



Rural Mayors' Forum of Eastern Ontario

December 1, 2017

Township of McNab/Braeside Council Chambers

Those in attendance were:

Ron Higgins, Mayor (Township of North Frontenac)
Tom Peckett, Mayor (Township of McNab/Braeside)
Henry Hogg, Reeve (Township of Addington Highlands)
Kim Love, Mayor (Township of Madawaska Valley)
Robert Kingsbury, Mayor (Township of Horton)
Shaun McLaughlin, Mayor (Township of Mississippi Mills)
Glenda McKay, Mayor (Township of Greater Madawaska) arrived at 9:58 a.m.

1. Welcome & Housekeeping

Mayor Tom Peckett welcomed those in attendance to the Township of McNab/Braeside.

Mayor Ron Higgins added "Waste Free Ontario" to today's agenda.

2. High Speed Internet

Mayor Shaun McLaughlin provided an overview of the business model being used by a group of residents called MM2020 to advocate for broadband connections for every home in Mississippi Mills by 2020. Their motivation was a CRTC declaration this year making high-speed access an essential service, a decision that also came with government funding. Negotiations are currently underway and Mayor McLaughlin stated that he would keep the members of RMFEO informed of any decisions.

3. OPP Update

Mayor Kim Love provided the AMO Queen's Park Legislative Update and reviewed the Highlights, AMO's Asks and the current statuses of the asks. Mayor Love will forward the OPP's 2015-2017 billing comparison spreadsheets to the group. Mayor Higgins is going to contact ROMA and set up a meeting to discuss how they see rural municipalities going into the review of this billing model.

The members recessed at 10:40 a.m. and returned at 10:55 with the same members present.

4. Meeting Location Distances

Mayor Tom Peckett advised that he looked into the distances between the municipalities and it would appear that making the distance shorter for some, would make it even longer for others. In an attempt to avoid poor driving conditions and summer vacations, Mayor Peckett suggested the RMFEO meet once a month in March, April May, September, October and November, while continuing to rotate



hosting throughout all of the members. The members agreed on the following dates: March 2, 2018, April 6, 2018, May 4, 2018 & June 8, 2018 – Fall dates will be determined at a later time.

5. Statement to Provincial Parties

Mayor Ron Higgins reviewed the correspondence he prepared for submission to the Provincial Parties with respect to election platforms.

It was agreed that this was a very well written letter, however, each member of the RMFEO is to submit, to Mayor Higgins by December 15, 2017, specific examples of downloading that has occurred since the last election. The group hopes to accumulate a list of no less than 10 downloading examples to include in this correspondence.

Action Item: Submit examples of downloading from the last 4 years to Mayor Higgins by December 15, 2017.

The group also decided that there may be more to add to this letter after ROMA.

6. Waste Free Ontario

Mayor Robert Kingsbury advised that as part of Waste free Ontario, tires will no longer be picked up from landfill sites. Municipalities will have to start thinking about what to do about this.

Action Item: Mayor Ron Higgins will draft a letter to AMO asking “where do we go from here with the changes to the Waste Free Ontario Act” and to confirm if AMO will be addressing this. A draft letter will be circulated electronically for comments.

7. New Business/Round Table

There were new items of business to discuss at this time.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on March 2, 2018 in North Frontenac.

9. Adjournment

This meeting of the Rural Mayors of Eastern Ontario adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Recorded by Mandy Cannon, Executive Assistant