

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

Held at the Municipal Office
On Wednesday, November 2, 2016

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

Rosalie Evans, Solicitor-Clerk

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. 2016-11-272

Moved by: Councillor Shott
Seconded by: Councillor McCooeye

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda circulated for this regular meeting of Council be amended to:

- i) Delete items 2.2 and 2.3 at the request of the deputant;
- ii) Add, as Item 3.6, correspondence from the Neebing Fire Rescue Association seeking permission to use the Municipal complex on two dates next summer for the annual tailgate sale;
- iii) Add, as Item 3.7, a memorandum from the Treasurer regarding a resolution required in support of a grant application;
- iv) Add, as Item 4.10, email correspondence from the Township of Conmee regarding the retirement of our mutual emergency management officer;
- v) Add, as Item 4.11, at Councillor Shott's request, a discussion regarding the fees charged at the landfill sites.

CARRIED ✓

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

2. HEAR DEPUTATIONS FROM AUDIENCE MEMBERS:

2.1 Wendy McLean will address Council with Questions and/or Concerns relating to the Orion project

Ms. Mclean opened her presentation by reading the Municipality's Mission and Vision statements. She stated her opinion that the Orion project does not conform to these values. Ms. Mclean described her difficulties in getting information about the project – the local Ministry of

the Environment office did not have the full application, and now the person assigned to the file is on vacation until the 7th of November. She was unable to get some of the information she wanted from the Solicitor-Clerk or council members with whom she had spoken.

Ms. Mclean questioned the municipality's ability to supply the tonnage of waste that the project would require. She also pointed out that the developer's company had been dissolved, and that does not give one confidence in the developer. She expressed concern that not enough independent studies have been done about the project (such as testing the current state of the soils on all of the properties involved) and she is also concerned that the project will lead to environmental contamination. Ms. Mclean provided her opinion that the lease terms are not sufficient to protect the municipality should that occur, and the municipality is being exposed to too much liability. She indicated that insufficient consultation had been undertaken with the community, and she expressed concern for the volunteers in the fire department in the event that there was a fire at the site. She feels that a request for proposals should be issued for other ideas on how to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill.

Mayor Polkowski advised the deputant and others in the gallery that the developer would be coming on Thursday, November 10th to provide information and answers to questions about the project. An open house will be held that day at 7:00 p.m. He stated Council has looked at this project carefully and it is the cleanest and best we could find. It represents economic development, reduction of reliance on residents for the municipality's tax base, and it will provide jobs on site as well as spin-off jobs. This plant will not have a "stack", it is a closed system. The developer has operated a plant in Toronto for 10 or 15 years disposing of medical waste and that plant is very successful.

Mayor Polkowski, with Council's consensus, opened the floor to questions from the gallery.

Topics covered in the question and answer period included: where similar plants can be found; the testing of the soils prior to the plant opening; disposal of excess waste material that cannot be used in the plant as well as disposal of end product (waste) from the process; concerns that a polluting developer would abandon the site as happened in Marathon; possibilities for royalties from the fuel sales; and challenges in other municipalities regarding waste disposal.

As there were no further questions, a brief recess was called at 7:29 p.m. At that time, the deputant and all of the members of the audience left the chambers.

The Council meeting resumed at 7:37 p.m.

3. CONSENT AGENDA: MINUTES, REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

3.1 (&7.1) Minutes of the Open Session Portion of the Regular meeting of Council held October 19, 2016, at 6:30 p.m.

Administration recommended that the minutes for the open session (Item 3.1) and the closed session (Item 7.1), with any error corrections, as required, be approved. No errors or omissions were noted.

3.2 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Regarding Administrative Activity

Administration recommended that the report be received for information.

- 3.3 Report from Treasurer/Deputy Clerk Regarding Road Tour Observations
Administration recommended that the report be received for information.
- 3.4 Correspondence from the Township of North Frontenac, received October 27, Regarding Distribution Charges on Electricity Bills.
Administration Recommended that Council pass a resolution in support.
- 3.5 Information Correspondence List (Distributed at the Meeting)
Administration Recommended that the Correspondence on the list be received for information.
- 3.6 Correspondence from NFRA requesting permission to use the Municipal Grounds on June 16th and 17th for the annual Tailgate Sale
Administration recommended that the request be approved.
- 3.7 Memorandum from Treasurer/Deputy Clerk regarding Resolution in support of Grant Application
Administration recommended that council pass the resolution set out in the memorandum.

Res. No. 2016-11-273

Moved by: Councillor Butikofer
Seconded by: Councillor Coulson

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 through 3.7, including Item 7.1.

CARRIED ✓

After passage of the resolution, members had comments relating to two of the items.

Members present discussed the wording of the resolution for Item 3.4. The Solicitor-Clerk will include the language to link the wording to the distribution charge portion of the electricity bills.

Members present discussed Item 3.7. It was noted that a small sampling of culverts had been examined and found in bad shape. The Solicitor-Clerk indicated that the Asset Management Plan is intended to involve a system of tracking age and condition of assets such as culverts.

4. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED REQUIRING DIRECTION:

4.1 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Regarding ROMA Delegation Requests

Members present reviewed items of potential discussion with various ministries.

Res. No. 2016-11-274

Moved by: Councillor Coulson
Seconded by: Councillor Wright

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Administration be directed to submit the following delegation requests to the ministries indicated:

- i) To the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to discuss the Municipality's ongoing concerns relating to the Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program;
- ii) To the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change to discuss the Orion project;

- iii) To the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change to discuss unaffordable Hydro fees; and
- iv) To the Ministry of the Environment and Climate change to ask for compensation for our costs in having to undertake unnecessary and expensive engineering work associated with a 9 year old oil/water separator at the Municipal garage.

CARRIED ✓

The Solicitor-Clerk advised that the Working Roads Foreman had expressed interest in attending OGRA. Council, on consensus, directed the Solicitor-Clerk to register the Working Roads Foreman to attend.

4.2 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Regarding Consultation on the Ontario Municipal Board

Members present reviewed the report.

Res. No. 2016-11-275

Moved by: Councillor McCooye
Seconded by: Councillor Shott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Administration be directed to finalize the correspondence appended to the report and submit it as Council's input into the consultation.

CARRIED ✓

4.3 Report from Treasurer/Deputy Clerk Regarding Changes to the Municipal Elections Act, 1996

Members present discussed the various voting mechanisms referenced in the Report. Those who attended the Thunder Bay District Municipal League conference had had the opportunity to see demonstrations. While some of the new methods appeared interesting, there was consensus not to change anything for the 2018 election.

Members present then reviewed the correspondence appended to the Report.

Res. No. 2016-11-276

Moved by: Councillor McCooye
Seconded by: Councillor Coulson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Neebing supports the position taken by the Council of The Municipality of Charlton and Dack, that the requirement to submit the signatures of 25 voters in order to file nomination to run for a council seat will have negative consequences in many municipalities, and it should be an option rather than a requirement;

AND THAT Administration is directed to circulate the resolution to the Minister of Municipal Affairs, the critics for Municipal Affairs, AMO, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, and our local members of provincial parliament.

CARRIED ✓

4.4 Report from Solicitor-Clerk Regarding Northern Transportation consultation

Members present discussed the request. No resolution was passed.

4.5 Correspondence from Oliver Paipoonge, received October 28th, regarding an application for Lot addition in the vicinity of land owned by Neebing

Members present reviewed the report. The Solicitor-Clerk advised that she had reviewed the notice with the Working Roads Foreman and there were no concerns.

4.6 Correspondence from OGRA, received October 7, Seeking Nominations to the Board, noting Two vacancies for Northern Ontario

Members present discussed the request. No resolution was passed.

4.7 Correspondence from the Royal Canadian Legion (Manitoba/NW Ontario Command), received October 17, 2016, Regarding the "Military Service Recognition Book"

Members present discussed the correspondence. Councillor Shott voiced his opinion, shared by other Council members, that substantial contributions to the war efforts had been made by members of this community.

Res. No. 2016-11-277

Moved by: Councillor Shott

Seconded by: Councillor Wright

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Administration is directed to:

- i) purchase a full page, colour spread tribute;
- ii) report back to Council on the timelines; and
- iii) recruit students and/or artists to submit designs.

CARRIED ✓

4.8 Correspondence from The Lung Association, received October 26, Requesting that Council declare November to be "Lung Month" in Neebing

Members present discussed the correspondence.

Res. No. 2016-11-278

Moved by: Councillor McCooeye

Seconded by: Councillor Coulson

WHEREAS, lung disease is one of the most prevalent, deadly and costly chronic diseases;

AND WHEREAS Neebing Council supports all measures designed to advance and protect the health of our residents as well as all Ontarians;

AND WHEREAS to increase awareness of lung health issues and to inform Ontarians about the importance of their lung health, the Ontario Lung Association has designated the month of November to be "Lung Month";

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Neebing declares November, 2016 to be "Lung Month" in our Municipality.

CARRIED ✓

4.9 (Number inadvertently omitted in Amended Agenda Preparation)

4.10 Correspondence from Conmee Township suggesting Contribution Towards a Gift and/or get-together for retiring EMO

John Coupland has announced his retirement as the Amethyst Sector's CEMC. The Township of Conmee is co-ordinating the purchase of a retirement gift and a dinner event, and is seeking donations.

Res. No. 2016-11-279

Moved by: Councillor Coulson
Seconded by: Councillor Butikofer

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Neebing donate \$500.00 to the cause;

AND THAT Administration report back when more detail is known, and/or whether additional money is required.

CARRIED ✓

4.11 Discussion at Councillor Shott's Request about Landfill Site Fees

Councillor Shott relayed a complaint from a constituent who was charged \$25 at the Sandhill site for disposing of a wheelbarrow full of loose shingles. Members present discussed the merits of a minimum fee for small loads. Councillor Shott requested that the fee for the constituent be waived. The Solicitor-Clerk relayed the Landfill Site's observations that a ½ ton pickup and a 9 meter trailer hold approximately the same amount, yet the pickup is charged \$150 when the trailer load is only \$25.

Res. No. 2016-11-280

Moved by: Councillor Shott
Seconded by: Councillor Coulson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Administration bring forward an amending by-law to change the fee structure for the site such that:

- i) A pickup load, level with the original sides of the vehicle's bed, be charged \$25;
- ii) The fee of \$150 remain for pickup loads that are piled higher above the original sides of the vehicle's bed;
- iii) A minimum fee of \$10 be charged for single-item cast offs (such as a carpet or upholstered chair) and for loose items provided the volume is less than three cubic feet (one cubic meter);

AND THAT Administration is directed to waive the fee charged to the constituent who approached Councillor Shott.

CARRIED ✓

5. TABLE BY-LAWS

5.1 By-law 2016-036 to Amend By-law 2015-033 to decrease the speed Limit on a portion of Mink Mountain Road and on All of Island Avenue from 60km/hr to 30 km/hr

Councillor Butikofer advised members present that he had been approached by some constituents who felt that the reduced speed limit should only apply to Island Avenue and not to

Mink Mountain Drive. The merits of amending the by-law were discussed. Consensus was to leave the by-law as drafted.

Res. No. 2016-11-281

Moved by: Councillor Butikofer
Seconded by: Councillor McCooeye

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 2016-036, to Amend By-law 2015-033 to Decrease the Speed Limit on a portion of Mink Mountain Road and on all of Island Avenue from 60 km/hr to 30 km/hr be passed.

CARRIED ✓

6. NEW BUSINESS - ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Councillor Wright provided the Solicitor-Clerk with information relating to the purchase of an A.E.D. for the Blake Hall. It had been noted at the Harvest Dinner that there isn't one on the premises and there should be.

Councillor Butikofer asked about the status of Administration's report on the costs associated with allowing All Terrain Vehicles on municipal roadways. The Solicitor-Clerk stated it was in progress and would be provided in the near future. Members present discussed snowmobile trails, and a referendum undertaken in Neebing some years ago on the subject matter. It was noted that snowmobiles are now allowed on all roadways, including municipal roadways, by provincial law (subject to adherence to rules such as provision of insurance, helmet requirements, etc.), which was not the case when the referendum had been undertaken.

The Solicitor-Clerk advised Council of a letter from the Mayor of East Ferris, Bill Vrebosch, who is the Northern representative for ROMA. They are seeking input for a discussion about "community hubs". Although Neebing does not have one, at least not formally, if anyone has input for Mayor Vrebosch, they are asked to provide it.

7. CLOSED SESSION:

The closed session meeting minutes from October 19th had been passed through the consent agenda. As there were no other reports to consider, no closed session was held at this meeting.

8. ADJOURN THE MEETING:

There being no further business to attend to, Mayor Polkowski adjourned the meeting at 8:44 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL



Ziggy Polkowski
MAYOR



Rosalie A. Evans
SOLICITOR-CLERK