



## **MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH MIDDLESEX REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Municipality of North Middlesex was held on Wednesday May 6, 2015 in the Council Chambers, Shared Services Centre, 229 Parkhill Main Street, Parkhill with a quorum present. A closed meeting was held prior to the Regular Meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m.

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Mayor called the meeting to Order at 7:00 p.m.

### **2. ROLL CALL**

Present:

Mayor Don Shipway

Deputy Mayor Brian Ropp

Councillor Ward One Doreen McLinchey

Councillor Ward Two Joan Nichol

Councillor Ward Three Gord Moir

Councillor Ward Four Andrew Hemming - Absent

Councillor Ward Five Adrian Cornelissen

CAO, Marsha Paley

Clerk, Jackie Tiedeman

### **3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

None at this time

### **4. CLOSED MEETING (Under Section 239 of the Municipal Act)**

MOTION #130/2015

MCLINCHEY/MOIR: That Council go into a Closed Meeting at 6:00 p.m. for the following purpose: Approval of April 15, 2015 minutes – Not available

Personal matters about an identifiable individual – Fire Dept Operations

**CARRIED**

## **5. RISE AND REPORT**

The regular meeting reconvened at 7:00 p.m. with no report from the closed session.

## **6. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

a) Special Meeting Minutes – April 8, 2015

MOTION #131/2015

ROPP/CORNELISSEN: That the April 8, 2015 Special Meeting Minutes be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

b) Regular Meeting Minutes – April 15, 2015

MOTION #132/2015

MCLINCHEY/MOIR: That the April 15, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

c) Public/Special Meeting – April 22, 2015

MOTION #133/2015

CORNELISSEN/NICHOL: That the April 22, 2015 Public/Special Meeting Minutes be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

## **7. PUBLIC MEETING**

MOTION #134/2015

ROPP/MOIR: That regular meeting adjourn to Committee of Adjustment Meeting at 7:05 p.m. to consider planning applications.

CARRIED

The regular meeting reconvened following the Public Meeting.

## **8. DELEGATIONS**

**7:15 p.m.** –Richard Weston from QPA Solar Inc. provided an update on the status of the Solar Panel Project on municipal land. He reported that there are 7 approved municipal sites with contracts. There are three rooftop projects of which 2 have been allocated and are first priority. The second priority is for the ground mounts of which 1

has been allocated. These projects are anticipated to be completed by December 2015. Mr. Weston advised that he has been in discussions with staff on some other potential municipal lands. He was interested in the Shared Services Building rooftop as a possible new project. Several questions were asked by Council and responded to by Mr. Weston regarding how the panels are mounted, maintenance or repairs on roofs due to panel installation as well as the firefighting safety concerns were also expressed. Council concurred that staff should continue to work with Mr. Weston on potential site locations and that a report be prepared for Council on the outcome for consideration at another council meeting.

**7:25 p.m.** – OPP Staff Sergeant Brad Thompson was present to respond to Council on the requirements for a new office location for the OPP in Parkhill. He advised that an office with a desk, window blinds, internet access and washroom facilities are their only requirements. It would be advantageous to have a separate room that could be used as an interview room or meeting room but not a necessity at this time. Some clarification was requested through Council and responded to by the Staff Sergeant.

## **9. PASSING OF ACCOUNTS**

A .Report on the compilation of the bills and accounts being presented for payment for the period of April 10, 2015 until April 30, 2015.

MOTION #136/2015

ROPP/CORNELISSEN: That the following bills and accounts be approved for payment:

General	\$329,122.65
Cemetery	\$111,900.00
Ont Hydro	\$ 27,299.89
OCWA	\$ 61,293.52

CARRIED

## **10. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

### **a) Report from Chief Administrative Officer – Council Remuneration**

Following a review of the report and the draft by-law the following motion was then introduced:

MOTION #137/2015

MCLINCHEY/MOIR: The Council receive the Administration Department's 2015 Council Remuneration Report;

And further that Council approve staff's recommendations to bring

the by-law, as amended (removal of additional fee for chairperson) forward for Council's consideration at the May 20<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

CARRIED

b) Report from Chief Administrative Officer – Civil Marriage Solemnization and Related Ceremonies

MOTION# 138/2015

CORNELISSEN/ROPP: That Council for the Municipality of North Middlesex receives the Civil Marriage Solemnization and Related Ceremonies Report from the Administration Department;

And further that Council considers approving the proposed by-law, as attached, at an upcoming Council meeting to allow for civil marriage solemnization and related ceremonies at the recommended fees as a service to residents within and outside of the Municipality.

CARRIED

c) Report from Clerk – Draft Revisions to Cemetery By-law

Clerk Jackie Tiedeman then reviewed the overall proposed changes to the by-law. Several questions were asked and responded to by staff.

Council concurred that further clarification to the definition “upright monument” be explored by staff pertaining to Clause 6 xi) “one solar light fixture per upright monument will be permitted from May 1 to October 31” during the public comment period and that this be considered within the staff report.

MOTION #139/2015

CORNELISSEN/MCLINCHEY: That Council receives the Proposed Revisions to the Cemetery By-law Report from the Administration Department;

And further that Council directs staff to post the proposed revised by-law for 60 days to allow a review and comment period by the public;

And further that staff be directed to advertise this draft by-law in accordance with the requirements under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 as well as under the municipality's notice by-law;

And further that at the conclusion of the time period, a staff report be prepared that summarizes any comments received and brought back to the Cemetery Board for

review and recommendation to Council.

CARRIED

d) Report from Drainage Superintendent – Change of Section to accept petition for drainage

MOTION #140/2015

ROPP/CORNELISSEN: That staff recommends Council rescind the motion of accepting the petition under Section 78 of the Drainage Act, R.S.O. 1990 on February 18, 2015 and accept the new petition for the Denys-Hendriks Drain under Section 4 of the Drainage Act, R.S.O. 1990

CARRIED

e) Report from Recreation/Facilities Manager – Results of Ailsa Craig Fencing Tender

MOTION #141/2015

MCLINCHEY/NICHOL: That Council accepts staff's recommendation for the quote from Royal Fencing Limited in the amount of \$9,237.50 (taxes excluded).

CARRIED

It was suggested that further specifications should be included in future RFP or RFT proposals in order for all parties to know exactly what the expectation is for the final product received.

f) Report from Recreation/Facilities Manager – Results of Ailsa Craig Splash pad Tenders

Mr. Nickles advised that for this particular tender, an allotted amount was disclosed for the project and then tenderers provided a proposal with a concept plan of what they could offer for the project.

After careful consideration of the recommendation, the following motion was then introduced:

MOTION #142/2015

MOIR/MCLINCHEY: That Council accepts staff's recommendation for the proposal from Openspace Solutions in the amount of \$172,630.00 plus taxes.

## CARRIED

Mr. Nickles advised Council that this approved proposal will be presented to the Ailsa Craig Community tomorrow evening.

### **11. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councillor Cornelissen inquired as to whether the municipality wishes to receive the Policing Committee minutes.

Council concurred that even though Councillor Cornelissen is a volunteer on this Committee and there is no requirement to forward the minutes, they agreed it would be beneficial to be kept up to date through the minutes.

### **12. CORRESPONDENCE**

a) The Township of Madawaska Valley – request to support their motion for the government to take action against rising hydro rate increases.

MOTION #143/2015

ROPP/CORNELISSEN: That the Council of the Municipality of North Middlesex hereby endorses the following motion from the Corporation of the Township of Madawaska Valley:

“ Whereas the cost of hydro has doubled and in some cases more than doubled in the past five years; and

Whereas the costs of electricity in the Province of Ontario is forcing businesses to consider leaving the area; and

Whereas many families are having difficulty keeping up with their monthly payments; and Whereas the Province’s Long Term Energy Plan anticipates that consumers will face hydro rates that will rise by 42% over the next five (5) years; and

Whereas it is essential that the residents and businesses of the Madawaska Valley to have access to affordable hydro to thrive and prosper; and

Whereas Council urges Provincial relief to Ontario Hydro One Customers to reflect the means of rural residents to reasonable access hydro through a review of Provincial policies and their agencies that set Ontario rates for electricity, distribution charges, debt retirement, global adjustments costs and carbon taxes. Council requests, that this review would include consultation with rural and urban municipalities; and

Whereas Council reminds Rural municipalities to advocate the investigation by the Ontario Ombudsman regarding the major systemic issues identified by complaints involving overcharging of hydro, an explanation of line items on billing and, resolve of related matters; and

Whereas it is imperative that the Province of Ontario review their energy policies and utilize The Rural and Northern Lens advocated by the Rural Ontario Municipal Association to evaluate and assess the needs of rural municipalities so that they can succeed and thrive. Many rural municipalities have a population of 50% or more seniors on fixed incomes who are struggling to keep warm in low population density communities with colder temperatures that do not benefit from the heat retention in condominium residences and whom are challenged by geography and climate scales. Our core sectors of economic development in our region, lumber mills and farming, are often under-employed and are subject to rates that are higher than other provinces due to impact of high delivery charges and global adjustment fees (that can be up to 2.5 times higher than the actual hydro used) and threaten the sustainability of families and agro-food sectors in rural Ontario, and

Whereas all municipalities that have a significant amount of citizens moving into the seasonal residences, that they are encouraged to inform those residents to seek relief from seasonal hydro rates through direct communication of such to their electrical utility provider;

Whereas all municipalities should be encouraged to monitor, through specific data categories, smart meter electrical fires and/or smart meter malfunctions that have resulted in explosions, and further to better assess their impact and the potential need of CSA approved meters employing codes and standards used globally by regulators and industry to facilitate safer and more sustainable products.

Now Therefore Be it Resolved That the Township of Madawaska Valley CALL ON Premier Wynne and the Province of Ontario to take immediate action to prevent these and any other rate increase from being implemented; and

That Premier Wynne and the Province of Ontario be encouraged to do something to bring these rates down to a reasonable level and to do so as quickly as possible; and That this motion be circulated to all Ontario municipalities for support.”

CARRIED

The support motion will be copied to Honourable Kathleen Wynne and local MPP Monte McNaughton.

b) OPP Initiatives – Expansion of citizen self- reporting program  
(action: provide link from municipal website)

c) Huron County – Notice of Public Meeting to amend Official Plan  
(action: Receive and File)

d) East Williams Optimist Club – Artificial Ice Surface at Nairn Pavilion  
(action: Deputy Mayor Ropp suggested that a letter of congratulations be sent to the Optimist for a successful first season. Mr. Nickles will be provided a copy of the letter

that was sent to Council)

Recreation/Facilities Manager Scott Nickles indicated that he is currently working with the municipal solicitor on a draft user agreement. He will then have a meeting with the Optimist to review the draft agreement.

e) Mayor Dan Mathieson & Stratford City Council in co-operation with the Stratford Festival – Invitation to Civic Night.

(action: Council direct that all council and staff be extended the invitation which will be at their own cost and arrangements).

MOTION #144/2015

MCLINCHEY/MOIR: That the correspondence package (a-e) with above actions are hereby accepted.

CARRIED

### **13. OTHER BUSINESS**

a) Deferred from April 15, 2015 – YMCA letter of intent to renew contract

Mayor Shipway reported to Council that CAO, Marsha Paley, and himself had a meeting with the YMCA. The YMCA has offered a two year renewal at this time. The “Association Support” is being proposed to remain the same which is \$51,348/year in the contract. The municipal contribution to recreation has been reduced over the last couple of years which is reflective of the increase in the memberships and expansion of programs being utilized.

The Mayor and CAO relayed to the YMCA that they would like more detailed financial statements and budget moving forward in which the YMCA was in agreement with. Also, the municipality would like to receive quarterly activity reports.

It was the consensus of Council that with the recent changes within the local YMCA and the significant improvement to programs being offered that it was appropriate to introduce the following motion:

MOTION #145/2015

MCLINCHEY/NICHOL: That Council direct staff to negotiate a two year renewal contract with the YMCA. A report to Council will be provided



once the negotiations have been finalized.

CARRIED

b) 2015 Draft Budget

Acting Treasurer Debra Jonah then reviewed with Council the changes made since the April 22, 2015 Special Meeting. This included the change in duties within departments for grass cutting, utilizing funds available from reserves for Recreation projects, revenue from library within Shared Services Building, additional expenses to cleaning contract due to the new library lease agreement and transfer from surplus reserve to budget to reduce municipal tax rate to 1.75% over 2014 rate.

CAO Marsha Paley advised that a report will be prepared for Council on provision for using funds from the Wind Project. The first payment representing a portion of 2014 that the project was in operation is currently sitting in a separate reserve account.

A discussion then ensued regarding \$80,000 earmarked for proposed renovations to 218 Parkhill Main Street that is within the 2015 budget. Council indicated that they felt this money should be placed into a reserve until a definitive decision is made as to which building should be upgraded to accommodate the OPP as well as other potential uses of the space.

After careful consideration the following motions were introduced:

MOTION #146/2015

ROPP/NICHOL: That Council adopt the 2015 budget as presented which includes a 1.75% municipal tax rate increase.

CARRIED

MOTION #147/2015

MCLINCHEY/NICHOL: That Council direct staff to obtain 3 or 4 quotes on upgrades to the building at 218 Parkhill Main Street and that a report be prepared for Council after obtaining these quotes for further consideration.

CARRIED

Ms. Paley suggested that arrangements will be made for Council to tour the municipal buildings of 218 Parkhill Main Street and the Carnegie Library which will assist in their consideration of which building may be more feasible to renovate.

Ms. Paley then updated Council on the approval of the RED application which was recently announced. These funds will assist the Municipality in hiring a Consultant on a contract basis to develop an Economic Development Strategy for the Municipality.

Also, a grant was approved through Service Canada to obtain a marketing and branding student on a contract basis.

Mayor Shipway then advised Council that they will need to consider the Water/Sewer Costs and that a report will be prepared for an upcoming meeting.

Councillor Moir then reported that he has had some discussion with parents of students attending NMDHS. There are concerns about the lack of teachers allotted to the school due to enrollment numbers and he has suggested they attend Council. Clerk Jackie Tiedeman advised that a parent representative has been in contact with the Municipality and they will be attending as a delegation at the next council meeting.

Mayor Shipway and Deputy Mayor Ropp both indicated that they are attending a Thames Valley District School Board meeting as a delegation on similar matters through the County.

#### **14. READING OF BY-LAWS**

- a) By-law #25 of 2015 – A By-law to amend Zoning By-law 35 of 2004, as amended (4562 West Corner Drive)
- b) By-law #26 of 2015 – Confirming By-law

MOTION #148/2015

MOIR/CORNELISSEN: That By-laws# 25 and 26 of 2015 be read a first and second time.

CARRIED

MOTION #149/2015

CORNELISSEN/NICHOL: That By-laws # 25 and 26 of 2015 be read a third and final time.

CARRIED

#### **15. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION #150/2015

ROPP/NICHOL: That the meeting adjourn at 10:15 p.m.

---

MAYOR

---

CLERK