

Township of Howick Council Meeting Minutes February 2, 2021

Present: Reeve Doug Harding
Deputy Reeve Eldon Bowman
Councillor Doug Hargrave
Councillor Megan Gibson
Councillor Bob Illman

Chief Building Official David Kopp
Drainage Superintendent Wray Wilson
Operations Manager Brady Nolan
Treasurer Brenda Weishar
Clerk Carol Watson

1. Call to Order

Reeve Harding called the meeting to order at 9 am and welcomed everyone in attendance and those who joined by telephone. He advised that Council would consider the Engineer's Report under the Drainage Act, Section 42 for the Noah Martin Drain at 11 am.

2. Acceptance of Agenda

**Moved by Councillor Gibson; Seconded by Deputy Reeve Bowman:
Be it resolved that Council approve the agenda as presented. Carried. Resolution No. 29/21**

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. Approval of Minutes

**Moved by Deputy Reeve Bowman; Seconded by Councillor Illman:
Be it resolved that Council approve the minutes of the January 19, 2021 Council and Public meetings as presented. Carried. Resolution No. 30/21**

5. Huron County Planner Jenn Burns

Huron County Growth Planning Best Practices Guide was presented.

6. Staff Reports

6.1 Chief Building Official David Kopp

CBO Kopp presented report to Council-Building-2021-01 including an annual building permit comparison summary.

6.2 Drainage Superintendent Wray Wilson

Superintendent Wilson presented report to Council-Drainage-2021-02 regarding the Noah Martin municipal drain; Court of Revision and Drainage Superintendent grant application.

Moved by Councillor Gibson; Seconded by Councillor Illman:

Be it resolved that Council set the date of March 2, 2021 at 1 pm at the Howick Community Centre for the Court of Revision; and further, that the following are appointed as members of the Court of Revision: Doug Harding, Doug Hargrave, Eldon Bowman; and further that Doug Harding be appointed as Chair. Carried. Resolution No. 31/21

6.3 Operations Manager Brady Nolan

Manager Nolan presented report to Council-Public Works-2021-03 regarding ice at the Howick Community Centre. Council agreed to leave the ice in until an announcement was made by the Provincial Government whether the lockdown was extended.

Manager Nolan also presented report to Council-Public Works-2021-04 providing information on 2021 recreation budget progress. Reeve Harding advised that the Howick 160th Committee still had money and inquired if trees at the Fordwich river park would soon be cut.

Manager Nolan also presented report to Council-Public Works-2021-05 providing information on 2021 landfill budget progress. Council directed staff to defer the update to the Development and Operations Plan.

Manager Nolan also presented report to Council-Public Works-2021-06 recommending an increase to blue box price.

Moved by Councillor Gibson; Seconded by Deputy Reeve Bowman:

Be it resolved that Council approve amendments to Howick Township Waste Collection and Disposal Fees and Charges, Schedule "B" of By-law No. 13-2015, as presented. Carried. Resolution No. 32/21

6.4 Treasurer Brenda Weishar

Treasurer Weishar presented report to Council-Treasurer-2021-02 providing the 2020 Council remuneration and expense summary and 2020 capital summary.

Moved by Councillor Illman; Seconded by Deputy Reeve Bowman:

Be it resolved that Council approve the 2020 Township of Howick Council Remuneration and Expense Summary as presented. Carried. Resolution No. 33/21

Council discussed scheduling a budget meeting and agreed on February 23, 2021 at 9 am.

6.5 Clerk Carol Watson

A report to Council-Clerk-2021-03 recommending alternative voting methods for the 2022 municipal election was presented.

A report to Council-Clerk-2021-04 regarding ROMA 2021 virtual conference was presented.

7. Committee and Board Reports

Minutes from the Belmore Community Arena Board meeting held December 21, 2020 were received. Council discussed LED lighting at the Belmore Community Arena.

**Moved by Councillor Illman; Seconded by Councillor Gibson:
Be it resolved that Council receive minutes from the Council Committee and Board included in the February 2, 2021 agenda. Carried. Resolution No. 34/21**

8. Councillor Report

Reeve Harding led a discussion on Council's involvement in village settlement in Howick Township. Council agreed that they would be "welcome host" to developers.

Councillor Gibson presented Terms of Reference for Childcare Committee and advised that appointments of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer had been made.

11 am - Drainage Act, Section 42 - meeting to consider the Engineer's Report

This item was rescheduled until February 16, 2021 at 1 pm at the Howick Community Centre due to technical difficulties.

9. Correspondence

Correspondence received from United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry seeking support to their resolution regarding small businesses was discussed.

**Moved by Councillor Illman; Seconded by Councillor Gibson:
Be it resolved that Council support United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry's resolution requesting that small businesses be allowed to reopen immediately with the required health guidelines and protocols in place. Carried. Resolution No. 35/21**

Correspondence received from Township of Melancthon and Township of Laird supporting changes to Tile Drain Loan Program were noted and filed.

Correspondence received from Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario, City of Port Colborne and Township of Melancthon supporting tile drainage contractors/installation plans being filed at municipal offices were noted and filed.

Correspondence received from Town of Goderich supporting concerns regarding fire dispatching services provided by the City of Stratford was noted and filed.

Correspondence received from Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs announcing the second intake under the Municipal Modernization Program was noted and filed.

Avon Maitland District School Board meeting highlights dated January 26, 2021 were noted and filed.

OPP calls for service billing summary report was noted and filed.

10. Members Privilege – Good News and Celebrations - none

11. By-laws

**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. 10-2021; being a by-law to authorize Civil Marriage Solemnization Service for the Township of Howick. Carried. Resolution No. 36/21**

Moved by Councillor Illman; Seconded by Councillor Gibson:

Be it resolved that Council give first, second and third and final reading to By-law No. 11-2021; being a by-law to authorize the use of telephone and internet voting as an alternative voting method for the 2022 municipal election for the Township of Howick. Carried. Resolution No. 37/21

12. 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. 12-2021; being a by-law to confirm the actions of Council at the February 2, 2021 Council meeting. Carried. Resolution No. 38/21

Moved by Deputy Reeve Bowman; Seconded by Councillor Gibson:

Be it resolved that Council adjourn the Council meeting at 11:45 am. Carried. Resolution No. 39/21

Reeve Doug Harding

Clerk Carol Watson