

THE CORPORATION OF THE UNITED TOWNSHIPS OF HEAD, CLARA & MARIA

Minutes January 9, 2015

Minutes of a regular meeting of Council held on Friday, January 9, 2015 at 14:00 h. in the Municipal Hall.

1. CALL TO ORDER & MOMENT of SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL

The following were present Mayor Gibson Councillors: Calvin Chartrand, Dave Foote, Debbi Grills and Bob Reid.

Absent: n/a

Regrets: n/a

Late: n/a

Staff: Melinda Reith, Clerk, Noella LeBreton, Treasurer; 3 members of the public;

3. DISCLOSURE of PECUNIARY INTEREST & GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

Pecuniary Interest applies to you if it applies to clubs/organizations you are involved in, your employer, or activities of your children, parents or spouse;

4. DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS - none

5. ADOPTION of MINUTES of PREVIOUS MEETINGS (INCLUDING COMMITTEES)

i. Council Minutes – December 5, 2015

Resolution # 09/01/15/001

Moved by Councillor Reid and seconded by Councillor Grills

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of Friday, December 5, 2014 be accepted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

Note: correction on page 7 to “Councillor” instead of first name “Calvin”;

Note: Reminder to all Council members, if you declare a conflict make sure that you do not move or second the motion.

ii. Council Minutes – December 19, 2015

Resolution #09/01/15/002

Moved by Councillor Grills and seconded by Councillor Reid

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the special meeting of Friday, December 19, 2014 be accepted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

iii. Library Board Minutes - none

iv. Recreation Committee Minutes

1. December 17, 2014

Resolution # 09/01/15/003

Moved by Councillor Reid and seconded by Councillor Grills

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Recreation Committee of Wednesday, December 17, 2014 and subsequent recommendations be accepted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

6. CORRESPONDENCE & PETITIONS – none

- i. Renfrew County National Farmers Union – re: congratulations – information
- ii. MNRF – re: congratulations and human-wildlife conflicts - information
- iii. MMAH – re: congratulations and new Municipal Councillor's Guide – information
- iv. AMO – re: Bill 8 Accountability and Transparency Measures Update – information

- v. Duplicate
- vi. County of Renfrew – re: Council communique – information
- vii. VFIS News – re: Newsletter – information – forward electronically
- viii. AMO's 2015 pre-budget Submission – information
- ix. MCSCS – re: Chief Fire Official requirements – information
- x. The Township of Algonquin Highlands – re: OPP Billing – previously responded to
- xi. LAS Newflash – re: newsletter - information

7. STAFF REPORTS

- i. Report #09/01/15/801 – Clerk's Report
Reschedule Meet and Greet to occur as a Joint Council meeting. Mayor Gibson to coordinate with other area Mayor's.
- ii. Report #09/01/15/802 – Treasurer's Report
- iii. Report #09/01/15/803 – Mayor's Report – County Council Orientation
 - 1. County Meeting Schedule
 - 2. County Committee Appointments
 - 3. Mike Nolan to come to an upcoming Council meeting to update us on Emergency Services within the county as well as the heli-pad

8. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- i. Cheque Log
Resolution #09/01/15/004
Moved by Councillor Grills and Seconded by Councillor Reid
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Report #09/01/15/901 being the Cheque Log from December 2, 2014 – December 31, 2014 totalling \$594,655.40 be accepted as presented.
Carried Unanimously

- ii. Comparative Income Statement
Resolution #09/01/15/005
Moved by Councillor Reid and Seconded by Councillor Grills
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Comparative Income Statement from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014, Report #09/01/15/902 be accepted as presented.
Carried Unanimously

9. BY-LAWS

- i. Report #09/01/15/1001 – By-Law #2015-01 - Retain 1/3 Tax Free Status for Council Remuneration
Resolution #09/01/15/006
Moved by Councillor Foote and Seconded by Councillor Reid
BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 2015-01 being a by-law to retain the one-third tax-free allowance for remuneration paid to municipal councillors for the 2014-18 term be read a first time short and passed.
Carried Unanimously

- ii. Report #09/01/15/1002 – By – Law #2015-02 - 2015 Budget By-Law
Resolution #09/01/15/007
Moved by Councillor Reid and Seconded by Councillor Foote
WHEREAS the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria have reviewed the options available for setting the total operating budget for 2015 and are cognizant of concerns of rate increases by members of the public;

AND WHEREAS a public meeting was held on Saturday, December 6, 2014 to explain the 2015 budget and to receive comments and concerns from members of the public;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby agree to adopt the budget as presented/amended and to insert the corresponding total of \$895,138.38 into the budget by-law so that it may be formally adopted at this meeting.

Carried Unanimously

Resolution #09/01/15/008

Moved by Councillor Foote and Seconded by Councillor Reid

WHEREAS Council has debated the budget by-law and made recommendations to employees as reflected in the total inserted in the budget document;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law Number 2015-02 being a by-law to adopt the 2015 Operating Budget be read a first time short and passed.

Carried Unanimously

iii. Report #09/01/15/1003 – By-Law #2015-03 - General Authorization By-law
Resolution #09/01/15/009

Moved by Councillor Foote and Seconded by Councillor Reid

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 2015-03 being a by-law to to authorize the Head of Council and/or the Clerk/CAO to execute agreements, contracts, or other documents which are routine in nature and are required to finalize a previous action taken by Council or direction given by Council be read a first time short and passed.

Carried Unanimously

iv. Report #09/01/15/1203 – By-Law #2015-04 - Interim Taxation By-Law
Resolution #09/01/15/010

Moved by Councillor Grills and Seconded by Councillor Foote

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 2015-04 being a by-law to provide for an interim tax levy on properties designated as residential, farmland, managed forest, pipeline, industrial and commercial and to provide for payment of taxes and penalty and interest of 1.25% be read a first time short and passed.

Carried Unanimously

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

i. Report #09/01/15/1101 – Borrowing/Credit Card Authorization
Resolution #09/01/15/011

Moved by Councillor Chartrand and Seconded by Councillor Grills

WHEREAS the use of credit cards facilitates municipal business especially with the increase in on-line purchasing;

AND WHEREAS the Treasurer has contracted with Scotiabank Business Services for municipal Visa cards which requires renewed Council authorization;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby authorize the Treasurer to act as administrator for the Municipal corporation Visa Cards account with a total combined borrowing limit of \$15,000.00;

AND FURTHER THAT the current card ratios continue with limits of \$5,000 for the Clerk, Melinda Reith, \$9,000 for the Treasurer, Noella LeBreton and \$1,000 for the Road Superintendent, Wilfred Lamure each in the Corporation name;

AND FURTHER THAT this authorization be valid for the term of this Council until the end of November 2018 or until a change in staffing.

Carried Unanimously

ii. Report #09/01/15/1102 – Resolution of Support - Town of Bancroft – re:
Policing costs

Resolution #09/01/15/012

Moved by Councillor Grills and Seconded by Councillor Chartrand

WHEREAS the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, Mr. Yasir Naqvi announced a new OPP billing model to take effect on January 1, 2015 based on calls for service and base costs which does not consider seasonal properties nor the differences between a “commercial” property as described in MPAC’s system in a small rural municipality such as a cell tower and a “commercial” property in a large urban center such as a night club or entertainment center;

AND WHEREAS the unorganized municipalities and their Provincial Land Tax payments from northern Ontario have not been considered or amended in this funding formula;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby agree with and support the enclosed resolutions of the Township of McKellar, the Municipality of McDougall, The Town of Bancroft, the Township of Pelee and the Township of Algonquin Highlands in expressing their objections to this flawed funding model;

AND FURTHER THAT it calls on the province at all levels and ministries to declare a moratorium on the implementation of the new billing model and to work to develop a model which is more fair and equitable meeting the needs of all Ontarians.

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated for support.
Carried Unanimously

iii. Report #09/01/15/1103 – Resolution of Support - Town of Petawawa – re:
Highway 17 Expansion
Resolution #09/01/15/013

Moved by Councillor Chartrand and Seconded by Councillor Grills

WHEREAS the Town of Petawawa has requested support for its resolution requesting that the province commence the process of 4 laning highway 17 east from Chalk River to eventually meet the extension coming west from Arnprior;

AND WHEREAS the case presented is valid and sound;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby support and endorse the enclosed resolution of the Town of Petawawa and calls on the province through the Ministry of Transportation to consider the commencement of a four lane expansion moving eastward from North Renfrew to meet the current expansion moving west from Arnprior;

AND FURTHER THAT considering that Highway 17 is an integral component of the Trans-Canada highway system which directly benefits the Federal government by accessing two federal institutions in Garrison Petawawa and Canadian Nuclear Laboratories Limited and indirectly benefits all Canadians that the province work with their federal counterparts to facilitate and finance this expansion improving economic development opportunities and increasing safety for all highway users.

Carried Unanimously

iv. Report #09/01/15/1104 – Allocation of Unaudited Surplus for 2015
Resolution #09/01/15/014

Moved by Councillor Grills and Seconded by Councillor Chartrand

WHEREAS in choosing option 2 from the suggested budget scenarios Council is left with an unallocated unaudited surplus of 2014 to be allocated to 2015 special projects of \$9,424;

AND WHEREAS staff has created a list of options based on suggestions received by staff, Council and members of the public over 2014 and considering the priorities set in the Strategic Planning exercise of 2013;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby allocate the surplus as follows:

1. \$ 1,000 Purchase of a “bird banger” or other equipment to chase geese from Old Mackey Park. Costs range from \$300 - \$500 depending on what you decide to purchase. **Recommendation that \$1,000 be set aside for this project.**
2. \$ 1,000 Cleaning and restoring historic community maps obtained by the Library Board for display in the community centre;

3. \$1,500 Increased donation funding to include an annual donation to the North Renfrew Family Services. **Recommendation that \$1,500 be set aside for this purpose.**
4. \$ 1,500 Community Recreation/Social Programs. Funding recreation committee members' attendance at appropriate local conferences.
5. \$ 0 ~~Park improvements. Cement floor for already approved pavilion at OMP.~~
6. \$ 0 ~~Patio at back of community centre.~~
7. \$ ~~Manufacture of a cart to house and transport the grill donated by Mr. Vanderhorn to facilitate use.~~
8. \$ 500 Recycling program promotion – purchase of bags to provide to each residence to promote recycling and assist in collecting materials in small spaces. May be used as shopping bags. 30l in volume; cost 0.81 each. Can order in combination with the Continuous Improvement Fund which arranges joint purchases throughout the year. **Recommendation that \$500 be allocated to this project.**
9. \$ 3,924 to be decided later.
10. \$ Other.

Carried Unanimously

Notes:

- Send hall deck/patio issue back to Rec Committee for recommendation to Council.
- The grill cart is to be created by volunteers.
- The floor under the new pavilion section is to be of other materials due to cracking of first section and will be completed by volunteers.
- The \$3,924 to be allocated as per recommendation of the Recreation Committee.

Action: take to rec committee

11. ADDENDUM (NEW BUSINESS)

i. Report #09/01/15/1201 – Smoke Free Ontario - signage
Information

ii. Report #09/01/15/120 - Comment on Provincial Review of Provincial Land Tax Resolution # 09/01/15/015

Moved by Councillor Grills Seconded by Councillor Chartrand

WHEREAS the province has recently attempted to improve its revenue situation by increasing the costs of Ontario Provincial Police Billing and in 2014 attempted to claw back the Power Dam payments affecting many Ontario municipalities;

AND WHEREAS a review document by the Ministry of Finance of the Provincial Land Tax (PLT) received from property owners in unorganized territories for provincial services has recently been presented for comment and details some significant inequities between how properties are taxed and the benefits received from the province in comparison to other municipalities;

AND WHEREAS it is understood that this paper focuses on the discrepancies between unorganized areas and organized municipalities in Northern Ontario it also affects small rural municipalities in Southern and near Northern Ontario;

AND WHEREAS numerous rural Ontario municipalities have many of the same challenges as those in unorganized territories due to isolation, low population density,

and distance to services but do not benefit from exemptions, subsidies and funding received by Northern Ontario residents;

AND WHEREAS these small rural municipalities provide the bare minimum in services to their constituents such as maintenance of roads, garbage collection, scant recreation and a public library not being able to afford luxuries such as local policing, emergency services, utilities, water and sewer, public health, public education, or social services within their own municipality although are demanded to provide financial support at the county and provincial level;

AND WHEREAS the average PLT paid per household in northern unorganized areas has not changed significantly since the 1950s;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby beseech the Minister of Finance to bring the PLT payment program in Northern Ontario's unorganized areas in line with other Ontario tax payments so that these residents pay their fair share of provincially operated services which they benefit from but do not contribute towards lowering the burden placed on small rural "Southern" Ontario municipalities and northern organized municipalities;

AND FURTHER THAT these increased revenues be used to offset the demands placed on all small rural Ontario municipalities with increased OPP Billing, reduced transfer payments and the proposed Power Dam compensation reductions;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated for support.
Carried Unanimously

Mayor Gibson - opposed
Councillor Chartrand - yea
Councillor Foote - yea
Councillor Grills - yea
Councillor Reid - yea

iii. Report #09/01/15/120 – Council Support for Heritage Canada 2015 Celebrate Canada Funding
Resolution # 09/01/15/016

Moved by Councillor Chartrand Seconded by Councillor Grills

WHEREAS the Federal Government is once again providing funds through Heritage Canada for Canada Day celebrations which this municipality has previously participated in with an application deadline of January 15, 2015;

AND WHEREAS Council has approved and incorporated the Recreation Committee budget into its own committing to raising funds and supporting Canada Day Celebrations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby authorize staff to apply to the Celebrate Canada program to offset the costs of our now annual event delegating to the Clerk, Melinda Reith, the authority to apply to the Department of Canadian Heritage for funding under the Celebrate Canada Program in coordination with the Recreation committee;

AND FURTHER THAT the Recreation committee be authorized to organize this event with the assistance of volunteers on behalf of Council and according to the guidelines of Heritage Canada's funding program and municipal policy.
Carried Unanimously

iv. Report #09/01/15/120 – Algonquins of Ontario – Orientation Materials for New Councils
Information

12. CLOSED SESSION – none

13. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION – n/a

14. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

- i. Councillor Foote – reinstate the Lord's Prayer or some other comments at the commencement of the meeting or completely eliminate the moment of silence
 - 1. County council opened with a prayer and sing O Canada
 - 2. Add to agenda for next meeting for Council discussion
- ii. Mayor Gibson – request from DRDH Foundation – volunteers to serve on board. Happy to serve – good, three days ago we approved your position on the board. The DRDH now has two mayor's Jim Gibson.
- iii. Councillor Chartrand – opportunity to work for a year out of town. Might miss some meetings. Schedule not cast in stone. Can be accommodated.

15. CONFIRMATION OF PROCEEDINGS

Resolution # 09/01/15/017

Moved by Councillor Grills and Seconded by Councillor Foote

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 2015-05 being a by-law to confirm proceedings of the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria at its meeting held on January 9, 2015 be read a first time short and passed.

Carried Unanimously

16. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution # 09/01/15/018

Moved by Councillor Grills and seconded by Councillor Foote

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this meeting adjourn at 16:03 h. to meet on Friday, January 30, 2015 at 14:00 h.

Carried Unanimously

Mayor – Jim Gibson

Clerk – Melinda Reith