that he had attended the NOMA and Common Voice conferences on Neebing's behalf. The conference sessions were good. The Common Voice conference operated as a "workshop" format and was particularly beneficial. Electricity rates are a primary issue. People are struggling to pay. Another issue discussed was nuisance bears – especially around Terrace Bay and Schreiber, there are serious concerns in this regard.

Councillor Wright indicated he had received a call from Lakehead University regarding the water quality studies at Cloud Lake. A meeting has been scheduled for October 13th at Lakehead University (Room 2003). The public is encouraged to attend. Administration will put the information on our website.

The Solicitor-Clerk asked Council to consider charging sister organizations (i.e. LRPB, NFRA) and/or staff persons the same fees as are charged at Staples for photocopies rather than the User Fee By-law rate. The current fees for Staples copies are 10 cents per page for black-and-white and 39 cents per page for colour. At those rates, the municipality will "make" a small profit based on the fees we pay for copies. The user fee rates (five pages free and 75 cents per page for the 6th and beyond) were set high purposely to discourage the use of the office for regular copying. On consensus, Council agreed with Administration's suggestion in this regard.

The Solicitor-Clerk showed Council Reference Plan 55R-9479, deposited June 29th, 1993. This plan contains over 100 "parts" along the east edge of Island Avenue and along the sides of some of the lots on Plan M-555. Councillors who had been involved with the Municipality at the time believe that the parts along the east side of the road relate to a Hydro easement. No one was sure about the parts alongside the lot lines.

Administration was directed to enroll Mayor Polkowski and Councillors Shott, McCooeye and Butikofer to attend the Thunder Bay District Municipal League meeting October 28-29. One member of Administration should also attend.

The Solicitor-Clerk advised that a member of the Roads Crew had suggested that we approach the Province to install streetlights as part of their next phase project of Highway 61 improvements. That staff person had said that the Ministry had, when requested in past, suggested it be brought forward during other construction for consideration. Administration was directed to send the appropriate correspondence.

The Solicitor-Clerk advised that Administration was working with FairTax on a new grant application for OCIF "top up" funding for the Cloud Lake Road rock hazards project. A question had arisen as to why the 2008 engineering report had been commissioned. Members advised Administration that it had been an initiative of the former Roads Manager. We had received complaints about falling rocks from the owner of property at the base of the cliff. The Municipality ended up purchasing that property to hold until the danger was rectified.

Administration was requested to review the Council follow-up notes to determine Council's direction with respect to the last correspondence relating to the Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program.

A brief recess was called at 8:18 p.m. to allow the chambers to clear prior to the Closed Session Agenda. Session resumed at 8:21 p.m.

7. CLOSED SESSION:

Res. No. 2016-10-255

Moved by: Councillor McCooeye
Seconded by: Councillor Butikofer

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the time being 8:21 p.m., Council close the next portion of the meeting to the public, under the authority of 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 the authority of paragraph 239(2)(b) to consider item 7.4, involving personal information about identifiable individuals; under paragraph 239(2)(d) to consider item 7.2, involving labour relations or employee negotiations; and under paragraph 239(2)(f) to consider item 7.3, advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege.

CARRIED ✓

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

Res. No. 2016-10-256

Moved by: Councillor Shott
Seconded by: Councillor Coulson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the time being 8:45 p.m., Council rise from closed session and report in open session.

CARRIED ✓

- 7.1 Minutes of the Closed Session portion of the Regular Council meeting held September 21, 2016
Item 7.1 was approved through the Consent Agenda Resolution.

Items 7.2 and 7.4 were dealt with in a single resolution.

- 7.2 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Regarding Second Day of Bargaining
7.4 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Regarding Personnel Matter

Res. No. 2016-10-257

Moved by: Councillor Lankinen
Seconded by: Councillor McCooeye

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the reports be received for information.

CARRIED ✓

7.3 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Regarding Deputation from Mr. Elvish (Sept 7, 2016)

Res. No. 2016-10-258

Moved by: Councillor Lankinen

Seconded by: Councillor Coulson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Administration is authorized to proceed as directed in Closed Session.

CARRIED ✓

8. ADJOURN THE MEETING:

There being no further business to attend to, Mayor Polkowski adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL



Ziggy Polkowski
MAYOR



Rosalie A. Evans
SOLICITOR CLERK