

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Saturday, February 25, 2012				Report Date	Thursday, February 23, 2012			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	X	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed

REPORT TITLE
Furtherance of Complaint Process Report #25/02/12/403

Subject: Press release to deal with the actions taken after the code of conduct complaints discussion at the meeting of February 17, 2012.

RECOMMENDATION: That Council approve the following press release.

WHEREAS the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria was astounded by the article attributed to the Head of Council in the NRT of Wednesday, February 22, 2012;

AND WHEREAS this Council would like to make it clear to all members of the public that Ms. Stewart was acting on her own behalf and not as a representative of this Council in making her statements to the NRT or in her letter;

AND WHEREAS this Council would like to make it clear that they maintain confidence in all members of staff contrary to what is alleged in Ms. Stewart's letter;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby agree to have the following press release published as soon as possible by directing staff to provide a copy of it to all area news outlets, county municipalities, our website and municipal bulletin boards.

Background/Executive Summary: Self explanatory.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Council Maintains Confidence in Staff

Stonecliffe, Ontario – February 23, 2012 – Recent comments printed in the North Renfrew Times and attributed to Reeve Tammy-Lea Stewart are personal comments and not made on behalf of the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria.

Ms. Stewart has contributed comments and actions to “Council and staff” that discredit municipal employees and fellow Council members going so far as to allege that they have committed Criminal Code violations. This Council would like to make it clear that it maintains full confidence in all municipal staff notwithstanding that they have been maligned by Ms. Stewart.

The statements made in Ms. Stewart’s letter and interview with Mr. Myers are personal opinions and are not representative of the position of the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria. In publicizing these comments, she was acting alone and not on behalf of Council.

Further, it is the position of the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria that the NRT erred in attributing the comments and letter to “Reeve” Stewart as she was not acting in her official capacity representing the Council of HCM contrary to the responsibilities bestowed upon her as a Head of Council under the Municipal Act.

For Further Information Please Contact:
Melinda Reith, Municipal Clerk
15 Township Hall Road
Stonecliffe, ON. K0J 2K0
613-586-2526

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Others Consulted: Councillors Foote, Gibson and Grills – as they responded to my email requesting direction for calling a special meeting to deal with these issues as provided to each member of council. This report was prepared and press release drafted at the request of Councillor Gibson for the special meeting of Saturday, February 25, 2012.

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,
Municipal Clerk

Melinda Reith