

Township of Howick Council Meeting Minutes September 7, 2021

Present: Reeve Doug Harding
Deputy Reeve Eldon Bowman
Councillor Doug Hargrave
Councillor Megan Gibson
Councillor Marvin Grimes

Chief Building Official David Kopp
Fire Chief Shawn Edwards
Operations Manager Brady Nolan
Treasurer Brenda Weishar
Clerk Carol Watson

1. Call to Order

Reeve Harding called the meeting to order at 9 am, welcomed everyone in attendance and those who joined by telephone.

2. Acceptance of Agenda

Moved by Deputy Reeve Bowman; Seconded Councillor Gibson:

Be it resolved that Council approve the agenda as presented. Carried. Resolution No. 189/21

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

No one declared a pecuniary interest in relation to any item on the agenda at this time.

4. Delegations

Lisa Harper, Community Development Manager/211 Community Information Associate and Executive Director Ryan Erb, United Way Perth-Huron joined by telephone to share a presentation on the Northern Huron and Area Community Committee. Lisa and Ryan reviewed the first steps, their work plan and the work of the committee. Council questioned what the living wage in Huron Perth was; Ryan answered \$17.55 per hour. Reeve Harding advised of how Howick Township supports programs like the local food bank and One Care and thanked Lisa and Ryan for their presentation.

Cheryl Patience, Manager of Ontario Works and Children's Services, County of Huron – Social and Property Services and Diane Millian, Supervisor of Children's Services Huron County joined by telephone to present information regarding childcare. Cheryl spoke on the role of Huron County, fee subsidy, operating grant and provincial wage enhancement grant, program assistant and special purpose funding. She spoke on licencing, operations options, parental fees, staff wages, additional expenses and a scenario for general operating funding. Cheryl and Diane answered questions regarding cost to operate. Reeve Harding thanked Cheryl and Diane for the useful information.

5. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Hargrave; Seconded by Deputy Reeve Bowman:

Be it resolved that Council approve the minutes of the August 17, 2021 Council meeting as presented. Carried. Resolution No. 190/21

6. Huron County Planner Jenn Burns

Planner Burns joined by telephone and presented a report on consent application C74/21, property address Concession C, Part Lots 19 and 20, 43400 Amberley Road, owners Kaye and Murray Powell, applicant Greg Nicholls, recommending approval with conditions. Council discussed the size of the severed parcel.

Moved by Councillor Gibson; Seconded by Deputy Reeve Bowman:

Be it resolved that Council support Consent Application File C74/21 as submitted by Huron County Planner Jenn Burns; and further, that if the consent application be granted provisional consent, Council recommends the following municipal conditions apply:

- the sum of \$500 be paid to Howick as cash-in-lieu of parkland
- 911 addressing for the subject lands be dealt with to the satisfaction of Howick
- applicant to provide a letter from a licenced contractor advising that the tank has been pumped and is functioning properly for the severed parcel of land to the satisfaction of Howick
- provide to the satisfaction of the Township a survey showing the lot lines of the severed parcel and the location of any buildings thereon and a reference plan based on the approved survey
- the retained parcel be registered in the name of Peters Port Ltd

Carried. Resolution No. 191/21

Planner Burns also presented a report on consent application C76/21, property address Concession 10, Lot 25, 89483 Malcolm Line, owners Jennifer and Dessie Devlin, recommending denial (refer to Huron County Council for a decision). Council spoke in support of the application.

Moved by Deputy Reeve Bowman; Seconded by Councillor Gibson:

Be it resolved that Council support Consent Application File C76/21; and further, that if the consent application be granted provisional consent, Council recommends the following municipal conditions apply:

- the sum of \$500 be paid to Howick as cash-in-lieu of parkland
- 911 addressing for the subject lands be dealt with to the satisfaction of Howick
- provide to the satisfaction of the Township a survey showing the lot lines of the severed parcel and the location of any buildings thereon and a reference plan based on the approved survey
- the applicant addresses Section 65(2) of the Drainage Act with respect to the Craig-Dinsmore Municipal Drain
- if a new entrance for the retained lands is required, that an access/entrance permit be obtained to the satisfaction of Howick
- the abandoned well be decommissioned to the satisfaction of Howick

Carried. Resolution No. 192/21

7. Staff Reports

7.1 Chief Building Official David Kopp

CBO Kopp presented report to Council-Building-2021-03 providing a building comparison summary for the first eight months of 2021 compared to the same period in 2020 and advised that he would be over his suggested hours this year.

7.2 Fire Chief Shawn Edwards

Chief Edwards presented report to Council-Fire-2021-09 seeking approval to improvements at the entrance at the Gorrie Park for water supply access.

Treasurer Weishar advised that there was money left in Municipal Modernization funding for radio equipment upgrades.

**Moved by Councillor Grimes; Seconded Councillor Gibson:
Be it resolved that Council approve improvements to the entrance of the Gorrie Park for water supply access. Carried. Resolution No. 193/21**

Chief Edwards also presented report to Council-Fire-2021-10 requesting approval to use Municipal Modernization funding for radio equipment upgrades in relation to the fire dispatch service change over.

Treasurer Weishar advised that application for Municipal Modernization funding Intake 2 was for capital projects so radio equipment upgrades would not qualify.

**Moved by Councillor Hargrave; Seconded Deputy Reeve Bowman:
Be it resolved that Council approve using funding received from Municipal Modernization for radio equipment upgrades at a cost of \$11,425.00 to complete the fire dispatch service change over. Carried. Resolution No. 194/21**

Chief Edwards announced a Drive-thru Pancake and Sausage Breakfast presented by the Howick Firefighters Association was scheduled for October 3 from 8 – 11 am and encouraged everyone to support the Terry Fox Run on September 19.

Reeve Harding advised he had received phone calls regarding recent four-wheel activity in Howick.

7.3 Operations Manager Brady Nolan

Manager Nolan presented report to Council-Public Works-2021-38 providing a Public Works and Recreation Department updates.

7.4 Treasurer Brenda Weishar

Treasurer Weishar presented report to Council-Treasurer-2021-14 updating on the Federal Gas Tax program; Municipal Modernization program Intake 3 and application for Community Building fund – Ontario Trillium Foundation.

Council discussed the recycling review and suggested a broader review.

Council also discussed the funding opportunity for projects at the Belmore Community Centre.

**Moved by Deputy Reeve Bowman; Seconded Councillor Gibson:
Be it resolved that Council support an application to the Community Building fund – Ontario Trillium Foundation for upgrades at the Belmore Community Centre. Carried. Resolution No. 195/21**

7.5 Clerk Carol Watson

A report to Council-Clerk-2021-24 regarding Canine Control Officer and agreement with Wingham Vet Clinic was presented.

8. Committee and Board Repots

Minutes from the Belmore Community Arena Board meeting held June 21, 2021 were received.

Minutes from the Wroxeter Village Management meeting August 10, 2021 were received.

**Moved by Deputy Reeve Bowman; Seconded by Councillor Hargrave:
Be it resolved that Council receive minutes from the Council Committee and Board included in the September 7, 2021 agenda. Carried. Resolution No. 196/21**

9. Councillor Report

Reeve Harding led a discussion on years of service awards presentation and other events. Volunteer Appreciation has not been held for two years due to COVID-19. Council agreed that Jim Renwick should be recognized at a day meeting and the Firefighters should be recognized at a night meeting. Council agreed to continue to recognize staff in smaller groups and wait until 2022 to organize a larger event.

Council discussed losing the monthly publication of Howick Happenings. Councillor Hargrave advised that Huron-Kinloss provides a monthly newsletter.

10. Economic Development

Correspondence received from the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs regarding Rural Economic Development (RED) program was discussed. Council supported wayfinding signage and banners.

11. Correspondence

Correspondence received from Drs Krista Wheildon and Hyegee Youn, Wheildon MacKenzie Optometry calling on the Ontario Government to address the chronic under-funding of eye care was discussed.

**Moved by Councillor Hargrave; Seconded by Councillor Gibson:
Be it resolved that Council call on the Ontario Government to commit to reforms so that optometrists are compensated fairly compared to their colleagues across Canada. Carried. Resolution No. 197/21**

Correspondence received from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario including a policy update regarding municipal recognition of September 30 as National Day for Truth and Reconciliation was noted and filed.

Correspondence received from Bryan Smith, President of Gravel Watch Ontario sharing their response to ERO 019 – 2785 was noted and filed.

12. Members Privilege – Good News and Celebrations

Councillor Gibson announced back to school today and the after-school program at the Howick Central Public School would start in October.

Reeve Harding advised that Huron Perth Public Health would be holding a walk in COVID-19 vaccination clinic in Fordwich on September 9. He also advised that the Federal Election was to be held at Howick Community Centre; Councillor Gibson added that advance voting would be held this weekend at the Wroxeter Community Hall.

Deputy Reeve Bowman advised that the Belmore Fish Fry was sold out.

13. By-law and Motions

Moved by Councillor Gibson; Seconded by Deputy Reeve Bowman:

Be it resolved that Council accept resignations received from Ryan Sanders and Brett Harding from the Wroxeter Park Board, with regret. Carried. Resolution No. 198/21

Moved by Councillor Hargrave; Seconded by Councillor Gibson:

Be it resolved that Council accept resignation received from Elizabeth Brown from the Gorrie Community Hall Board, with regret. Carried. Resolution No. 199/21

Moved by Deputy Reeve Bowman; Seconded by Councillor Hargrave:

Be it resolved that Council have no objection to the Wroxeter Park Board making application to the LCBO for a Special Occasion Permit to sell alcohol at the George Hamilton Park in Wroxeter in conjunction with a baseball tournament being held September 17, 18 and 19, 2021; and further, proclaim the event of municipal significance. Carried. Resolution No. 200/21

Moved by Councillor Gibson; Seconded by Councillor Hargrave:

Be it resolved that Council give first, second and third and final reading to By-law No. 44-2021; being a by-law to authorize an Agreement with Wingham Veterinary Clinic. Carried. Resolution No. 201/21

14. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Gibson; Seconded by Deputy Reeve Bowman:

Be it resolved that Council give first, second and third and final reading to By-law No. 45-2021; being a by-law to confirm the actions of Council at the September 7, 2021 Council meeting. Carried. Resolution No. 202/21

Moved by Councillor Grimes; Seconded by Councillor Hargrave:

Be it resolved that Council adjourn the Council meeting at 11:35 am. Carried. Resolution No. 203/21

Reeve Doug Harding

Clerk Carol Watson