

TOWNSHIP OF HOWICK
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th, 2009 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

Mark Farinha, Treasurer/Tax Collector
Bruce Skillen, Recreation/Facilities Supervisor

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

Copies of draft Minutes of the Public Meeting for Zone Amendment and the Regular Council Meeting held September 1st, 2009 were circulated in the Council package.

MOTION #267/09

Moved by Scott

Seconded by Henhoeffler

THAT Howick Township Council hereby approves the minutes of the Public Meeting (Application for Zone Amendment) held on Tuesday, September 1st, 2009, as circulated.

CARRIED

MOTION #268/09

Moved by Scott

Seconded by Versteeg

THAT Howick Township Council hereby approves the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on Tuesday, September 1st, 2009, as circulated.

CARRIED

RECREATION/FACILITIES SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

The following report and related correspondence were circulated in the Council package:

Howick Community Pool - Windbreak Fence

Mr. Skillen has learned of a local municipality that has 4' x 4' x 5/8" panels of tempered glass panels which are available free of charge, and he feels these would work well for the fencing around the pool. We would need to devise posts and framework for erecting the panels. Mr. Skillen will look into that issue, and is also awaiting a price quote for fencing from a local supplier.

End-of-Season Report

Mr. Skillen noted that the pool was well-utilized this year and the renovations were much appreciated. Records indicate over 2,000 attended public swimming.

Free Recreation Admission Passes

Mr. Skillen reviewed information and a letter received from Sharon van Veen concerning a program that would provide grade 5 students with a free pass for admission to public skating in winter and public swimming in summer. The Recreation Program Co-ordinator for North Perth is in the process of implementing this program in that municipality. Mr. Skillen pointed out that Public Skating in Howick is free for everyone through sponsorships. He will monitor the North Perth program, and based on their experience, perhaps Howick could look at the concept for next year.

Howick Community Centre – Engineer’s Inspection

The following comments and recommendations were contained in the Report: Overall, the structure is in good condition and appears to be well-maintained. Of significant concern is the condition of the lower level masonry wall around the arena area. The following recommendations are made:

- Monitor the condition of the perimeter masonry wall and take measures to ensure that moisture is not penetrating into the masonry wall.
- Cap or fill the holes in the east masonry wall.
- Caulk the control joints in the brick façade of the new addition.
- The structure should be inspected again in the next 5 – 7 years.

Mr. Skillen noted that it will not be necessary to engage a contractor to do the repairs. Staff will complete the necessary work as general maintenance.

Air Circulation System

Mr. Skillen reported the system seems to be functioning, but occasionally needs to be re-set. He has asked the “expert” to return to check out the problem.

Seasonal Arena Staff

A few of last year’s staff will not be returning this season, so Mr. Skillen will advertise for Arena and Booth Attendants.

Howick Recreation Guide

Mr. Skillen is currently working with Ms. Woodcock of Wingham Advance-Times on the 2010 edition of the guide. This publication will be similar to the last, but with additional information.

TREASURER’S REPORT

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

USTI Conference

The annual conference is October 22 and 23 in London. Council’s permission for Brenda Weishar to attend is requested.

MOTION #269/09	Moved by Scott	Seconded by Henhoeffter
THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes the attendance of Deputy Treasurer Weishar at the USTI User Forum to be held in London October 22 nd -23 rd , 2009 and agreed to pay the registration fee of \$325.50 and any other costs associated with her attendance at this event.		
		CARRIED

Supplementary Assessments

A list of the Supplementary Assessments is attached. There is a net assessment increase of \$6.6M. This generates \$25K in tax levy as follows:

- Residential \$19K
- Farmlands \$5K
- Commercial \$1K

The budget for Supplementary and Omit Revenue is \$23,000 and estimated 2009 actual including revenue from these assessments is \$27,000. This is a \$4,000 surplus in the account. There is still another Supplementary run before yearend but we do not know the levy this will generate.

MOTION #270/09	Moved by Scott	Seconded by Yungblut	
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 assessment changes as follows:			
	<u>Reductions</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Net Adjustment</u>
For the Year 2007	\$ 0	\$1,411,000.	\$1,411,000.00
For the Year 2008	\$ 4,000.	\$2,525,500.	\$2,521,500.00
For the Year 2009	\$51,000.	\$2,693,025.	\$2,641,475.00
Total Net Adjustment			\$6,573,975.00
			CARRIED

Wingham Area Fire Board (WAFB)

Treasurer Farinha’s Report included the following:

- A revised statement of WAFB Distribution of Assets incorporating “Adjustment List’ changes
- An analysis of the WAFB Asset Adjustment List
- Copy of WAFB Asset Adjustment List
- Copy of WAFB Assets Appraisal Report

As well, an outline of “Discussion Points” regarding the WAFB was distributed at the meeting.

ADDENDUM

Premier’s Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence

Attached is correspondence from the Deputy Minister of Agriculture announcing the awards and seeking applications for consideration. We would like to advertise this program:

1. On the website
2. On the notice board at the Administration Office
3. Through Marion’s community paper “Whats Happening”

Residents would have to apply on their own rather than through the Township office.

PUBLIC WORKS CO-ORDINATOR’S REPORT

The following report as at September 15th and supporting documentation were provided at the Council Meeting:

ROADS

PUBLIC WORKS STAFF OPERATIONS

- Second round of grass cutting complete
- Replacement of culverts
- Grading (If we get some rain)
- Winter Sand is in storage

PROVINCIAL TRUCK SAFETY ROADEO

Doug Chapman attended the Provincial Roadeo on Wednesday September 9th at Simcoe. He came in 6th out of 18 drivers. Doug Quigley from Minto went as well and the expenses will be split between Howick and Minto. Howick will pay for the accommodation and Minto provided transportation.

FORDWICH STREET CONSTRUCTION

The Murray Group are to be back to-day to pave Old Mill and Louisa Streets. Work should be near completion by the end of next week.

GOUGH ROAD CONSTRUCTION

We now have the construction drawings for this road section. I would like to invite bids for excavators, dozers, trucks and material. Requesting permission from Council to proceed as soon as the bids are in rather than waiting until the next meeting on October 6th. We expect this job to take 4-5 weeks and we would like to take advantage of the good weather.

Mr. Wilson added that, according to terms of the Infrastructure Grant, 50% of the project dollars must be spent by next March. There seems to be some confusion with the entire grant process – the Province is requesting status reports on construction projects even though, at this point, there are no signed Agreements in place. It may be necessary to obtain provincial approval for the Township’s Public Works department to perform some of the work on this project (similar to the Malcolm Line construction), and also, to request an extension for the Spencetown Road project, as it is obvious there are not enough contractors available to complete all the Infrastructure projects within the specified time frames.

MOTION #273/09

Moved by Versteeg

Seconded by Scott

THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes and instructs the Public Works Co-ordinator to select the required contractors from those submitting price quotes for the Gough Road construction project, and to proceed with the Gough Road construction work as soon as possible thereafter.

CARRIED

ROADSIDE MOWER

We intended to sell the oldest mower at the County Auction. Yesterday, I received an offer on the mower that I believe is probably better than we could do at the County Auction. We would have to pay staff to deliver the mower to Auburn, have someone at the sale to make sure we received a fair price and pay 9% commission. I would recommend we sell the mower to Reichard Farms at the quoted price.

MOTION #274/09

Moved by Scott

Seconded by Henhoeffter

THAT Howick Township Council hereby accepts the offer from Reichard Farms to purchase the Kuhn GM500 Mower at the quoted price of \$2,250.00.

CARRIED

Treasurer Farinha was given authorization to transfer the revenue from the mower sale to the Public Works – Equipment Reserve.

BUILDING

BUILDING PERMITS

Deputy Treasurer Weishar prepared a Report for Council and it was included in the package, indicating the following activity to the end of August:

<u>Permits Issued</u>	<u>Construction Value</u>	<u>Permit Fees</u>
52 Building Permits	\$4,055,800.00	\$18,787.24
12 Septic System Permits	\$ 112,500.00	\$ 3,250.00
2 Demolition Permits	00	00

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

I will be attending the Ontario Building Officials Association Conference and Training Sessions in Huntsville from Oct. 4th – Oct. 7th. A copy of the agenda and training sessions is enclosed.

DRAINAGE

BOLTON MUNICIPAL DRAIN

Work on the County Road culvert is complete. The open portion is nearing completion. It was confirmed that the concrete tile is on site to-day for Branch "D". Problems were encountered upstream with banks sagging, and rip-rap was added.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT - NO REPORT

LANDFILL

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT (MOE)

The enclosed letter was received this week from the MOE regarding the 2008 Annual Report. It looks like we should budget for more test wells in 2010.

CLERKS REPORT

The following report as at Sept. 15th and copies of supporting information were circulated in the Council package:

ACCESSIBILITY FOR ONTARIANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (AODA)

Mr. Charles Beer has been appointed by the Province to conduct an independent review of the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005* (see enclosed 'question / answer' information about purpose of review). The review process includes a series of Public Consultation Meetings (schedule attached) to be held during October, one session scheduled for October 20th at the London Convention Centre. In addition, Mr. Beer is inviting written submissions (guidelines for submissions enclosed) commenting on the following:

- The Standards Development Committee process
- The role of Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee
- The functions of the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario (including public education)
- Recommendations for a repeal strategy for the *Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001*

I have contacted the Huron County Accessibility Co-ordinator to ask if the County plans to make a submission, and if lower tier municipalities could funnel their comments to the County to compile a joint response.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Huron County Pandemic Planning

The Huron County Health Unit gave a presentation to the Huron County CEMC's on September 9th outlining how the Health Unit will manage and co-ordinate response to pandemic influenza. According to the *Huron County Influenza Pandemic Plan*, if a pandemic becomes severe enough, primary care services may be overwhelmed and communities in Huron County will need to look at alternate ways to deliver influenza assessment, treatment and referral services, through dedicated influenza Assessment, Treatment and Referral Centres or "Flu Centres". These centres will be temporary additions to the health care delivery system and will be planned and managed locally, with centres located in Exeter/Grand Bend, Clinton, Seaforth, Goderich and Wingham.

The Health Unit is also conducting a public education campaign designed to "Stop the Spread" of influenza. A supply of posters was provided to be distributed throughout the Township

Training Session

The Town of Goderich will hold a training session about 'Hosting Aboriginal People', featuring aboriginal RCMP Officer Carol Clarke, to be held at the Memorial Arena on October 14th. Clerk Johnson noted she had already attended a similar presentation elsewhere, and learned that Howick has no facilities appropriate for hosting. No others indicated their intention to attend this session.

Tecumseh Sector Fall Meeting

The Fall Sector meeting will be held on Oct. 27th in Stratford, and will include presentations by Fire Chief/CEMC from West Grey and Grey County Social Services Director regarding the West Grey tornado response and recovery.

Given the topic on the agenda, Clerk Johnson expressed interest in attending, as did Deputy Reeve Yungblut.

MOTION #275/09

Moved by Scott

Seconded by Versteeg

THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes attendance of the following at the Emergency Management Ontario Tecumseh Sector Fall Meeting being held in Stratford on Oct. 27th, 2009 and agrees to pay the costs associated with attendance at this meeting: Clerk/CEMC Johnson; Deputy Reeve Yungblut.

CARRIED

Appointment to Local Board

In the resolution to appoint additional members to the Wroxeter Park Board, I missed a name. A resolution is required to add Lynn Hunt to that Board.

MOTION #276/09

Moved by Scott

Seconded by Henhoeffler

THAT Howick Township Council hereby amends By-Law No. 13-2009, being a by-law to appoint members to Local Boards and Committees, to add Lynn Hunt as a member of the Wroxeter Park Board.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING COUNCIL ACTION

1. **Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)** – presenting a ‘Media & Communications’ training in London on November 4th. Registration \$367.50.

Noted and discussed. Action: File

2. **Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)** – celebrating *Local Government Week* October 18-24, 2009. Program resource packages provided to assist with planning activities.

The Clerk was directed to pass the information on to the Principal at Howick Central School.

3. **Recycling Council of Ontario** – invitation to celebrate and participate in Waste Reduction Week Oct. 19th-25th. Information / Promotion kit to arrive soon.

Noted. Action: File

4. **Perth & Middlesex Community Futures Development Corp’s** – invitation to send one or two delegates to attend a workshop “focused on indentifying rural research priorities”, to be held at the Mitchell Town Hall on September 21st, 5:30 – 8:30 pm. RSVP by Sept. 15th.

Due to previous commitments on that date, no one will be available to attend.

5. **Huron Manufacturing Association (HMA)** – Inviting nominations for HMA ‘Manufacturing Excellence Awards’, and the HMA ‘United Communities Credit Union Apprenticeship Scholarship’ (Criteria available, copies not included). Nomination deadline Sept. 16th.

Noted and discussed. Action: File

6. **Pamela Irwin, Maitland Girls Hockey Assoc.** – requesting donation of items for teams to take to the ‘Friendship Tournament’ in Rochester, New York in November.

Clerk Johnson advised that there are very few Township lapel pins left in stock. Council instructed Clerk Johnson to obtain prices on promotional items, such as pens, which could be obtained locally to be given to the teams. As well, Council instructed that Township lapel pins be re-ordered.

ADDENDA

7. 2009 Ontario West Municipal Conference

Further information (copy attached) was received yesterday about speakers and workshops at the conference, and registration is now open. Reeve Demaray and Treasurer Farinha indicated earlier (at the July meeting) that they plan to attend, and reservations were made for them at the Lamplighter Inn. Those attending are asked to select the sessions you wish to attend (per attached form). Please complete and return a copy to me, and I will submit the registrations. A resolution is required to authorize attendance at the conference.

MOTION #277/09

Moved by Versteeg

Seconded by Yungblut

THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes attendance of the following at the *2009 Ontario West Municipal Conference* being held in London Nov. 25th & 26th, 2009, and agrees to pay the registration fee of \$225.00 for each, and any other costs associated with their attendance at this conference: Reeve Demaray; Treasurer Farinha.

CARRIED

Howick Central School Playground Equipment

Laurie Myer telephoned today to advise that the equipment is installed and an “informal” ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held this evening (in conjunction with meet-the-teacher night). Contributors are invited to attend this brief ceremony at 7:45 pm. I returned her call to advise that Council is meeting this evening. Laurie noted that another piece of equipment is still to be added, and a donor plaque erected, so she felt that there may be another more formal ceremony later that Council may be able to attend.

MUNICIPAL RESOLUTIONS

1. **Amherstburg, Town of** – requesting the Provincial government to continue consultations with municipalities and the Solar Industry to reach a fair and equitable property assessment valuation method, and until an agreement is reached, that assessment be derived by totaling the area of solar panels in a project to determine total PV surface area and that area be assessed at full Industrial rate, and the balance of area at Vacant Industrial rate.

Noted and discussed. Action: File

BY-LAWS

By-Law No. 22-2009 – To Enter into Agreement for Infrastructure Stimulus Fund

MOTION #278/09	Moved by Scott	Seconded by Yungblut
THAT Howick Township Council gives first, second, and third and final reading to By-Law No. 22-2009, being a by-law to authorized entering into a Funding Agreement under the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund.		
CARRIED		

CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

- Minutes of the closed session held September 1st, 2009
- By-Law Enforcement Officer’s Reports
- Legal Matter – Statement of Claim

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Belmore Community Centre Board - Next meeting Sept. 21st

Coalition for Huron Injury Prevention (CHIP)

Councillor Henhoeffer reported from the September 9th meeting:

- The electronic speed sign will be located in Wingham this week.
- The old ‘Road Watch’ signs will be covered with new material relating to CHIP program “Eyes on the Road and Hands on the Wheel”

ADDENDA

- Report from Ontario Medical Association “ATV’s are not Child’s Play”. It was noted that a 7-year-old child was killed in an ATV accident in Sarnia recently.

Councillor Henhoeffer requested Council’s consideration to pay the registration fee of \$40.00 for her attendance at the Southwest Injury Prevention Conference.

MOTION #279/09	Moved by Versteeg	Seconded by Yungblut
THAT Howick Township Council hereby agrees to pay the registration fee of \$40.00 for Councillor Henhoeffer to attend the Southwest Injury Prevention Conference in London being held on October 15 th , 2009.		
CARRIED		

County of Huron

Reeve Demaray reported from the County meeting today:

- Revisions to the Huron County Official Plan are ongoing, with further discussions on changes such as severance of surplus farm dwellings.
- There have been reports of bear sitings in Huron County, including a female with 2 cubs.
- The Auditors have found an unidentified trust fund of \$10,409.00.
- The Health Department has turned down a mandatory septic inspection program.
- A recent incident of a child being trapped in the elevator at the Seaforth arena prompted discussion about training and instructing staff in how to deal with such situations.
- The policy concerning sick time benefits for County employees is being revised. The new policy will allow an annual limit of 15 days.
- The Library Board presented their Organizational Review today.

Huron Bruce Transit - no report

Huron County Farm and Home Safety - no report

Maitland Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA)

Councillor Versteeg attended the Maitland Valley Conservation Foundation barbeque fundraiser at the Wawanosh Centre.

The next MVCA Board meeting will be September 16th.

Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA)

Circulated in the Council package was a notice and invitation to attend the SCVA Strategic Plan consultation meeting being held in Walkerton on Sept. 24th.

MOTION #280/09

Moved by Yungblut

Seconded by Versteeg

THAT Howick Township Council hereby authorizes attendance of the following at the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority 'Strategic Plan' consultation meeting being held in Walkerton on Thurs., Sept. 24th, 2009, and agrees to pay the costs associated with attendance at this meeting: Councillor Scott. CARRIED

MVCA Source Water Protection (SWP) - no report

SVCA Source Water Protection - no report

Wingham Area Fire Board (WAFB)

The following were circulated in the Council package:

- Agenda for September 9th Board Meeting
- Minutes of August 12th Board Meeting
- Chief's August Report
- Financial Statements to July 31st, 2009

NB – See 'Treasurer's Report of discussion of Fire Board issues.

COUNCILLORS ISSUES

Complaint – Fence Dispute

Reeve Demaray reported receiving a complaint from a property owner whose neighbour has erected a fence which is allegedly situated on the complainant's property.

Mr. Wilson responded that he also received a complaint that this same fence was encroaching on the road allowance. Mr. Wilson requested the fence owner to remove the fence from the roadside, and this has been done. Asked if the fence viewers could deal with this matter, the Clerk responded that fence viewers have no authority to determine where a lot line is located. A survey is the only means of locating lot lines.

CLOSED SESSION

MOTION #281/09

Moved by Scott

Seconded by Yungblut

THAT Howick Township Council at this time (9:52 pm) closes this portion of the September 15th, 2009 Regular Meeting of Howick Township Council in accordance with the *Municipal Act, 2001, Section 239(2)(a),(b),(c),(d),(e)*, to deal with personal and legal matters. CARRIED

Matters Discussed in Closed Session

- Minutes of Closed Session of September 1st, 2009 (approved by Resolution #2282/09)
- Property Standards and By-Law Enforcement
- Legal Matter – Statement of Claim

MOTION #283/09

Moved by Scott

Seconded by Henhoeffler

THAT Howick Township Council now re-opens the September 15th, 2009 Regular Council meeting to the public at this time (10:05 pm). CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE (FOR INFORMATION ONLY) (copies attached)

- a) **Hydro One** – promoting the *Great Refrigerator Roundup Program*
- b) **Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE)** – declaring Oct. 21st *Child Care Worker & Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day*
- c) **Ontario Land Use Council** – letter to Minister of Natural Resources re. *Endangered Species Act*

- d) **Ontario Livestock & Poultry Council** – founded to co-ordinate a strategy to deal with animal disease outbreaks
- e) **Friends of Green Belt Foundation** – 2009 Tour de Greenbelt schedule of tour events
- f) **Huron County** – Official Plan 5-year review (compilation of amendments available, copy not included)

CORRESPONDENCE forwarded via E-Mail (Aug. 31 to Sept. 11, 2009) (No copies attached)

- a) **Association of Municipalities of Ontario**
 - FYI No. 09-013 – ‘Share the Road Cycling Coalition’ seeking municipal input to help develop an “active transportation policy”.
 - FYI No. 09-014 – ‘Continuous Improvement Fund’ provides grants and loans to municipalities for projects to increase efficiency of Blue Box recycling.
 - AMO ‘Counties, Regions & Single Tiers’ Conference – Oct. 18-20 in Ajax
 - AMO/LAS FYI No. 09-003 – New Solar Photovoltaic Program available to municipalities.
 - AMO/LAS Town Hall Sessions – to learn about existing and new AMO/LAS programs
 - AMO/LAS Energy Conference – Nov. 16-17 in Markham
 - ONE – Public Sector Funds – 2nd Quarter 2009 Performance Report
- b) **Ben Lobb, MP** – announces funding for 2nd Annual Celebration of First Nations in Huron County.
- c) **Ministry of Health** – thehealthline.ca August 18th e-bulletin
- d) **Ontario Provincial Police** – Alert re. escapee from Bluewater Youth Centre
- e) **South West Local Health Integration Network (LHIN)** – inviting public feedback re. development of 2010-2013 Integrated Health Services Plan and Blueprint Project.
- f) **Fleet Challenge Ontario** – schedule of Green Fleet Management Breakfast Forums 2009-2010.
- g) **MUSH Capital Corp** – new program of financing options to acquire/upgrade capital equipment.
- h) **Dave Palmer** – advocating for a Governor General’s Volunteer Service Medal to honour veterans.
- i) **Huron Business Development Corp**
 - Next “Better Business” Seminar – ‘24 Hours to Get Everything Done’ Sept. 9th in Clinton
 - Huron Women in Networking dinner Sept. 24th at White Carnation in Holmesville
- j) **Huron Tourism**
 - 2nd edition of “Buy Local! Buy Fresh! Huron Map now available
 - Huron County Cultural Symposium at Blyth Centre for the Arts on Nov. 7th, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
 - Lake Huron Learning offering “Communications at Work” course at Goderich District Collegiate Institute – 3 two-hour sessions, 7:00 – 9:00 pm, Oct. 7, 14, 21.
 - “Songs for Sudan” benefit concert at Exeter United Church, Sept. 20th at 7:00 pm

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #284/09 **Moved by Versteeg** **Seconded by Yungblut**
 THAT Howick Township Council now adjourns the September 15th, 2009 Regular Meeting of Howick Township Council at 10:06 pm, with Council to meet again at the Special Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 16th 2009 at 7:00 p.m., or at the call of the Chair. **CARRIED**

 REEVE

 CLERK