

TOWNSHIP OF HOWICK
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH, 2007 AT 7:00 P.M.
AT THE HOWICK TOWNSHIP COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MINUTES

Attendance:

Council Members

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

Staff

Ronna Lee Johnson, Clerk
Wray Wilson, Public Works Co-ordinator

Delegation – Peter King, Fordwich Village Management

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 draft of Minutes of the January 29th, 2008 Regular Council Meeting was circulated in the Council package.

MOTION #013/08	Moved by Scott	Seconded by Yungblut
THAT Howick Township Council hereby approves the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on January 29 th , 2008, as circulated.		
		CARRIED

DELEGATION

Fordwich Village Management – Peter King

Mr. King was in attendance to respond to the matter of a recent request to Council from a local business enterprise to erect an advertising sign on the vacant lot owned by the Township at the corner of Mary and Old Mill Streets in Fordwich. Mr. King described to Council a plan to place a sign board on the lot that would accommodate advertising for all the businesses in the village, and perhaps include a map showing their locations. The project would also include construction of a retaining wall, placement of a bench and solar lighting. A “rough estimate” of costs is \$12,000. to \$14,000.

Mr. King advised that he has contacted Mr. Pullen at Huron County about the possibility of accessing funding for the project through the Economic Development “Downtown Revitalization” program. Mr. Pullen will research the project information to determine if it may be eligible for funding. He suggested that all three Howick Villages collaborate on an application for funding. Mr. King noted that if funding is not forthcoming, then alternative fundraising or cost-sharing would be considered, such as the business owners buying the advertising signs, and funding would be included in the Village Management budget.

Mr. King concluded that this is the plan and preference of the Village Management Committee for use of this vacant space, and that the business owners who made the initial request would be given the opportunity to place their advertising along with the other local businesses. He asked Council members if they were in agreement and support of this plan, and all agreed it was a good idea.

COUNCILLOR’S ISSUES

Deputy Reeve Yungblut advised that she had received a Property Standards complaint that will be dealt with in closed session.

PUBLIC WORKS CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

The following report as at January 1, 2008 was circulated in the Council package:

ROADS

SIGN REQUEST

Last meeting I was directed to send the information regarding Riverside Lawn and Garden and Wideman's Farm Service's request to place a sign on the vacant lot across from the Fordwich Hall to the Fordwich Village Management Committee for their comment. That information and a picture of the sign were sent to them. A delegation from the Fordwich Village Management Committee attended this meeting to discuss the issue.

Mr. Wilson will respond to the owners of Riverside Lawn and Garden and Wideman's Farm Service advising of the plans outlined by the Fordwich Village Management.

HURON COUNTY - GORRIE BRIDGE

A copy of the letter sent to the consulting engineers is enclosed. The letter addresses our concerns regarding the detour routes, impact on fire fighting capability, site line at George and Victoria Streets, relocation of hydro and street lighting.

TRAINING

The last two years, I have tried to register Doug for the Bridge & Culvert Management course at OGRA's road school in Guelph. Each year the course has been full by the time our training budget is set. Mr. Wilson requested permission to register Doug into this program early this year and also register Dean into a course at the same time.

MOTION #030/08

Moved by Scott

Seconded by Yungblut

THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes the Public Works Co-ordinator to enroll the following Public Works employees in OGRA Road School courses, and agrees to pay the required registration fees and any other expenses related to their attendance at the courses: Doug Chapman (Bridge & Culvert Maintenance); Dean Nicholson.

CARRIED

BUILDING - NO REPORT

DRAINAGE

DRAIN IMPROVEMENT REPORT – Branch D of the Bolton Municipal Drain

A 'Notice of Appointment for Examination By the Engineer' was mailed to all landowners who may have an interest in this project, to Geoff King from Maitland Valley Conservation Authority, and to Dana Boyter from Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

The meeting is scheduled for 10:30 am on February 19th, 2008 at the Municipal Office.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

COUNTY POLICY ON SEVERANCES

Huron County is considering adding a standard condition to severances where there are existing septic systems, to require the system to be inspected and be brought up to standard if necessary. The attached e-mail from Joyce Wilson provides the details.

LANDFILL - NO REPORT

OTHER

HOWICK POOL

Draft specifications have been received from the consultant for review. There are 250 (+or-) pages of specifications to review. Hopefully, we would be in a position to send this out to Tender by mid February for closing by the first meeting in March.

FIRE HALL

The invoice for work on the fire hall was received this week. The work was complete before the year-end. I haven't checked with Bill Doig to see if they are satisfied with the work, and if approved the bill will be paid. The invoice was for the quoted amount.

SOURCE WATER PROTECTION

A municipal workshop is scheduled for March 6, 2008 at the Health Unit Complex to provide an understanding of the process the Source Water Protection Committee will use in preparing the plan. An invitation is enclosed.

MOTION #031/08**Moved by Scott****Seconded by Versteeg**

THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes the following to attend the "Municipal Meeting on the Clean Water Act" being held in Clinton on March 6th at 9:00 am, and agrees to pay the cost of any expenses related to attendance at this meeting: Deputy Reeve Yungblut CARRIED

Mr. Wilson added that the Municipal Working Group will be meeting in Listowel on February 6th, and the Source Protection Committee meets on February 8th.

TREASURY REPORT

Deputy Treasurer Weishar provided the following report circulated in the Council package:

LAS Ontario Power Generation Rebate

The Ontario Power Generation Rebate was received this week for our enrollment in the LAS 'Regulated Price Plan' for the period of July 1-31 2007 for a total of \$2.64. Hopefully, future rebates will be more favourable.

Municipal Property Assessment Corporation – Court Decision

Enclosed is a news release from MPAC in regards to the Court decision on assessing Seasonal Trailers.

Interim Tax Billa

Interim tax bill are completed and will be put together and mailed this month.

Calculation of Annual Debt Repayment Limit

Enclosed is a notice from Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing with our 2008 Annual Debt Repayment Limit.

Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF)

We received this week as well, our 2008 OMPF Funding Schedule, which is enclosed.

CLERKS REPORT

The following report as at February 1st and copies of related information were circulated in the Council package:

Emergency Management

a. Emergency Preparedness Week – will occur during the week of May 5 - 11, 2008. Steve Beatty, EMO Field Officer, has asked what activities we have planned for that week. If we would like use of the EMO Mobile 1 Unit during that week, we will need to book it ASAP. Suggestions included sponsoring an information ad in the Wingham Advance-Times special Emergency Management publication, and incorporating an Emergency Management tab on the Township website to include the Township's emergency plan, information, and links to Emergency Management Ontario. Council agreed that the better investment would be the website expansion.

b. Emergency Management Training Opportunities

Information is enclosed about a variety of upcoming EMO courses and events. Please note and advise if you are interested in attending any of these sessions. This will be brought back to a future meeting when more information on the courses is available.

Donation Request

Howick Curling Club will hold their annual bonspiel on February 23rd, and has asked if Howick Council would again donate a set of Howick History Books for the prize table.

MOTION #032/08**Moved by Scott****Seconded by Henhoeffter**

THAT Howick Township Council authorizes the donation of 1 set of "The Lines of Howick" history books to the Howick Curling Club for their annual bonspiel. CARRIED

Closed Session

- Minutes of the closed session held January 8th
- By-Law Enforcement Officer's Report

CORRESPONDENCE Requiring Council Action

1. **Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing** – reminder to OGRA/ROMA conference delegates that Feb. 6th is the deadline to submit requests to meet with Provincial Ministers.

MOTION #036/08 **Moved by Versteeg** **Seconded by Yungblut**
THAT Howick Township Council agrees to pay the cost of the purchase of a fleece sweater for each of the Township office staff – B. Weishar; M. Bennett; R. Johnson. CARRIED

MOTION #037/08 **Moved by Scott** **Seconded by Yungblut**
THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes payment of accounts in the amount of **\$192,964.15** under date February 5th, 2008 as cheques #6627 to #6665 inclusive, as presented and discussed at the Regular Council meeting held February 5, 2008. CARRIED

BY-LAWS - none

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Belmore Community Centre Board - next meeting February 18th

County of Huron - next meeting February 6th

Reeve Demaray reported that a delegation will again be appearing at County Council's next meeting to request a donation for purchase of a CT scanner for the hospital in Goderich.

Huron County Farm and Home Safety – next meeting Wed., February 6th

Maitland Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) - no report

Road Watch Huron – next meeting February 20th in Varna

Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA)

The following information was included in the Council package:

- Draft Minutes of the Jan. 18/08 Board Meeting,
- 2008 Flood Contingency Plan

Source Water Protection – no reports

Wheels Away – next meeting February 13th

Wingham Area Fire Board - next meeting February 13th

Reeve Demaray reported that the Board will commence reviewing and updating the Joint Fire Board Agreement. There are sample agreements available that may be adapted to better suit the needs of this organization. Assistant will be sought from the Fire Marshall's Office. It was pointed out that Howick should continue to examine the options and attempt to assess the costs of alternative fire services provision.

CLOSED SESSION

MOTION #038/08 **Moved by Versteeg** **Seconded by Yungblut**
THAT Howick Township Council at this time (8:25 pm) closes this portion of the February 5th, 2008 Regular Council meeting in accordance with the *Municipal Act, 2001, Section 239 (2) (a), (b), (c), (d), (e)* to deal with employee matters, employee negotiations, litigation matters, and/or land acquisition or land disposition. CARRIED

Matters Discussed in Closed Session

- Minutes of January 29th closed session (approved by Motion #039/08)
- Organizational Review
- Property Standards complaint
- Personnel Matter

MOTION #040/08 **Moved by Versteeg** **Seconded by Scott**
THAT Howick Township Council now re-opens the February 5th, 2008 Regular Council meeting to the public at this time (9:15 pm). CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION ONLY

a) **Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)**

- i. FYI 08-001 – AMO responds to Editor in Financial Post re: Municipal spending out of control
- ii. Alert #08-003 – Pre-budget Submission seeks continued transformation of Provincial / Municipal Fiscal relationship.

b) **Huron Economic Development Matters** – Vol. 2, Issue 1

The above correspondence was noted. Action: File

ADJOURNMENT

<p>MOTION #041/08 Moved by Henhoeffler Seconded by Versteeg THAT Howick Township Council now adjourns the February 5th, 2008 Regular Meeting of Howick Township Council at 9:17 p.m., with Council to meet again at the Regular Meeting scheduled for February 19th, 2008 at 7:00 p.m., or at the call of the Chair. CARRIED</p>
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REEVE

CLERK