

TOWNSHIP OF HOWICK
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 20th, 2010 AT 7:00 P.M.
AT THE HOWICK TOWNSHIP COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MINUTES

Attendance:

Council Members

Max Demaray, Reeve	Andrea Yungblut, Deputy Reeve
Linda Henhoeffer, Councillor	Randy Scott, Councillor
Art Versteeg, Councillor	

Staff

Ronna Lee Johnson, Clerk	Mark Farinha, Treasurer
Wray Wilson, Public Works Co-ordinator	Bill Doig, Fire Chief
Bruce Skillen, Recreation/Facilities Supervisor	

Delegation

Peter King, Fordwich Hall Board

CALL TO ORDER

Reeve Demaray called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

The Reeve noted that if any member wished to declare a pecuniary interest regarding any matter on the agenda, it could be done at this time, when the matter arises, or both. Reeve Demaray noted that he will declare a conflict regarding an item in the accounts.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A copy of draft Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held April 6th, 2010 was circulated in the Council package.

MOTION #106/10

Moved by Yungblut

Seconded by Scott

THAT Howick Township Council hereby approves the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on Tuesday, April 6th, 2010, as circulated.

CARRIED

DELEGATION

Peter King, Fordwich Hall Board

Mr. King was in attendance to advise Council that the Fordwich Hall Board would like to hold a fundraising event in the form of a Street Dance, and asked if Council would allow closure of Old Mill Street for this purpose. The event is planned for Saturday, August 14th. He explained that a tent will be set up on the property at the south end of Old Mill Street, and the licenced area will be fenced, in accordance with LCBO requirements. Set up will allow for passage of emergency vehicles if necessary, and arrangements will be made for vehicle parking. If Council is agreeable to closing the street, more detailed plans for the event will be provided in the future. Mr. King added that it may be necessary for the Board to request a temporary loan from the Township to fund the event. Asked if the property owners on Old Mill Street have been contacted about the event, Mr. King felt that they are "OK" with it.

Council agreed in principle with closing the road, anticipating that the detailed plans will address any matters that might cause concern.

Mr. King thanked Council, and left the meeting at this time (7:11 pm).

TREASURER'S REPORT

Accounts Payable

The list of accounts was circulated in the Council package for review and approval.

At this time Reeve Demaray declared a conflict of interest regarding account #9175 in the amount of \$39.55 payable to his name (reimbursement for expenses for the Firemen "Meet & Greet" event).

MOTION #107/10**Moved by Scott****Seconded by Yungblut**

THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes payment of accounts in the amount of **\$89,946.07** under date April 6, 2010 as cheques #9096 to #9147 inclusive, as presented and discussed at the Regular Council meeting held April 6th, 2010. CARRIED

RECREATION/FACILITIES SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**Howick Community Centre – Winter Season Report**

Supervisor Skillen reported a successful winter season at the arena, with the exception of the compressor problems. Hockey and skating rentals were good, and new rentals were added for broomball. Mr. Skillen expressed concern that next season may see a drop in rentals, as the numbers of participants in hockey and skating are decreasing and the organizations will find it more difficult to cover their costs. Introduction of the HST will be an added burden.

Auditorium Renovations

The renovations are almost complete and Mr. Skillen invited Council and staff to drop in to see the impressive results. He advised that it is necessary to purchase window coverings for the exterior (south facing) and interior (ice surface view) windows, and provided two price quotes for mounted sheer weave roller blinds, which were recommended by the suppliers. Treasurer Farinha confirmed that this would be an eligible cost of this grant-funded project. Council requested that Mr. Skillen obtain one more price quote before a decision is made.

Howick Community Pool

Mr. Skillen reported that he is currently conducting interviews for this year's pool staff, and all of last year's staff have re-applied. He advised that it will be necessary to adjust the pay grid for pool employees due to the recent \$0.70 per hour increase of the minimum wage rate. Council recommended that the lowest entry positions be paid at the new minimum wage rate, and that rates for all other positions be adjusted upward accordingly.

Council thanked Mr. Skillen, who left the meeting at this time (7:30 pm)

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

The following report was circulated in the Council package:

Incident Report to April 14th

April 3rd: Dispatch call to Belmore Line and Howick Turnberry Road – hydro pole on fire. Crew directed traffic away from hydro lines until Hydro One secured the scene (2 hrs).

April 12th: Called to Harriston Road west of Toll Gate Line – farm loader and roadside grass on fire – loader was destroyed (1 hr).

Chief Doig added that on April 15th Howick was called to a barn fire west of Belmore – the first incident in Morris-Turnberry coverage area. Due to confusion at the dispatch centre, the Mildmay Fire Department was called to respond, perhaps because the 911 call came in from a resident across the road in South Bruce. Subsequently, dispatch notified North Huron Fire Department, before finally realizing that the site, which is on the borderline, is actually in the Howick coverage area.

Turnout Gear

Request a resolution authorizing the purchase of 3 sets of fire bunker gear at the price of \$1450.00 per suit from M & L Supply Safe Design. Two other price quotes are at \$1495.00 and \$1525.00. The suits from M & L Supply are the same make as we have now.

MOTION #108/10**Moved by Versteeg****Seconded by Scott**

THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes the purchase of 3 sets of fire bunker gear from M & L Supply at the quoted price of \$1,495.00 per set plus applicable taxes. CARRIED

Purchase of Supplies

I would like to purchase some traffic control flashlights, vests and stop signs, and some safety glasses. As well, I would like to update the first aid supplies that are carried on the truck and the first aid kit in the fire hall. Chief Doig added that the need for some of these safety items was recognized during the response to the hydro pole fire on April 3rd.

Firemen's Breakfast

The Spring Breakfast will be held at the fire hall on Sunday, April 25th, 8:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Equipment Show

There is an Equipment Show on April 29th, 6:00 pm to 9:30 pm at St. Jacobs Fire Hall sponsored by Waterloo Regional Mutual Aid Fire Service Association. Admission is free and the show is open to any Council members who would like to attend. I plan to attend and anyone wishing to do so please contact me before April 29th.

Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs Annual Convention

The Fire Chiefs' Convention will be held May 1st - 5th in Toronto. The Trade Show on Sunday, May 2nd and Monday, May 3rd is open to Councillors – admission is \$20.00. Anyone wishing to attend please contact me before May 1st.

At this time I would ask Council if there is any equipment (ie. jaws of life extraction equipment; rescue truck, etc) that you would like Deputy Chief Edgar or myself to price for Council's consideration? Asked about the availability of used equipment, Chief Doig advised that Fire Departments are upgrading, so there is used extraction equipment for sale, but much of it is old and not suitable for use on the materials now used to construct new vehicles. He noted that it is often possible to get a good deal at the trade show. Council agreed that they should check out the prices of extraction equipment at the show.

Grant Funding

Deputy Chief Edgar is working on information about an equipment grant from the Royal Canadian Legion that we may be eligible for.

Chief Doig advised that the deadline for the application is April 25th, and it may not be possible to put together all the required documentation in time to submit the application for this year, and may wait until next year, when the Association will have more funds to match the grant.

Meet and Greet the Howick Firefighters

The Meet and Greet on April 11th was appreciated by the Howick Firefighters and their families, and they would like to say Thank You.

ADDENDUM

Cell Phone Purchase

Recent experiences have demonstrated the need for the Fire Department to have a cell phone for use while out on a call. Chief Doig noted that private citizens have radio scanners, and there are times when certain information should not be broadcast over the radios.

Council was in agreement, and PWC Wilson volunteered to contact Wightman Telecom to see about adding another phone to the Township's existing account.

Chief Doig left the meeting at this time (7:58 pm).

PUBLIC WORKS CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

The following report as at April 16th and supporting documentation were circulated in the Council package:

ROADS

PUBLIC WORKS STAFF OPERATIONS

- Roadside garbage pickup
- Grading as weather permits
- Retrieving completed on north side of Harriston Road
- Plow equipment is off the graders and the truck

MAINTENANCE GRAVEL

I expect Joe Kerr Ltd. will begin hauling gravel the week of April 26-30. PWC Wilson advised that the start time may now be mid-May.

TREE PLANTING

Tree pickup, delivery and planting are complete. A total of 184 trees were delivered into Howick this year. Approximately 80 of those will be planted on roadsides, and the rest were ordered by residents.

BUILDING

BUILDING PERMIT FEES

There are requirements in the Ontario Building Code Act and regulations in the Building Code for reporting on building permit fees. This Report has to be available as justification for the Township increasing fees. Since this report has not been completed, I am recommending we hold off on a fee increase until the end of the year. This will allow time to prepare the Report, advertise and hold a Public Meeting.

DRAINAGE

TILE DRAIN LOAN APPLICATION

This is an application to tile drain parts of Lot 23, Concession 4. I would recommend this application be approved subject to receiving funding from OMAFRA.

MOTION #109/10

Moved by Versteeg

Seconded by Henhoeffer

THAT Howick Township Council accepts the application for tile drainage loan for drainage work on Lot 23, Concession 4, Township of Howick, with payment of said loan subject to receipt of funding from the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

CARRIED

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

TOWNSHIP OF HOWICK ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

Notices of the Passing of the By-law were mailed out to all agencies on April 14th and the Notice was advertised in the Wingham Paper and the Plus.

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING – Town of Minto

This doesn't appear to effect on plans or policies within Howick Township.

Mr. Wilson will respond to the Town of Minto, advising that Howick Township Council has no concerns or objections regarding the proposed zoning by-law amendment.

LANDFILL

WASTE DIVERSION ONTARIO (WDO)

Information is enclosed regarding the requirement for municipalities to have a recycling strategy/plan.

Mr. Wilson pointed out that *"Municipalities without a recycling strategy/plan will have their annual funding from WDO reduced"*. Workshops are being offered, and Mr. Wilson responded to WDO that he is unable to attend the upcoming sessions listed but would be interested in attending a later session. Meanwhile, he will contact other local municipalities to discuss the requirements.

Discussion ensued about the onerous reporting requirements for accessing the funding when Treasurer Farinha noted that he recently spent many hours completing the 80+ page reporting document for the recycling grant of about \$15,000.00.

OTHER

WROXETER DAM IMPROVEMENT

I met with Steve Jackson and Nathan Garland from MVCA and Andrew Ross on Wednesday regarding this project. Preliminary plans have been prepared and a notice has been sent to MNR regarding approvals. After we hear back from MNR, applications for approvals can be submitted and a tender advertised. If an approval is not required from MNR, work could still proceed this summer. Mr. Wilson added that work must be done within the allowed time frames prescribed by the Ministry.

CLERKS REPORT

The following report as at April 15th and supporting documentation were circulated in the Council package:

MUNICIPAL ELECTION 2010

Nominations Update – No further nominations have been filed to date.

Vote By Mail – I would ask that Council members review the 'Vote by Mail' procedures (copy provided separately, included in 'Information for Candidates' manual) and provide comments or suggestions as to how you feel they might be improved.

EMPLOYMENT POLICY REVIEW

NB – please bring your copy of the Policy, along with the chart of *'Suggested/Requested/Proposed Revisions'* that was provided at last council meeting, for further discussion and decision.

The proposed revisions were reviewed and discussed. Those items approved will be incorporated into the Employment Policy. The Clerk was instructed to quote the reference under the *Highway Traffic Act* that exempts emergency vehicles in the event of road closures, and to get clarification from the Fire Chief regarding the Fire Department's preference on the policies for recognition of service and retirement - to continue with their own established practices, or to follow the Township's policies.

PROPERTY STANDARDS BY-LAW

Enclosed is a copy of information provided by the By-Law Enforcement Officer, which she proposes Howick add to the property Standards By-Law, in an effort to deter those who repeatedly violate the by-law. These added penalty provisions would help to recover some of the costs incurred by these repeat offenders.

Council agreed that the Property Standards By-Law be amended to add the penalty clauses.

ADDENDUM

RESIGNATION OF CLEANING CONTRACTOR

Ms. Lingelbach has advised that she will be terminating her cleaning services at the Howick Library and the Municipal Office as of May 1st, 2010. Council’s direction is requested.

It was decided that an advertisement will be placed in the local newspapers and the next edition of ‘What’s Happening in Howick’ to seek a replacement.

MOTION #110/10 **Moved by Scott** **Seconded by Versteeg**
THAT Howick Township Council hereby directs and authorizes staff to advertise for “Help Wanted” in the local newspapers (Wingham Advance Times; Listowel Banner; Independent Plus) in search of a replacement to perform weekly cleaning duties at the Howick Library and the Howick Municipal Office.
CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING COUNCIL ACTION

Trillium Gift of Life Network – requesting that Council:

- Fly the Gift of Life flag during Nation Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness Week;
- Proclaim April 18th - 25th as “Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Week” and post the proclamation on the website;
- Post a link on the website that will lead to the Gift of Life consent registration form;
- Host a registration drive.

Noted. Action: File

ADDENDA

CORRESPONDENCE (Time Sensitive)

Huron Hospice Volunteer Service

Request to sponsor a special publication promoting the Huron Hospice “Hike for Hospice Palliative Care” being held in Wingham on Sunday, May 2nd.

Noted. Action: File

‘Wind Farms in Huron’ Public Information & Consultation Meeting

Invitation to Municipal Council and Staff to attend a Public Information & Consultation Meeting about Wind Farms, being held at the Holmesville Community Centre on Thurs., April 22nd at 7:00 pm. I have also received information from ‘Wind Concerns Ontario (WCO) entitled ‘What Went Wrong with Ontario’s Energy Policy? – Comparing Spin & Reality’. Anyone planning to attend the Public Meeting may wish to review this related information

Noted. Action: File

Training for Transition Workshop

April 23rd is the final date to register for the ‘Training for Transition’ workshop, a Midwestern Ontario Green Jobs Strategy, being held at University of Guelph May 15-16.

Noted. Action: File

Goderich Municipal Office

Invitation to Municipal Council and Staff to attend the dedication of the newly renovated Goderich Town Hall on Sat., May 1st at 3:00 pm. RSVP requested.

Noted. Action: File

MUNICIPAL RESOLUTIONS

Tecumseh, Town of – petitioning the Province to engage in a consultative manner with municipalities and AMO to discuss, amend and have input into changes that impact municipal water and waste water service provision.

Noted. Action: File

BY-LAWS

By-Law No. 09-2010 - To Adopt Estimates and Establish Municipal Tax Rates for 2010

MOTION #111/10 **Moved by Scott** **Seconded by Henhoeffler**
THAT Howick Township Council gives first, second, and third and final reading to By-Law No. 09-2010, being a by-law to adopt estimates of sums required and establish municipal tax rates for the year 2010.
CARRIED

By-Law No. 10-2010 - To Adopt Estimates and Establish Village Tax Rates for 2010

MOTION #112/10

Moved by Scott

Seconded by Yungblut

THAT Howick Township Council gives first, second, and third and final reading to By-Law No. 10-2010, being a by-law to adopt estimates of sums required and establish village tax rates for the year 2010.

CARRIED

By-Law No. 11-2010 - To Appoint Members to Municipal Boards & Committees for 2010

MOTION #113/10

Moved by Yungblut

Seconded by Versteeg

THAT Howick Township Council gives first, second, and third and final reading to By-Law No. 11-2010, being a by-law to appoint members to municipal Boards and Committees for the year 2010. CARRIED

CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

- Minutes of the closed session held April 6th, 2010
- By-Law Enforcement Officer's Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Belmore Community Centre Board

Councillor Scott reported from the April 19th Board meeting:

- The walk-in cooler has now been repaired, due to motor burn out caused by a hydro outage.
- The ice plant was shut down on March 18th
- Next season the ice will go in mid-October and will be shut down mid-March
- The floor in the auditorium will be refinished – cost will be about \$1400.00
- March accounts amounted to \$4418.95
- Rates for rentals will not be changed until after introduction of the HST
- The ladies have conferred with the Howick Fire Chief regarding installation of new stoves
- Don Eadie is looking into solar energy to offset costs.

Coalition for Huron Injury Prevention (CHIP)

Councillor Henhoeffler reported from the April 14th Committee meeting:

- The Committee has been focusing on the Safe Driving for Seniors workshops to be presented this spring and fall
- One of the sessions will be held October 6th in Fordwich in conjunction with the Seniors meeting
- Presentations will be given by John Warkentin of MTO and Joanna VanMierlo of OPP
- The electronic speed sign will soon be out and around the County
- A 'Falls Prevention' workshop will be held in Stratford on June 4th. Councillor Henhoeffler expressed interest in attending and asked Howick Council to consider paying the registration fee of \$50.00.

MOTION #114/10

Moved by Yungblut

Seconded by Scott

THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes payment of \$50.00 registration fee for Councillor Henhoeffler to attend the "Falls Prevention by Design" workshop being held in Stratford on June 4, 2010

CARRIED

County of Huron

Reeve Demaray reported from the April 7th Council meeting:

- Council voted to increase the compensation paid for coyotes to \$100.00
- A motion favouring a County-wide Fire Department was defeated
- MPP Carol Mitchell announced the award of grant funding for installation of solar panels in the County
- An application was given approval for severance of land for a new elementary school in the Wingham area
- A special planning meeting is scheduled for May 3rd in Clinton to discuss rural residential severances

Huron Bruce Transit

Councillor Scott reported:

- Administrator Michie of Morris-Turnberry is attempting to arrange a meeting with the Hanover/Saugeen Transit Group to get information about independent operation of transit system.
- Will discuss with MTO possible future uses of the balance of capital funds remaining

Huron County Farm and Home Safety

Councillor Versteeg reported:

- The Agriculture & Water Festival, held in Seaforth April 7th & 8th was very well attended.
- Councillor Versteeg did a presentation on lawnmower safety.

Maitland Economic Development Committee

Reeve Demaray and Councillor Scott reported:

- The Committee is looking into making a promotional video
- Ms. Goodall is getting information re. prices for producing a brochure for Howick

Maitland Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA)

Councillor Versteeg reported from the last Board meeting:

- The Board is weighing options with regard to replacement of the septic system at Falls Reserve, after receiving a price quote of \$150,000. to replace the failing system.

Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA) - no report

MVCA Source Water Protection (SWP) - no report

SVCA Source Water Protection - no report

COUNCILLORS ISSUES

Spencetown Road

PWC Wilson was asked when construction work will begin on Spencetown Road. He advised that he is awaiting the engineering work.

Sunday Hunting

The burgeoning coyote population in the area has prompted requests to permit Sunday hunting to assist in controlling the numbers. Howick is the only Township in Huron County that does not currently allow Sunday hunting since Morris Turnberry passed a resolution at their last Council meeting to permit it.

Having been asked about this prior to the meeting, Clerk Johnson contacted the local Ministry of Natural Resources office for guidance on the requirements and process for making the change, and was advised that the Ministry amends the regulation in September each year to add any municipalities that choose to allow Sunday gun hunting. Council must pass a resolution to that effect, and forward it to the Ministry no later than June 15th in order to be included this September.

Council was in agreement that coyotes have become a problem, and that allowing Sunday hunting may help to control the population. The Clerk was instructed to prepare the required resolution for next Council meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

MOTION #115/10	Moved by Scott	Seconded by Versteeg
THAT Howick Township Council at this time (10:03 pm) closes this portion of the April 20th, 2010 Regular Meeting of Howick Township Council in accordance with the <i>Municipal Act, 2001, Section 239 (2) (b), (e)</i> , to deal with personal and potential legal matters.		
		CARRIED

Matters dealt with in closed session:

- Minutes of Closed Session held April 6th, 2010. (Approved by **Motion #116/10**)
- By-Law Enforcement Officer's Report

MOTION #117/10	Moved by Scott	Seconded by Versteeg
THAT Howick Township Council now re-opens the April 20th, 2010 Regular Council meeting to the public at this time (10:11 pm).		
		CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE (FOR INFORMATION ONLY) (copies attached) - none

CORRESPONDENCE forwarded via E-Mail (April 2 - 15, 2010) (No copies attached)

a) **Association of Municipalities of Ontario**

- AMO Watch File – April 8, 2010
 - What is on the mind of Ontarians in the upcoming municipal election?
 - Two new Bills introduced that impact municipalities.
 - *Workplace Violence and Harassment: Understanding the Law* - a plain language guide.
 - LAS Energy Performance Benchmark *Best in Class* winners announced.

- Save on your personal home/auto insurance with LAS
- Is your municipality succession savvy?
- Career/Employment opportunities with the Town of Aurora and DNSSAB
- **AMO Watch File – April 15, 2010**
 - Guest columnist Michael Fenn on the appeal and challenges of running for council.
 - AMO's joint and several liability paper.
 - New Bill introduced that impacts municipalities.
 - AMO receives \$295.1 million.
 - AMO offering media/communications training in Northern & Eastern Ontario.
 - Council Resolution regarding *Private Members Bill 13*.
 - Links to full text articles below
- **AMO Events** – 2010 Urban Symposium April 15-16 in Hamilton
- **AMO News** – Report to Members on March Board Meeting

b) Huron OPP

- Information about driving ATV's on roadways
- Information about how to prevent being a victim of fraudsters
- OPP provincial Seatbelt Enforcement Campaign April 14 – 24
- Penalty for not wearing seat belt - \$235.00 plus 2 demerit points

c) Huron Manufacturing & Trades – 5th Annual Demonstration Day, July 3rd at Morrison Dam CA

d) Huron Business Development Corp (HBDC)

- HBDC and Huron Economic Development Services provide funding to explore potential of Artisanal Cheese Industry in Huron County

e) Huron Tourism Association (HTA)

- Little Inn of Bayfield presents 'Wine & Dine: New Zealand' on April 10th
- The Livery, Goderich 'Spring Fling' Film Fest Weekend, April 9th & 10th
- Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation annual Dinner & Auction in Exeter April 15th
- Pianovations Music Centre, Blyth, April "No Tax" sale on in-stock pianos and guitars
- Precision Print, Goderich, printing promotion – 15% off brochures until end of April
- Duff's United Church in Walton presenting a fashion show "50 Years of Walking Down the Aisle" Saturday, April 24th at 1:30 pm. Tickets \$25.00 - proceeds to the church
- Hessenland County Inn presents 9th annual Wedding & Event Fair on April 24th & 25th
- Town of Goderich requests signatures on petition to support application for licence filed by Aboutown North Link to provide bus service to/from Goderich.
- Little Inn of Bayfield: Schedule of upcoming events during May & June; List of "Learning Vacations" scheduled for 2010.
- Goderich Communities in Bloom Spring Garden Symposium at Goderich District Collegiate on Sat., April 17th. \$20.00 admission.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #118/10

Moved by Versteeg

Seconded by Henhoeffter

THAT Howick Township Council now adjourns the April 20th, 2010 Regular Meeting of Howick Township Council at 10:12 pm, with Council to meet again at the Regular Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 4th, 2010 at 7:00 p.m., or at the call of the Chair.

CARRIED

REEVE

CLERK