

TOWNSHIP OF HOWICK
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 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

Reporter Andrew Smith, Wingham Advance Times

Delegation Mr. Jamie Zimmerman, Fire Protection Officer

Others Bill Doig, Fire Captain; Dale Edgar, Fire Captain; Norm Fairles; Bob Edgar;
Jack Stafford; Erin Yungblut, Student

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. Councillor Versteeg advised that he has a pecuniary interest related to a request for improvement to a municipal drain.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A draft of Minutes of the October 16th Regular Council Meeting and the October 30th Special Meeting were circulated in the Council package.

MOTION #312/07	Moved by Yungblut	Seconded by Scott
THAT Howick Township Council hereby approves, as circulated, the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on October 16 th , 2007.		
		CARRIED

MOTION #313/07	Moved by Yungblut	Seconded by Versteeg
THAT Howick Township Council hereby approves, as circulated, the minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on October 30 th , 2007.		
		CARRIED

DELEGATION

Jamie Zimmerman, Fire Protection Officer

Mr. Zimmerman, Fire Protection Officer with the Office of the Fire Marshall (OFM) thanked Council for the opportunity to bring information about and provide assistance and advice to the Township in examining options for providing fire protection services, adding that he offered his services to Reeve Demaray and Deputy Reeve Yungblut when they attended a Municipal Fire Protection Seminar at which he was speaking.

Noting that Howick Township currently provides fire services as a participant in a joint Fire Board, and through the purchase of service from the Town of Minto for protection of the north east corner of the Township, Mr. Zimmerman stated that the trend in Ontario is to move away from joint fire boards. Under the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act*, it is the responsibility of the Fire Chief to deliver protection and prevention services to the municipality, and it is more effective for the municipal Council to deal directly with the Fire Chief rather than communicate through a fire board. Thus, Council has more control in setting the level of service suitable to its own local needs. A large urban area with a significant commercial and industrial base

requires a greater level of fire services than does a small rural municipality. The difficulty with joint fire boards comprised of both urban and rural partners is that the costs of providing the higher level of urban service continue to increase, and rural members feel they have no control over the spiraling costs and are not reaping the benefits of the expenditure of their taxpayers' dollars. Mr. Zimmerman suggested it is beneficial for each municipality to determine its own level of required service and to investigate the options for best providing that service. Options could include:

- Entering into agreements with surrounding municipalities to purchase service;
- Howick has a fire station, so could own and operate its own fire department;
- Dissolving partnership with the joint fire board, and entering into an agreement for purchase of protection, specifying own terms and expectations.

Mr. Zimmerman noted that in Howick's situation, Council would need to establish the boundaries of coverage areas, and he emphasized that the Fire Marshall's Office believes it is most important to consider response times when determining coverage areas – ensuring that the closest Fire Department will respond – in order to get the best results and outcome.

Mr. Zimmerman advised that it is Council's responsibility to look at service levels and delivery methods, which will take a great deal of time and work. The current joint board agreement has been in place since 1984 without substantive change. Howick Council would need to review the agreement and have the Township's Solicitor examine it to determine what provisions are in place for dissolving the Agreement. He cautioned that other avenues of providing service may not necessarily be cheaper. Costs of fire protection in general continue to increase because higher levels of service are expected by the public and by the OFM. Specialists from the OFM are available upon request, at no charge, to assist municipalities in a review to determine their needs and examine their delivery options – a process that could take as much as a year to complete. He suggested that an ad hoc committee be appointed for this purpose.

During discussion, it was pointed out that having agreements to purchase fire protection and response services from other larger municipalities puts Howick at the mercy of those providers. Mr. Zimmerman noted that at the time the joint fire boards were created, the intention was a "neighbour helping neighbour" situation, but problems arise when the interests and needs of the parties differ.

Under the present arrangement, fire inspections in Howick are the responsibility of the Fire Chiefs in their respective areas of coverage. Another anticipated difficulty with having agreements with multiple municipalities is determining which Fire Chief would be in charge of inspections for Howick Township. This could be addressed by designating and appointing one of the Fire Chiefs, which would be stipulated in the Agreement with that municipality. If Howick owned its own Fire Department, responsibility for inspections would be included.

Mr. Zimmerman reiterated that Council can set the level of protection for the municipality. The *Municipal Fire Protection and Prevention Act* requires a municipality to provide:

- Risk assessment
- Prevention programs
- Public education
- Emergency response

The Act states that emergency response services may be based on local needs and circumstances, which can be determined by Council, and there are many complex issues to be considered in reaching that determination, including the costs. "Risk Assessment" is the basis for determining the master fire plan for emergency response. The aim of this research is to try to improve and not reduce service, but have some control on how the dollars are spent. Mr. Zimmerman noted that he is close by, and volunteered his assistance in setting up a working group and formulating the terms of reference.

Mr. Stafford commented that he was involved when the joint fire board was formed, with the intent of providing fire protection that was closer to the Township. The cost-sharing formula of the agreement was based on the assessments of each municipality, and was to be adjusted based on assessment changes. It is his opinion that we have good fire protection with the joint board that has worked for 25 years, and he hopes Council won't "throw the baby out with the bathwater". He feels that cost increases are the result of dictates from the province and we will have to learn to live with them, and wonders how much will be saved by making changes.

Reeve Demaray assured Mr. Stafford that no such decisions have been made – that Council is simply looking at options.

Council was advised that "word on the street" is that the joint board will be dissolved, the fire hall in Gorrie will be closed, and Howick will return to the old system of negotiating for fire service with surrounding towns. Reeve Demaray responded that this is not the case, and at no time will consideration be given to closing the Gorrie Fire Station.

Mr. Bob Edgar advised that the County of Huron plans to replace the bridge in Gorrie next year (an eight-month project) and urged Council to demand that a proper detour, such as a Bailey bridge, be provided to allow for passage of traffic and ensure that the street will not be closed for the duration of construction (otherwise, firemen will be cut off from reaching the fire hall since that bridge is the only access across the river in the Village of Gorrie). Mr. Zimmerman noted that the Office of the Fire Marshall could provide assistance in this matter.

Mr. Fairles commented that he had served on the Wingham Fire Board for many years, and it had always operated with a spirit of "give and take".

Reeve Demaray thanked Mr. Zimmerman for his presentation and information, and thanked the visitors for their interest in attending. Mr. Zimmerman, Fire Captains Doig and Edgar, Mr. Stafford, Mr. Fairles and Mr. Edgar all left the meeting at this time (7:48 pm).

COUNCILLOR'S ISSUES

Howick Community Centre – Fence Around Landscaping

Councillor Versteeg commented on the snow fencing around the flower beds at the entrance, which he understood had been erected for protection during the fall fair. It is unsightly and should be removed. If it is necessary to have a barrier around the landscaping, something more attractive should be used. The new Recreation/Facilities Supervisor will be advised.

Property Standards Complaints

Deputy Reeve Yungblut reported receiving complaints about the property located at 2002 Albert Street in the Village of Gorrie, which has become more unsightly of late. The Clerk was directed to send the By-Law Enforcement Officer to inspect the property and proceed with any action appropriate under the Property Standards By-Law.

Wroxeter Hall Board Christmas Party

A request was received from the Wroxeter Hall Board for donation of a set of Township history books.

MOTION #314/07	Moved by Yungblut	Seconded by Versteeg
THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes the donation of 1 set of history books "The Lines of Howick" to the Wroxeter Hall Board.		
		CARRIED

Howick Council and Staff Christmas Social

Research is being done into the feasibility of hiring a bus to transport Council and staff members to the Christmas dinner/show in Conestogo village. After some discussion, it was determined that if the numbers attending make this option feasible, the cost of the bus will be divided among and paid by the users.

PUBLIC WORKS CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

The following report as at November 2, 2007 was circulated in the Council package:

ROADS

OGRA/ROMA CONFERENCE

Rooms should be booked on November 20th, if we want rooms at the Royal York. A decision is required as to who is attending. Reeve Demaray and Councillors Versteeg and Henhoeffler indicated their intention to attend. Councillor Henhoeffler advised that she plans to stay at her daughter's home and will not require a hotel booking.

MOTION #315/07	Moved by Yungblut	Seconded by Versteeg
THAT Howick Township Council hereby instructs that 3 rooms be booked at the Fairmount Royal York Hotel for the 2008 OGRA/ROMA conference for Reeve Demaray, Councillor Versteeg and PWC Wilson.		
		CARRIED

SEASONAL STAFF

Shawn Nicholson has agreed to work for us again this winter. I would recommend Shawn be placed at Step 1 on the 2007 Salary Grid for Machine Operator/Labourer.

MOTION #316/07	Moved by Scott	Seconded by Henhoeffler
THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes the Public Works Co-ordinator to hire Shawn Nicholson as full-time, seasonal Public Works Machine Operator/Labourer for the 2007-2008 winter season at Step 1 on the 2007 Pay Grid.		
		CARRIED

BUILDING

BUILDING OFFICIALS SEMINAR

Frank Cowan Company is offering a risk management seminar for Building Officials. The seminar information is enclosed.

MOTION #317/07 **Moved by Scott** **Seconded by Yungblut**
THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes Wray Wilson to attend the Frank Cowan Company Risk Management Seminar for Building Officials “Strategies for Avoiding Litigation” being held in London on Monday, November 19th, and agrees to pay the cost of any expenses associated with his attendance at this seminar. CARRIED

DRAINAGE

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

At this time, Councillor Versteeg declared a pecuniary interest regarding this matter, as the drainage work would take place on his property. Councillor Versteeg moved from the Council table and sat in the gallery during the discussion.

REQUEST FOR AN IMPROVEMENT REPORT –Branch “D”, Bolton Municipal Drain

A request for an Improvement Report for this drain was filed at the office on October 22, 2007. I would recommend proceeding with this request. If Council accepts this request, a notice has to be sent to the Conservation Authority 30 days before the appointment of an Engineer. Mr. Wilson added that this section of drain has caused many problems over the years.

MOTION #318/07 **Moved by Yungblut** **Seconded by Scott**
THAT Howick Township Council hereby accepts the landowners’ request to prepare an Improvement Report on Branch ‘D’ of the Bolton Municipal Drain in the north part of Lot 21 on Concession 3, Township of Howick, and directs that notice of this request be forwarded to the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority in accordance with prescribed regulation. CARRIED

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT - NO REPORT

LANDFILL

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIROMENT (MOE) INSPECTION

I have not received our ‘Official Report’ from Randy Brown from the Ministry but a memo regarding the tire issue is enclosed. A significant amount of work will be required to comply with this order. I believe he will give us until the end of January to do the work.

We made arrangements for the removal of about 100 ton of tires at the quoted price of \$180.00 per ton. This work is to be completed by mid November. Should we increase the number to be removed?

Mr. Wilson added that since we are required to split the tire piles, it would be more cost-effective to remove the extra tires rather than pay to simply move them around, and since tire removal did not happen as planned last year, funds from last year should be in a reserve to pay for extra this year. As well, the revenue from the logging at the landfill site is designated to pay for tire removal. Mr. Wilson noted that we are currently removing slightly more tires than are coming in, and the fees collected do not quite cover the costs of removal. He will be reviewing the fees in the near future.

MOTION #319/07 **Moved by Yungblut** **Seconded by Scott**
THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes the Public Works Co-ordinator to arrange for the removal of an additional 100 tons of tires from the landfill site, and that funding for this extra expense be transferred from reserves. CARRIED

BESTER FOREST PRODUCTS

This company began work on November 1st cutting logs at the landfill site.

OTHER

SWIMMING POOL RENOVATION

Contractors who had picked up plans for the pool indicated that they would not be in a position to get the work completed this fall that would be required. All contractors are busy and could not commit to the deadlines. Based on this information, I would recommend that all funds budgeted for the pool in 2007 and the Trillium money be placed into the reserve account for the pool. Council concurred with this recommendation.

During further discussion on the extent of work to be completed at the pool, Mr. Wilson noted that the specifications require more detail in order for contractors to bid accurately. This problem will be rectified before tenders are called again. It is hoped that a contract can be awarded in time for work to begin during the winter.

BRAD WATT - GOODBYE

What is Council considering for a social function and/or gift in appreciation for the 5 years of service Brad provided to the Township?

It was decided that presentation of a gift will be made during the Council/Staff Christmas social. Staff will look after the gift purchase.

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

Does Council want Patrick Street closed during the service again this year? This requires two Public Works Employees to work overtime.

MOTION #320/07

Moved by Scott

Seconded by Yungblut

THAT Howick Township Council hereby instructs and authorizes Public Works employees to provide the necessary services on Remembrance Day to temporarily close Patrick Street in the Village of Fordwich for the Remembrance Day service at the cenotaph.

CARRIED

CLOSED SESSION

There are a couple of employment and employee issues I would like to discuss with Council in closed session.

RECREATION REPORT

Council received the 'Howick Community Pool Summary, Summer 2007' report prepared by Head Guard Ansley Edgar containing the following information:

Lessons

- 111 children enrolled for lessons (31 fewer than previous year)
- 46 in June; 39 in July; 26 in August; 6 private lessons
- 96 completed their level in first try
- Recommend "Salamander" class for next year and eliminate "Sunfish"

Swims

- Afternoon Public Swims well attended (in good weather)
- Toy Swim successful (offer again)
- Afternoon and evening Aquafit successful (offer pass again next year)
- Toonie Swim and Weekend swims not well attended

Fundraisers / Fun Days

- Car Wash and BBQ at Watson's – huge hit (do again next year, in June)
- Fun Day in August – not well attended (plan and set dates earlier and advertise more)
- Swim/Tread-a-thon – good attendance from swim team (plan and pick dates asap; give out pledge sheets when swim team starts)
- Cake Walk – Very good fundraiser - nearly \$400.00 (plan earlier and advertise more)

Recommendations

- Plan staff trainings at beginning of year and have them throughout the summer
- Advertise more. Get flyers out sooner so more people come to events.
- Hire staff earlier so everything done in advance, more time for staff training
- Send flyers home with kids from school so parents know about lessons and times
- Sell pop, chips, chocolate bars
- Make sure lessons run the last two weeks of school
- Combine classes in August at beginning of year so it isn't so much work closer to when classes start.

Staff

- Hire 5 guards again
- Hire 2 LIT's

Equipment Needed

- Vacuum for the halls
- New equipment (eg. Noodles, flutter boards, etc.)

The Clerk was instructed to pass this information on to the new Recreation/Facilities Supervisor, and forward a letter of thanks to Ms. Edgar.

TREASURERY REPORT

The following report and financial statements prepared by Deputy Treasurer Weishar were circulate in the Council package:

Grant Approved

This week I received confirmation from Min. of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs that our Claim/Reimbursement Report has been approved and we should receive a cheque for \$1880.00 to offset our Pool Staff Wages this summer.

Huron County Clerks and Treasurers

On Friday October 26th I attended the Huron County Clerks and Treasurers Meeting Hosted by North Huron. Topics discussed at length included, Joint Meeting Investigator, Cemetery Regulations (on hold presently), Huron Cty Budget starts, MPAC, Capping, PSAB, AMCTO Municipal Management Course, and an update from Municipal Affairs, and Housing. We moved on the Wingham Country Club for a gathering to recognize the contributions made by Rhonda Fischer and Larry Brown, and wish them well in their new positions.

PSAB Training

On Monday October 29th I attended a PSAB 3150 Training in London. It was a great training program, as it felt like there has been a more relaxed outline and collection of data. There are more resource materials available for valuations and deflators, as well confirmation on some issues that have been in questions previously. I still agree that it is a very large project, and council may want to think about a summer student for 2008 to do a large portion of collection of this data (I suspect a grant of some type should be available to help offset the costs). I would like to find time to set up a plan that would work for our municipality to simplify the whole process and to work through the data that has been gathered to date.

Interim Audit 2007

I received a call from Elaine at BDO, to start our process for our review and preparation for the 2007 year end, I will be sending data off to here this week.

Hydro One Grant

Hydro One has send a request for more detailed Budget information for the Power Play Grants that the Howick Pool and Wroxeter Playground have applied for. This information will be forwarded prior to the deadline. Presently we are trying to locate copies of the on-line applications for the Pool.

CLERKS REPORT

The Clerk’s report as at November 2nd and copies of related information were circulated in the Council package:

Emergency Management

Emergency Control Group training session and exercise: Thursday, Nov. 8th at 9:00 am. We have had an excellent response from the various agencies invited to participate, with representatives from Fire, Police, EMS, Social Services, MVCA, School Board, and Huron County agreeing to attend. I contacted Jean Price to see if she would be available to cover the office that day so that office staff can also participate in the training. Jean is available if this is agreeable with Council.

MOTION #321/07 **Moved by Yungblut** **Seconded by Versteeg**
THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes the employment of Jean Price (retired Administrative Assistant) on Thursday, November 8th, 2007 to cover the business office during the Emergency Management training and exercise. CARRIED

Bill 130 – Meeting Investigator vs Ontario Ombudsman

At the meeting of Huron County Clerks on October 17th, further discussion occurred about appointing a Meeting Investigator at the County level. CAO Larry Adams had a proposal from a prospective consultant that quoted annual retainer fees of \$5,000.00 for the County of Huron plus \$2,500.00 per lower tier municipality, plus \$75.00 per hour plus expenses for complaint investigations. I advised at that meeting that Howick would not participate in that contract. The Huron County Clerks and Treasurers Association meeting held last Friday heard a presentation from a consultant offering his services for an annual retainer from the County of Huron of \$2,500.00 in addition to an annual fee of \$300.00 for each lower-tier municipality plus \$75.00 per hour plus expenses. This is contingent on the participation of all lower-tier municipalities. Apparently, this proposal is to be presented to County Council for approval at the next Council meeting. Does Howick Council wish to re-consider its position in this regard?

There has been a good deal of information forthcoming about and from the Ontario Ombudsman's Office dealing with meeting complaints (see letter in correspondence) which dispels the myths about the heavy-handed, all-inclusive investigation that would result if the Ombudsman receives a complaint about the conduct of municipal meetings. Also attached is a synopsis of AMO's views regarding appointment of a Meetings Investigator.

The consensus was that Howick will hold with the decision to default to the Ombudsman.

Caroline Street, Fordwich

Documentation has been received from the Solicitor to acquire the property for re-locating Caroline Street. By-Law No. 35-2007 authorizing acquisition of the land and establishing a highway is enclosed for enactment.

Recreation/Facilities Supervisor

Mr. Bruce Skillen has accepted the position and will begin his employment on Monday, November 12th, 2007. A by-law to authorize entering into an employment agreement is enclosed.

Fordwich Cemetery – Lawn Mower Purchase

Enclosed is correspondence from the Fordwich Cemetery Board, a copy of their Financial Statement to October 30, 2007, and price quotation for purchase of a new lawn tractor. Would Council consider providing assistance?

MOTION #322/07

Moved by Scott

Seconded by Versteeg

THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes payment of a no-interest loan to the Fordwich Cemetery Board in the amount of \$1,500.00 with a three-year repayment term, to assist with the purchase of a lawn tractor.

CARRIED

Wroxeter Park Board – Hydro One Grant for Playground Equipment

Enclosed is information from Lynne Hunt concerning the Hydro One grant application. It is my understanding that the maximum grant available is \$25,000.00, and that 2 applications were submitted – one for the pool project and one for the playground equipment. I believe that the Wroxeter Park Board is asking that the Township relinquish the request for the pool project and allow the maximum grant available flow to the Park Board.

In response to the question from Hydro One about which project has priority, Council instructed that the response would be that the playground project should have priority.

Closed Session Matters

- Minutes of the closed sessions held October 16th and 30th
- By-Law Enforcement Officer's report will be provided.
- W & U Consulting – questions concerning the Organizational Review

CORRESPONDENCE Requiring Council Action

1. **Town of Minto** – requesting a meeting with Howick representatives to discuss amendments to the Fire Protection Agreement.

It was decided that all of Council should participate in the discussion. The Clerk was instructed to invite the Minto representatives to the next Council meeting to be held November 20th.

2. **Ontario Trillium Foundation**

- a. invitation to attend the "2007 Great Grants Awards" celebration at the Mildmay-Carrick Recreation Complex on November 22nd, 5:00 - 7:00 pm.
- b. invitation to participate in a workshop on "Strategies for Building Volunteer Leadership" on November 22nd, 1:30 – 4:30 pm (same place). RSVP by Nov. 15th

MOTION #323/07

Moved by Versteeg

Seconded by Yungblut

THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes the attendance of the following at the Ontario Trillium Foundation workshop being presented in Mildmay on November 22nd, 2007, and agrees to pay any expenses associated with attendance at this free workshop: Councillor Henhoeffler CARRIED

3. **Jane Muegge, Regional Information Co-ordinator, OMAFRA** – presenting a free workshop on Occupational Health and Safety at OMAFRA Boardroom in Clinton on Mon., Nov. 26th, 9:00 am – 12 noon. Pre-registration requested. Noted and discussed. Action: File
4. **Huron Tourism Association** – renewal of membership and sponsorship in 2008 Vacation Guide.

MOTION #324/07**Moved by Scott****Seconded by Yungblut**

THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes payment of 2007-2008 membership of \$125.00 to the Huron Tourism Association, and payment of Sponsor of the Vacation Guide in the amount of \$450.00.

CARRIED**ADDENDA**

JEPP Grant – Generator at Belmore Community Centre - I called Hays Electric for an updated quotation for provision and installation of a generator (since the quotation used last year was dated October, 2004). Mr. Hays explained that the quotation he provided at that time was for the generator installed at this office, and that type and size would not be sufficient for the community centre. We will need a 150-200 kw unit for 600 v, 3-phase service. The estimate for such a unit is \$40,000. - \$45,000. plus an additional \$15,000. for installation (plus tax). I then spoke with the Treasurer at South Bruce about submitting a joint application to JEPP. She will submit this request to her Council this evening, but she was not very hopeful that South Bruce Council will support our application, since they are submitting a similar application for a mobile unit for the 3 community centres in their municipality. Does Council wish to proceed at this time if South Bruce will not participate?

It was decided that if all three municipalities were not willing to participate, the generator purchase should be delayed to allow more time to budget for this expense in the future.

b) Rosemary Rognvaldson – review of and response to the list of goals and objectives addressed by Council at the October 30th Strategic Planning session. (I believe this was e-mailed to all Council members and the Planning Department). Is it Council's wish to incorporate any new input from Ms. Rognvaldson's information into the report to be sent to the County Planning Department?

It was the consensus that the information compiled by Council be forwarded to the Planning Department at this time.

c) Howick Community Centre – Curb Problem – we have been advised that at least 2 people have tripped, fallen and been injured due to the curb in front of the main entrance. Consideration should be given to remedying the problem as soon as possible.

It was decided that the problem area be delineated and highlighted with yellow paint. The Recreation/Facilities Manager will be apprised of this decision.

PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS

The listing of Accounts Payable for November 6th was circulated in the Council package.

At this time, Councillor Scott declared a conflict of pecuniary interest regarding account #6275 as he is an employee of the Company.

MOTION #325/07**Moved by Yungblut****Seconded by Versteeg**

THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes payment of accounts in the amount of **\$184,395.93** under date November 6th, 2007 as cheques #6253 to #6312 inclusive, as presented and discussed at the Regular Council meeting held November 6th, 2007.

CARRIED

The Deputy Treasurer is instructed to forward an invoice to the Wroxeter Hall Board for the balance of the Smart Serve courses not eligible for payment by the Township.

BY-LAWS**By-Law No. 35-2007 – Acquisition of Land for Highway****MOTION #326/07****Moved by Yungblut****Seconded by Henhoeffter**

THAT Howick Township Council gives first, second, and third and final reading to By-Law No. 35-2007, being a by-law to authorize the acquisition of land for the purpose of a highway (Caroline Street, Fordwich).

CARRIED**By-Law No. 36-2007 – Authorize Employment Agreement (Skillen)****MOTION #327/07****Moved by Yungblut****Seconded by Scott**

THAT Howick Township Council gives first, second, and third and final reading to By-Law No. 36-2007, being a by-law to authorize entering into an Employment Agreement with Bruce Skillen. **CARRIED**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Belmore Community Centre Board - next meeting November 19th

County of Huron - next meeting November 7th

Reeve Demaray reported:

- John Bezaire, candidate for Huron County Warden, visited and toured Howick Township last week, and discussed County-related problems with Reeve Demaray, PWC Wilson and Clerk Johnson. Difficulties in obtaining entrance permits from the County Highways Department was the primary concern. Reeve Demaray reported that he has learned that a proposed highway development project has now been cancelled due to delays and problems with obtaining an entrance permit. Council directed that the Reeve make this information known at the next County Council meeting.
- Material from the County bridge construction at Wroxeter is still on the roadside. PWC Wilson advised that this material was accepted by the landowner to be used as fill, and it is no longer the responsibility of the County or the contractor.
- The Mayors' Dinner fundraising event has been put on hold as not enough tickets have been sold.

Huron County Farm & Home Safety Association

Minutes of the October 11th meeting were circulated in the Council package.

Maitland Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA)

Minutes of Board Meeting #9, and Board Hearings #6/07 and #8/07 were circulated in the Council package.

Councillor Versteeg reported:

- The Maitland Source Protection Authority has been established to act as the Board's agent of the Source Protection Committee.
- Conservation Authorities are working to solve the problems outlined by the Drainage Association. The general consensus is that some of the policies proposed by the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority were not plausible.

Road Watch Huron - Next meeting November 28th

Minutes of the July 11th meeting and a note from Mike Alcock, Huron County Highways Department regarding winter road conditions and public service announcements, were circulated in the Council package.

Councillor Henhoeffler responded to a question regarding the role of Road Watch in educating the public regarding ATV use: Road Watch is discussing the issue and has made it a priority.

Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority

Minutes of the October 4th, 2007 Board Meeting were circulated in the Council package.

Source Water Protection

The following were circulated in the Council package:

- Minutes of Maitland Source Protection Authority Meeting #1/07
- Information about the Maitland Source Protection Stewardship Program
- Saugeen Grey Sauble Source Protection Committee Members appointed.

Wheels Away - next meeting November 14th

Wingham Area Fire Board - next meeting November 14th

The following were circulated in the Council package:

- Minutes of the September 12th, 2007 Board Meeting
- Chief Report for September
- Accounts Payable for September-October
- Financial Statements at August 31st, 2007

CLOSED SESSION

MOTION #328/07

Moved by Scott

Seconded by Henhoeffler

THAT Howick Township Council at this time (9:57 pm) closes this portion of the November 6th, 2007 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 Closed Sessions October 16th and 30th (approved by Motion #329/07)
- Employment / Employee matters
- By-Law Enforcement Officer's Report
- Organizational Review

MOTION #330/07

Moved by Scott

Seconded by Yungblut

THAT Howick Township Council now re-opens the November 6th, 2007 Regular Council meeting to the public at this time (10:38 pm).

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION ONLY (copies attached)

- a. **Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing**
 - i. MMAH Minister recognized for leadership in Brownfield redevelopment.
 - ii. Ontario approach to Brownfield redevelopment gets national award.
- b. **Ontario Ombudsman** – Investigation of closed meetings
- c. **Federation of Canadian Municipalities**
 - i. Apply now for 2008 “Sustainable Community Awards”
 - ii. Green Municipal Corporation offers services to municipalities for reducing emissions
- d. **Think Plastics** – Bale Wrap collection report as of October, 2007
- e. **Play Works** – Youth Friendly Community Recognition Program
- f. **Huron-Perth Children's Aid Society** – requesting donation to Huron Christmas Bureau
- g. **Huron Business Development Corp**
 - i. Bio-diesel Demonstrations being held during November.
 - ii. Newsletter “Business and Work in Huron County”, October, 2007
- h. **Huron Tourism**
 - i. Goderich Co-op Gallery – Photographer George Zoethout works on display
 - ii. Better Business Seminar – P.I.P.E.D.A. Thurs. Nov. 8 in Seaforth at 7:00 pm
 - iii. Howick “Christmas in the Country” tour – Nov. 10 & 11, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
 - iv. Big Brothers & Sisters of South Huron – Mystery Dinner & auction, Fri. Nov. 16th at 6 pm
- i. **Gamsby and Mannerow** – available to assist with Public Service Accounting Board (PSAB) Tangible Capital Asset requirements.
- j. **T. Donaghy** – Thank you to Howick office staff for assistance.

The above correspondence was noted. Action: File

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #331/07

Moved by Versteeg

Seconded by Henhoeffter

THAT Howick Township Council now adjourns the November 6th, 2007 Regular Meeting of Howick Township Council at 10:55 p.m., with Council to meet again at the Regular Meeting scheduled for November 20th, 2007 at 7:00 p.m., or at the call of the Chair.

CARRIED

REEVE

CLERK