

TOWNSHIP OF HOWICK
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 15th, 2010 AT 7:00 P.M.
AT THE HOWICK TOWNSHIP COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MINUTES

Attendance:

Council Members

Max Demaray, Reeve	Andrea Yungblut, Deputy Reeve
Linda Henhoeffler, 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 (late arrival – 8:44 pm)

Delegations

1. Community Connections/211 Central East Ontario - Alice Grottoli, Communications Co-ordinator; Ellen Balmain, Executive Director, Huron Perth United Way (arrived at 7:30 pm)
2. Huron County Mandatory Septic Inspection Program - Susanna Reid, Planner; Larry Fulton, Huron County Health Unit; Bert Dykstra, Warden; Larry Adams, Chief Administrative Officer
3. Fordwich Hall Board - Peter King (arrived at 8:15 pm)

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.
None declared at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A copy of draft Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held June 1st, 2010 was circulated in the Council package.

MOTION #166/10	Moved by Scott	Seconded by Yungblut
THAT Howick Township Council hereby approves the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on Tuesday, June 1st, 2010, as circulated.		CARRIED

DELEGATIONS

1. **Community Connections / 211 Central East Ontario**

Alice Grottoli, Communications Co-ordinator for the 211 service, thanked Council for the opportunity to bring information about the 211 system implemented in Huron and Perth Counties with the official launch last week, which was achieved earlier than anticipated.

Ms. Grottoli gave an overview of what the service is and who uses it, as follows:

- 211 is a free source of public information helping people to find connections to community, social, health and government services.
- 211 is the easy-to-remember phone number which is answered live by trained information specialists 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- 211 is a single point of access for finding non-emergency services
- Used by families, professionals, businesses, community agencies, people with language, poverty or personal barriers
- Service is confidential and multi-lingual
- 211 Counselors are trained to get the appropriate information from callers to learn what they need and how to help
- 211 has a comprehensive data base of programs and services, which is frequently updated because services and agencies are continually changing
- If a caller has difficulty connecting with 211, there is also a 1-800 number available
- 211 is also available on line at 211Ontario.ca

- Huron Perth United Way is collecting local information and data, and working to build a Province-wide data base of information
- There are 8 regional call centers in Ontario, providing access to over 57% of people
- 24 additional communities will be added during the next year
- The Central East Region is comprised of 11 districts which are covered from Collingwood
- 211 collects and records comprehensive data on service providers, callers needs, etc. to help identify where there are gaps in services (ie. need for transportation services in rural areas for medical appointments, etc.)

Responding to questions, Ms. Grottoli provided the following additional clarification and comments:

- The Ministry of Community and Social Services has provided 4 years of funding to implement the service. Eventually, ongoing support will come from multi-levels including Federal, Provincial, Municipal and other sources.
- At present, this region has 4 staff for handling calls, and 2.5 staff for data collection and recording. United Way does data collection for the Huron Perth area.
- This is not a duplication of “Service Ontario” which deals with Provincial programs only, but 211 can provide and clarify Service Ontario information for their callers.
- This service will deflect unnecessary and inappropriate 911 calls
- A special data base can be set up to assist during emergency situations and with follow-up
- A local caller has access to information anywhere in Ontario
- The service will alleviate time spent on calls to local municipal offices for information. Callers can now be referred to 211.

Reeve Demaray thanked Ms. Grottoli, who left the meeting at this time (7:30 pm)

Ellen Balmain of Huron Perth United Way introduced herself, and offered her apologies for arriving late (7:30 pm). She distributed copies to all of the ‘*United Way of Perth-Huron Reports Back 2009/2010*’ annual report, and thanked Council for giving them the opportunity to speak about the 211 service. Ms. Balmain left the meeting at this time.

2. Huron County Mandatory Septic System Maintenance Inspection Program

Reeve Demaray welcomed Huron County Warden Bert Dykstra, CAO Larry Adams, Planner Susanna Reid and Larry Fulton from the Huron County Health Unit. Ms. Reid distributed copies to all of a Report outlining the program and requesting that Howick Council consider implementing the Program in Howick.

Ms. Reid lead Council through a power point presentation explaining why the program was devised, noting that the initial suggestion came from lakeshore communities, seeing it as a way to prevent surface, ground and lake water pollution caused by faulty septic systems. A voluntary inspection program conducted in 2005-2007 indicated an interest and need for such a program. In September, 2009 the Huron County ‘Water Protection Steering Committee’ (WPSC) made the recommendation for the mandatory inspection program to Huron County Council, and Council approved the “User Pay” program model in March, 2010. Since that time, presentations to the local municipal Councils have been ongoing, and the local Councils are then expected to bring a decision to County Council about their participation in the program. Ms. Reid explained that if a municipality elects to participate in the program, the owner of each property that undergoes a septic inspection would receive an information package containing the following:

- an aerial photo of the property
- a copy of the completed report
- a copy of the sewage system permit
- septic system maintenance tips
- an owner’s maintenance log

Under the “User Pay” model, the municipality would determine which *program rotation* is preferred – 7-year cycle or 12-year cycle – meaning that each property with a septic system would be inspected every 7 years or 12 years. Under the 7-year cycle, property owners would pay \$46.00 (7 x \$46.00 = \$322.00) per year through a levy on the tax bill. Owners under the 12-year cycle would pay \$27.00 per year (12 x \$27.00 = \$324.00). These charges are based on an estimated program delivery cost of \$322.00 per inspection. The following process would be used to deliver the program to a participating municipality:

- Community Demonstration
- Letters to property owners
- Site visit by Health Unit staff = provides Education Package and determines if pump-out is required
- Follow-up on properties with problems
- Record of septic systems added to the Health Unit records.

Ms. Reid noted that this presentation has been given to six other Huron municipalities, and that four of those have indicated their “approval in principle”, and two have not approved the program.

Subsequent questions and discussion brought out the following issues:

- Clarified that the annual levy added to taxes pays for the Health Unit inspection only – if it is found that pumping and/or repairs are required, the property owner pays that cost extra.
- The owners of newly-constructed septic systems, and those who voluntarily maintain their systems would be required to pay the annual levy.
- Appears to be a “money grab” for the County.
- There is little or no financial assistance available for low income families who may be forced to replace their septic system.
- Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation may be a source of financial assistance.
- The program is not intended to “force” anyone to replace – it is meant to be “educational”.
- A malfunctioning system is a health issue – the owner would be required to replace it.
- A failed septic system could impact the water supply, therefore, it must be restored.
- Concern expressed that low-income families are “forced” to pay the annual fee, plus the costs of repairs or replacement.
- Funding is available in some areas where septic systems are situated in municipal well recharge areas.
- Howick does not have municipal water systems, therefore, residents would not be eligible for such assistance.
- The annual levy is based on an “estimated” budget cost per inspection of \$322.00. Will Health Unit costs not increase - ie. more staff will need to be hired? What will the projected costs be 12 years from now?
- There is a shortage of septic system contractors, and It is difficult now for them to dispose of the material. Anticipate these costs will escalate with the increased demand for services.
- Co-ordinating the areas to be inspected should result in cost-savings.
- We must protect the ground water, and the program is designed to educate and assist owners to properly maintain their system
- Visual inspection will be carried out on ‘Class 2’ septic systems to ensure they are working properly. These systems should be upgraded to a “modified” Class 4 type.
- In a landlord/tenant situation, the owner must pay the annual levy on his tax bill.
- Large systems (ie over 10,000 litres) are not under Health Unit jurisdiction, and will not be included in the inspection program.

Huron County CAO Larry Adams expressed an opinion that mandatory inspection may be legislated under the Building Code Act in the future, and that Huron County is taking a “pro-active approach” in looking after its water resources. If your neighbour does not maintain his septic system, it affects you. Probably 96% of owners are good stewards, but it’s the other 4% that cause the need for the program. If there is an issue or risk, it is a threat to all. The County is not planning to establish a loan program [to assist with costs of repairs/replacement], but has asked the Province to make funding available. Since Howick Township is totally reliant on septic systems, he is hopeful that all parties will work together to implement the program in Howick. Protection of ground water is everyone’s problem.

Reeve Demaray thanked Warden Dykstra, CAO Adams, Ms. Reid and Mr. Fulton, and the members of the delegation left the meeting at this time (8:15 pm).

NB: See COUNCILLORS’ ISSUES for discussion, decision and direction re. above matter

3. Fordwich Hall Board

Peter King, speaking on behalf of the Hall Board, lodged a request that the Township provide financing in the form of a temporary loan to assist the Board with a fundraising venture – a Street Party and Dance to be held on Old Mill Street in the Village on Saturday, August 14th. They would require use of the funds prior to the event to pay the associated costs, and would repay the loan immediately thereafter.

He noted that donations are being received, and the Board does have some money in the bank, but they prefer not to drain their operating resources. They are simply seeking to ensure that sufficient funds are available to cover the costs of the event.

Council was agreeable to assist the Board with this venture.

MOTION #167/10

Moved by Versteeg

Seconded by Scott

THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes that the amount of \$10,000.00 be advanced to the Fordwich Hall Board to fund the Street Dance fundraising event being held on Aug. 14th, said loan to be repaid within 3 weeks after the event.

CARRIED

The following report was circulated in the Council package:

Pool Staff Wages

Recommendation to hire the following pool staff at the listed wage rates.

MOTION #168/10	Moved by Versteeg	Seconded by Henhoeffter	
THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes the Recreation/Facilities Supervisor to employ the following staff for the Howick Community Pool for the 2010 summer season at the pay rates listed on Schedule 'A' attached hereto:			
	Caitlin Edgar	- Head Guard	
	Graham Scholl	- Assistant Head Guard	
	Mitch Shaw	- Instructor/Guard	
	Jenna Strong	- Instructor/Guard	
	Juliana Bramhill	- Instructor/Guard	
	Ivory VanVeen	- Instructor/Guard	
			CARRIED

Howick Community Centre Roof Painting

The following price estimates were provided:

Barn Painting Plus	\$12,500.00
Carl Noble	\$18,000.00
All Ontario Factory Coatings	\$28,670.00

Mr. Skillen noted that the prices vary because there are variations in the work, materials and warranties quoted (ie. epoxy or urethane enamel; 3-year or 5-7 year warranty). The purpose of obtaining the quotes was to give a general comparison between painting versus the Astec Re-Ply coating system previously demonstrated, which is more than twice as costly as the most expensive painting quote.

Council instructed that tender documents, specifying required work and materials, be prepared to call tenders for cleaning and painting the roof.

ADDENDA

Howick Community Pool

Mr. Skillen noted that the pool is now open, the Health Unit inspection was completed, and lessons started today. Registrations are higher than last year.

Cruise Night – Second Event

The second Cruise Night was as successful as the first, with 97 vehicle on display, and another good crowd for roller skating.

Benefit Dance for Ryan Gallaher

Mr. Skillen advised that he was contacted by a friend of the Gallaher family about booking the arena for July 30th to hold a benefit dance for Ryan Gallaher, who was seriously injured recently in an accident in Viet Nam. He is presently in hospital in Thailand, and they are trying to raise funds to help the family with the exorbitant costs of transferring him to Canada. Mr. Skillen requested permission to donate the use of the facility.

MOTION #169/10	Moved by Scott	Seconded by Yungblut	
THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes the Recreation/Facilities Supervisor to provide free use of the ice surface at Howick Community Centre for a benefit event to assist with expenses for Ryan Gallaher who was injured in an accident overseas.			
			CARRIED

TREASURER’S REPORT

The following report and supporting documentation were circulated in the Council package:

Letter to Wroxeter Hall Board

Would Council consider converting this letter to a media release and forwarding it to the "What's Happening Newsletter" for publication. The attached schedule of outstanding loans made to various Halls, Parks and Cemeteries could be incorporated into the release to demonstrate Howick's commitment to ALL its Community Centers and other facilities.

MOTION #170/10	Moved by Scott	Seconded by Henhoeffter	
THAT Howick Township Council hereby instructs and authorizes the Treasurer to submit a Press Release to the 'What's Happening in Howick' newsletter, a letter indicating Howick Council's support for the local community facilities.			
			CARRIED

Reeve Demaray advised that the Wroxeter Hall Board was happy with the letter he delivered.

The Fish Fry sponsored by the Board last week was sold out. Work is progressing today to install the electronic sign. Responding to Councillor Scott's query, Treasurer Farinha advised that there has been no further information regarding the Hall Board's financial reporting.

Employee's Benefits Insurance- Change of Consultants

Now that the County has approved changing the insurance benefits consultant, we need to send a letter to Donnelly Management Advisory Services. The attached letter sent by Huron County could serve as a template.

MOTION #171/10

Moved by Yungblut

Seconded by Versteeg

THAT Howick Township Council hereby instructs the Treasurer to submit a letter to Donnelly Management Advisory Services confirming the appointment of that firm as Howick Township's Consultant and Agent of Record with respect to the Township's Group Insurance policy with Sun Life. CARRIED

Current Value Assessment and the Mitigation "Tools"

Current Value Assessment was introduced in 1998. In general, the purpose was to have all properties in Ontario valued at market and use that value to calculate taxes. At that time, many properties were assessed at values far below their market worth. As a result the implementation of this CVA caused huge assessment increases, and thus huge tax increases in 1998 versus 1997 taxes.

To avoid these sudden large tax increases the Province created mitigation tools e.g Capping and Phase In of assessment values. In reality, these tools negated the concept of current value assessment by spreading assessment increases over many years. These tools, besides being administratively and technically burdensome and expensive, were to be eliminated once a property attained full assessment value.

Capping assessment values was to be terminated in 2003. Instead it is still used. The Phase In tool, when introduced in 1998 was used by few Municipalities as it was virtually unmanageable. The Province has since made use of this tool mandatory.

Twelve years have passed since current value assessments were implemented by the Province. It is my opinion that this is more than enough time to have brought properties to full assessment values. It is time to scrap these "tools" altogether as they have served their purpose.

Capping and Phase In consumes large amounts of Provincial, MPAC and Municipal people and computer resources. The calculations are difficult if not impossible to explain to taxpayers and Council. These tools have also spawned another set of consultants with the time and expertise to unravel the mysteries of the tool's functions.

Municipalities need to get together and lobby AMO and the Minister of MMAH to terminate the use of these techniques. It is time for taxes to be based on Current Values and not some mathematical version thereof.

Howick should take the lead in this regard and send a resolution out to AMO and the Minister urging them to scrap these tools. Resources saved can be better used.

MOTION #172/10

Moved by Yungblut

Seconded by Scott

WHEREAS Current Value Assessment (CVA) was introduced in 1998, at a time when many properties were assessed at values far below their market worth, the purpose being to have all properties in Ontario valued at market and to use that value to calculate taxes. As a result, the implementation of CVA caused huge assessment increases, and thus huge tax increases in 1998 versus 1997 taxes; AND WHEREAS in order to avoid these sudden large tax increases, the Province created mitigation tools such as Capping and Phase-In of assessment values. However, in reality, these tools negated the concept of current value assessment by spreading assessment increases over many years. These tools, besides being administratively and technically burdensome and expensive, were to be eliminated once a property attained full assessment value;

AND WHEREAS capping assessment values was to be terminated in 2003, but it is still being used.

The Phase-In tool, when introduced in 1998 was used by few Municipalities as it was virtually unmanageable. The Province has since made use of this tool mandatory;

AND WHEREAS twelve years have passed since current value assessments were implemented by the Province, which is more than enough time to have brought properties to full assessment values, it is therefore, time to scrap these "tools" altogether as they have served their purpose. It is time for property taxes to be based on Current Values and not some mathematical version thereof;

AND WHEREAS Capping and Phase-In processes consume large amounts of Provincial, MPAC and Municipal people and computer resources, and the calculations are difficult if not impossible to explain to taxpayers and Council, and these tools have also spawned another set of consultants with the time and expertise to unravel the mysteries of the tool's functions, and these resources saved can be better used;

NOW THEREFORE HOWICK TOWNSHIP COUNCIL resolves to lobby the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to terminate the use of the Capping and Phase-In tools applicable to property assessment valuation;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for distribution to all Ontario Municipalities, as well as the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Huron Bruce MP Ben Lobb, and Huron Bruce MPP Carol Mitchell. CARRIED

Assessment Revisions from MPAC

The attached assessments need to be approved by Council for processing. The net increase is \$1.8 M

MOTION #173/10	Moved by Henhoeffler	Seconded by Scott	
THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes the Treasurer to apply revisions to the assessment of, and process property tax adjustments for the affected properties, as listed on Schedule 'A' attached hereto, said schedule reflecting amended property assessments as follows:			
	<u>Reductions</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Net Assessment</u>
For the Year 2007	\$ 34,000.	0	- \$ 34,000.
For the Year 2008	\$ 7,460.	0	- \$ 7,460.
For the Year 2009	\$ 47,625.	\$ 852,401.	+ \$ 804,776.
For the Year 2010	<u>\$1,132,067.</u>	<u>\$2,137,697.</u>	<u>+ \$ 1,005,630.</u>
Total Assessment Revision	\$1,221,152.	\$2,990,098.	+ \$ 1,768,946
			CARRIED

Accounts Payable

The attached accounts are for Council's review and approval.

MOTION #174/10	Moved by Versteeg	Seconded by Scott
THAT Howick Township Council authorizes payment of accounts in the amount of \$676,279.71 under date June 15, 2010 as cheques #9330 to #9385 inclusive, as presented and discussed at the Regular Council Meeting held June 15th, 2010. CARRIED		

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

The following report was circulated in the Council package:

Incident Report

Nor fires or emergencies for period June 1st to June 11th, 2010.

Firefighter Training

Training for May and June is victim rescue from a burning building. An old house is being used for these training practices.

Firefighter Salaries

A copy of the salary scale is included for Council to approve.

MOTION #175/10	Moved by Scott	Seconded by Versteeg
THAT Howick Township Council hereby approves and authorizes the recommended pay rates for Howick Fire Department personnel as listed on Schedule 'A' attached hereto. CARRIED		

Pumper Test

I have checked on the charge for a yearly pump test for the pumper truck, and the cost from C-Max Transportation of St. Jacobs is \$230.00 if the pumper is taken to St. Jacobs, \$390.00 if done here. Also a large amount of water supply would be needed to perform this test.

Longley Enterprises charges \$350.00 for the test and an additional travel charge depending on the number of pumpers he has to test at this time. If he tests 6 units, the travel cost is divided 6 ways. Longley has tested the pumper in past years and the truck has been taken to Whitechurch for the test.

Minto Fire Department has told me when our pumper is out of service (eg for the pump test) they would loan us a pumper for this period of time (most likely half a day at Whitechurch and a whole day at St. Jacobs).

Any additional repairs or maintenance would be extra (eg pump bypass system needs to be checked on this pumper – sometimes does not work properly.)

MOTION #176/10	Moved by Versteeg	Seconded by Scott
THAT Howick Township Council hereby instructs and authorizes the Fire Chief to take the pumper truck to C-Max Transportation in St. Jacobs to have the required annual pump test performed at the quoted price of \$230.00 plus applicable taxes, and to have other repairs completed as required. CARRIED		

Oxygen Fill Station

Minto Fire Dept. has an oxygen fill station for sale in approximately 6 to 8 weeks. They are offering to sell their old one to Howick for \$5,000.00. This could be purchased half this year and the other half next year. There would be an installation charge of \$1,000.00 plus any electrical services that would be needed. Minto Fire Dept. has been filling our oxygen bottles free of charge so far.

Chief Doig added that 21 bottles needed to be filled after the fire at Creamery Road, and it would usually cost \$8.00-\$10.00 per bottle. The new fill station for Wingham cost about \$10,000.00, so this is a good opportunity to purchase. It would be cost-effective and convenient to have the fill station in Gorrie (we will not continue to get free refills), and it will save the time and travel of having to take the bottles for refill after an incident to ensure they are ready for the next call (especially beneficial in winter). There are some hazards associated with operating the fill station – possibility of explosion, special training is necessary to operate it, and it must be checked annually. The unit (compressor tank and cabinet for bottles) is fairly large and it may be difficult to find space for it.

Council generally agreed that we should take advantage of the opportunity. Chief Doig noted that we still have some time to think about it, and he will bring it back again for discussion. It was suggested that, for future financial planning, Chief Doig work with Treasurer Farinha to develop a Capital Budget listing equipment needed.

Cruise Night

Firefighters were at Cruise Night on June 11th to hand out Fire Prevention, Smoke Alarm and Wood Stove materials.

Fire Advisor

Thom Evered, Fire Protection Advisor (replaced Jamie Zimmerman) will be at the Fire Dept. on June 25th regarding Fire Inspections and Fire Prevention, at my request. We will be touring the Nursing Home as well.

Bunker Suits

The 3 new bunker gear should be here next week.

Meet with Council

I have asked Council to meet with the firefighters on June 22 at 8:00 pm at the fire hall. This will be a tour and information meeting for Council to view equipment and the fire hall, and a question and answer period for Council and the firefighters. Is this okay with Council? Councillors plan to attend.

ADDENDA

Firefighter Competition

Chief Doig proudly reported that 7 Howick Firefighters participated, along with five other local fire departments, in competitions at the recent Wingham Muskrat Festival, and brought home the championship trophy. Chief Doig will ensure the information is publicized in local papers and the "What's Happening in Howick" newsletter.

Cleaning Duties at Howick Library

Chief Doig advised he has found that the prescribed two and a half hours is insufficient time to complete all cleaning tasks at the library – it is taking about four hours. Council agreed that he should take the necessary time to do a proper job.

Dispatch Services

Chief Doig reported that he attended a meeting at the Mildmay Fire Hall earlier this evening, where discussion took place with the Deputy Fire Chief from Guelph about using their dispatch service. Alternatives are being explored due to uncertainty that Hanover will continue to provide the service.

Chief Doig left the meeting at this time (9:25 pm).

PUBLIC WORKS CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

The following report as at June 11th and supporting documentation were circulated in the Council package:

ROADS

PUBLIC WORKS STAFF OPERATIONS

- Calcium application – should be finished by June 16th
- First round of grass/weed cutting will begin next week – started today
- Cleanup of shop and yard for open house

LANDFILL

TIRE RECYCLING

I sent a claim in to Ontario Tire Stewardship for the 150 tires shipped out between January 1st and March 31st this year. We should receive a cheque for \$457.50 within the next month or so.

OTHER

WROXETER DAM IMPROVEMENT

Tenders will be received at this office on June 14th at 2:00 p.m. They will be opened and a report will be available for Council consideration and a decision on the June 15th.

The following report was provided:

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>OPTION 'A'</u> <i>(natural clay)</i>	<u>OPTION 'B'</u> <i>(geo-synthetic clay)</i>	
Hanna & Hamilton Construction	76,064.82	91,862.22	
Lloyd Collins Construction	91,974.09	103,511.38	
Moorefield Excavating Ltd	149,937.68		
Owen King Limited	116,079.25	135,859.90	
The Murray Group	271,514.92	261,081.43	
VanDriel Excavating Ltd	85,297.38	107,729.23	

MOTION #177/10 **Moved by Yungblut** **Seconded by Henhoeffer**
 THAT Howick Township Council hereby accepts the tender for the Wroxeter Riverbank Repair Project from the firm of Hanna & Hamilton Construction at the quoted price of \$76,064.82 and authorizes the Reeve and the Public Works Co-ordinator to sign the contract documents on behalf of the Corporation. **CARRIED**

ADDENDUM

Cost-sharing - Wroxeter Riverbank Repair

It was suggested that Council discuss at this time, arrangements for sharing the costs of the project. Reeve Demaray, Deputy Reeve Yungblut and Councillor Scott declared that the Township should pay the full cost. Being the majority vote, Reeve Demaray accepted this as the decision of Council.

CLERKS REPORT

The following report as at June 11th and supporting documentation were circulated in the Council package:

MUNICIPAL ELECTION 2010

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

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Huron County Emergency Management Services will be holding an 'Exercise Briefing and Online Conference Training' session on Thurs., June 17th in Goderich, in preparation for the County Emergency Exercise will be held Wednesday, June 23rd at the Health Unit, Clinton from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Chief Doig and I plan to attend this briefing session.

Bill 168 – WORKPLACE VIOLENCE AND HARASSMENT POLICIES

Enclosed are the proposed Policies as required under Bill 168. By-Laws have also been drafted to adopt these Policies. This is just step 1. We are required to perform comprehensive surveys on each workplace location to assess risks and hazards of violence, and identify controls and measures to mitigate or remove the risks. This will then enable creation of the programs to implement the adopted Policies, and conduct the required training of workers. All of this is a "work in progress".

PROPERTY STANDARDS

Proposed "Clean Yards" By-Law and Revisions to "Property Standards" By-Law

Enclosed are comments from the By-Law Enforcement Officer regarding the above-noted

by-laws, for your review and discussion. Please bring your suggestions and comments as well, so that all desired revisions and corrections can be identified and decided upon. PWC Wilson suggested that a definition for “yard” be included in Part 1, to clarify that “publicly owned lands” are excluded. No further amendments were noted. Clerk Johnson will discuss with the By-Law Enforcement Officer his suggestions for amendments, and the by-law will be prepared for adoption at the July Council meeting.

RETIREMENT OF CLERK

Attached is a draft of an advertisement for the Clerk’s position. Direction is requested as to where Council would like this posted (ie. AMCTO Express; Municipal World MXtra; local news)

MOTION #178/10	Moved by Scott	Seconded by Yungblut
THAT Howick Township Council hereby instructs and authorizes the Clerk to circulate an advertisement seeking to fill the position of Clerk in the following venues: AMCTO Express; Wingham Advance-Times; Listowel Banner; Independent Plus.		
		CARRIED

HOWICK HISTORY BOOK DONATIONS

As it has been Council’s tradition for several years, we have arranged to issue Gift Certificates to the Howick Central School graduates. Could we have authorization to donate a set of Howick History Books to the 29 graduates for 2010.

MOTION #179/10	Moved by Scott	Seconded by Versteeg
THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes the donation of one set of ‘Lines of Howick’ History Books to each of the twenty-nine 2010 graduating students at Howick Central School.		
		CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING COUNCIL ACTION

- 1. Ministry of Natural Resources** – acknowledging receipt of our resolution concerning Sunday Gun Hunting.
Clerk Johnson noted the error in the letter referring to the Township of “Havelock”, and advised that she contacted Mr. Martin to ensure that his information was correct. He has confirmed that he meant to say “Howick”.
- 2. Mike Pullen, Huron Senior Economic Development Officer** – confirming the date of the meeting in Howick with the Economic Development Consultants as **Tuesday, June 29th, 3:30 – 5:30 pm**. Clerk Johnson advised that she will be attending a DataWorks election workshop that afternoon at Ashfield/Colborne/Wawanosh.
- 3. County of Huron** – information about the ‘Recognition of Police Officer / Paramedic / Fire Fighter of the Year’ program. Chiefs of the respective services are asked to submit their recommendations in writing by August each year.
The information will be passed on to Chief Doig.
- 4. City of Kawartha Lakes** – information about the legal ruling concerning an oil spill at a private residence in their municipality, for which the City was served an order by the Ministry of Environment. Although it was agreed that the City was innocent, and not the polluter, none the less, they have been ordered to perform the remediation, and then attempt to recover the costs from the owner. Costs to appeal the ruling are significant, and they are seeking financial assistance from other municipalities. Noted. Action: File
- 5. Town of Goderich** – invitation to Council and senior administrative staff to attend the ‘Dave Gower Memorial Golf Tournament on Friday, June 25th’. Registration form available. Noted. Action: File
- 6. Wroxeter Park Board** - requesting ‘Community Festival’ designation for 2 events: Canada Day Celebration on July 1st; Recreation Men’s Fastball Tournament July 9th-11th.

MOTION #180/10	Moved by Scott	Seconded by Yungblut
THAT Howick Township Council acknowledges receipt of information concerning the Canada Day Celebration being hosted by the Wroxeter Park Board at the Wroxeter Ball Park on July 1 st , 2010, and Council hereby declares this event to be a “Community Festival”.		
		CARRIED

MOTION #181/10**Moved by Henhoeffer****Seconded by Yungblut**

THAT Howick Township Council acknowledges receipt of information concerning the Men's Fast-ball Tournament being hosted by the Wroxeter Park Board at the Wroxeter Ball Park on July 9th – 11th, 2010, and Council hereby declares this event to be a "Community Festival".

CARRIED**MUNICIPAL RESOLUTIONS**

New Tecumseth, Town of – requesting the Province to exempt children's recreation programs from the HST.

Noted. Action: File

BY-LAWS**1. By-Law No. 19-2010** - Tile Drainage Rating By-Law**MOTION #182/10****Moved by Yungblut****Seconded by Versteeg**

THAT Howick Township Council gives first, second, and third and final reading to By-Law No. 19-2010, being a Tile Drainage Rating By-Law (Lot 28-29, Conc. 16).

CARRIED**2. By-Law No. 20-2010** - Deeming By-Law**MOTION #183/10****Moved by Yungblut****Seconded by Scott**

THAT Howick Township Council gives first, second, and third and final reading to By-Law No. 20-2010, being a by-law to deem lots in a registered Plan not to be registered (Lot 94-95. Plan 276, Village of Gorrie).

CARRIED**3. By-Law No. 21-2010** - To Adopt a Workplace Violence Prevention Policy**MOTION #184/10****Moved by Henhoeffer****Seconded by Scott**

THAT Howick Township Council gives first, second, and third and final reading to By-Law No. 21-2010, being a by-law to adopt a Workplace Violence Prevention Policy for the Township of Howick.

CARRIED**4. By-Law No. 22-2010** - To Adopt a Workplace Harassment Prevention Policy**MOTION # 185/10****Moved by Yungblut****Seconded by Henhoeffer**

THAT Howick Township Council gives first, second, and third and final reading to By-Law No. 22-2010, being a by-law to adopt a Workplace Harassment Prevention Policy for the Township of Howick.

CARRIED**CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

- Minutes of the closed session held June 1st, 2010
- By-Law Enforcement Officer's Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Belmore Community Centre Board - next meeting June 21st

Coalition for Huron Injury Prevention (CHIP)

Councillor Henhoeffer reported from the June 9th meeting:

- Received and reviewed reports on the Spring Safe Driving for Seniors workshops, held in Wingham, Carlow and South Huron
- New posters to be made for the 3 Fall Safe Driving sessions:
 - Wed. Oct. 5th in Fordwich
 - Wed. Oct. 13th in Clinton
 - Wed. Oct. 27th in Blyth
- Continuing to work at removing and/or re-covering the old Road Watch signs
- Will undertake fundraising to purchase a new electronic speed sign in the fall
- The Committee will not meeting during summer - next meeting will be September 8th.

Responding to a question, Ms. Henhoeffer advised that the "Crime Stoppers" initiative was discontinued as it was found that few were responding, and it was not effective.

County of Huron

Reeve Demaray reported:

- Reeve Demaray attended the Avon Maitland District School Board Trustees meeting:
 - Decisions on school closures will be announced at the end of June
 - Closures are considered if the school population is under 150 students, or 60% of capacity
- County Council passed the *Workplace Violence and Harassment policy*
- Discussed the issue of the Ash Borer, its location in Huron and how it is transported. It is prohibited to bring in or take ash wood out of the County.
- Arran-Elderslie's request for support of a by-law to regulate and restrict wind turbines was defeated.
- Compensation for coyotes was increased to \$100.00.
- Reeve Demaray attended a Public Meeting in Wingham regarding the property proposed to site the new elementary school. Potential traffic problems have not been resolved.
- Next Council meeting is June 16th.

Huron Bruce Transit

Councillor Scott advised the two vehicles are at Cullen Motors to be sold.

Copies of a letter from 'Town & County Support Services' were distributed to Council advising "that 'Midwestern Adult Day Services', 'Stratford Meals on Wheels & Neighbourly Services' and 'Town and Country Support Services' are in the process of merging to form one new in-home and community support service agency."

Huron County Farm and Home Safety

Councillor Versteeg reported from the meeting held June 10th:

- There is concern the this Committee may not continue to operate much longer.
- Several farm safety groups have recently discontinued and a larger Provincial Safety organization has been formed.
- The committee has been working to identify effective means and venues for distributing safety information (ie. Firemen Breakfast events)
- The Committee will not meet again until October.

Maitland Economic Development Committee

Reeve Demaray noted that Mrs. Paul Nichol won the tickets for the Brussels Lions Elimination Draw.

Maitland Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) - next meeting June 16th

Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA)

Copies of the Annual Report 2009 were distributed separately with the Council package.

MVCA Source Water Protection (SWP) - no report

SVCA Source Water Protection

The following information was circulated in the Council package:

- Minutes of Meeting #26 held April 30th

COUNCILLORS ISSUES

Wingham Area Fire Board

There has been no word on plans for a final "wrap-up" meeting with North Huron, to receive the final financial data relating to the dissolution of the Fire Board.

Huron County Proposed Mandatory Septic Inspection Program

During further discussion, it was noted that If the Province does introduce legislation implementing a mandatory program in future, it is expected that a funding assistance program will accompany the legislation. PWC Wilson advised that he did some research on availability of assistance through CMHC, and found that it would be very difficult to fit the eligibility criteria. It was suggested that Howick undertake a comprehensive Public Education campaign to instruct on operation and maintenance of a septic system. It was determined that Council does not support the Mandatory Septic Inspection Program in Howick based on the above, as well as the concerns previously discussed (as outlined in the Minutes of the March 16th Council Meeting) and Reeve Demaray was directed to convey that decision to the County.

Huron County "Going Paperless"

Reeve Demaray reported that wiring has been completed and laptop computers purchased for all County Councillors, and Council will undergo and trial "paperless" agenda over the next 5 months.

Maitland Valley Conservation Authority 'Watership Partnership Terrestrial Team'

Councillor Versteeg advised that the Team is conducting a bus trip on Friday, June 18th to Wellington County to view and learn about their tree program.

Council / Staff Summer Social and Christmas Social

It was decided that no Summer Social will take place this year.

Reeve Demaray requested volunteers to plan the Christmas Social. Receiving no response, he volunteered to plan the event with the assistance of Administrative Assistant Michele Bennett. It was noted that, due to the election, there may be more people in attendance this year (out-going and in-coming Council members), and therefore the budget should be increased. Council agreed to allot \$2,000. - \$3,000.

CLOSED SESSION

Council agreed that, as there were no matters of urgency to be discussed in closed session, and given the late hour, the closed session could be deferred until the next meeting of Council.

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

- a) **Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing** – *Residential Tenancies Act* requires that rents be reduced if municipal property taxes paid by the landlord have decreased more than 2.49%.
- b) **Carol Mitchell, MPP** – report from Ontario Chief Medical Officer of Health summarizing evidence on potential health impacts of wind turbines. (full report available, copy not included)
- c) **College of Physicians & Surgeons of Ontario** – accepting nominations for awards honouring outstanding Ontario physicians. Deadline for nominations is August 13th.
- d) **Tim Wylie, Wylie Insurance** – copy of correspondence to Gorrie Hall Board concerning problems with the septic system.

CORRESPONDENCE forwarded via E-Mail (May 28 – June 11, 2010) (No copies attached)

- a) **Association of Municipalities of Ontario**
 - **AMO Watch File** – June 3, 2010
 - Government releases independent review of AODA highlighting next steps in implementation
 - Government announces Deputy Minister appointments
 - Two parliamentary assistants given new assignments
 - Key questions to ask solar photovoltaic providers
 - Ten OMERS Plan change proposals under review
 - Take an e-journey and view sustainable planning in 3D
 - Career/Employment opportunities with York Region and Conservation Halton
 - Links to full text articles below
 - **AMO Watch File** – June 10, 2010
 - *Conservation Authority Plan Review Policies and Procedures.*
 - Four Private Member Public Bills introduced that impact municipalities.
 - Lower your municipal group benefit costs with LAS.
 - 2010-2012 AMO Board - Request for Nominations. Deadline June 18.
 - Subscribe to Municom – Your Comprehensive Municipal Information Source!
 - FCM's Green Municipal fund on the road again!
 - Career/Employment Opportunity for Zoning Examiner.
 - AMO Watch File scheduled for July 1 will be distributed June 30.
 - *Links to full text articles below*
 - **Notice to AMO Conference Delegates** – delegation request form posted on-line at www.amo.on.ca
- b) **Ontario PC Leader Tim Hudak** – seeking input from Ontario families re. HST – on-line poll at www.daltonsalestax.com
- c) **Ontario Good Roads Assoc.** – applauds decision to extend Highway 407
- d) **Ontario Hospital Assoc.** – 'OHA Today' news bulletin June 10th
- e) **Southwest LHIN Web Alert** – South West Diabetes Regional Co-ordination Centre established
- f) **R. Fowler, Land Use Council** – information from the Committee on Status of *Species at Risk in Ontario*
- g) **Huron East Economic Development Officer** – “Communities Connected – Stronger Together” special event at Goderich Co-op Gallery, and “The Colours of Brussels” event, on June 22nd
- h) **Huron Business Development Corp (HBDC)**
 - 'Business & Work in Huron County' May Newsletter
 - Better Business Seminars:
 - “Inviting Canada Revenue Agency to Lunch” June 3rd at REACH in Clinton
 - “Cashflow Forecasting – Witchcraft or Science” June 10th at REACH
 - “Re-inventing the Web Page: Triggers vs Keywords” June 17th at REACH
- i) **Huron Tourism Association (HTA)**
 - Fourth Annual Bayfield Festival of Song – 8 concerts June 5th – 13th
 - Brentwood on the Beach “Breakfast with the Stars” weekend package June 18 & 19
 - *Communities Connected – Stronger Together* special event at Goderich Co-op Gallery, and “The Colours of Brussels” event, on June 22nd
 - Morris-Turnberry History Book Committee - contest to name the book. Deadline June 30th;
 - submissions for inclusion in book must be submitted by end of September, 2010
 - 2nd Annual Huron County Open House Sunday, July 18th at Benmiller Inn & Spa
 - Friends of South Huron Trail – seeking volunteers to work June 15th or 16th

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #186/10

Moved by Versteeg

Seconded by Henhoeffter

THAT Howick Township Council now adjourns the June 15th, 2010 Regular Meeting of Howick Township Council at 10:44 pm, with Council to meet again at the Regular Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 13th, 2010 at 7:00 p.m., or at the call of the Chair.

CARRIED

REEVE

CLERK