

Township of Howick Council Meeting Minutes May 18, 2021

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

Operations Manager Brady Nolan
Treasurer Brenda Weishar
Clerk Carol Watson

1. Call to Order

Reeve Harding called the meeting to order at 7 pm and welcomed everyone in attendance and those who joined by telephone.

2. Acceptance of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Gibson; Seconded by Councillor Illman:

Be it resolved that Council approve the agenda as presented. Carried. Resolution No. 117/21

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. Delegation

Miranda deBoer, Treasurer for the Wroxeter Park Board attended to speak to Council regarding recent damages at the Wroxeter Park and shared recommendations from the Park Board and their longer-term plans and proposals.

Reeve Harding provided history of events since the vandalism that took place in April, conversations with the OPP, the suggested diversion program and/or laying charges.

Kevin Doig, Secretary/Treasurer of the Wroxeter Village Management, was in attendance and was asked his opinion of who owns the park.

Operations Manager Nolan provided information contained in his report to be presented later in the meeting in relation to repairs and advised that two of the youth involved helped for two afternoons to remove graffiti from the bridge.

Council suggested that the Wroxeter Village Management and Park Board members meet to discuss the situation and include the residents in Wroxeter.

5. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Deputy Reeve Bowman; Seconded by Councillor Illman:

Be it resolved that Council approve the minutes of the May 4, 2021 Council meeting as presented. Carried. Resolution No. 118/21

6. Staff Reports

6.1 Operations Manager Brady Nolan

Council asked Manager Nolan to present report 24 first.

Manager Nolan presented report to Council-Public Works-2021-24 seeking direction regarding clean up at Wroxeter pavilion. The proposed repairs are approximately \$10,000. Council discussed the diversion program and restitution. Treasurer Weishar provided information on Howick's insurance coverage. Council discussed the condition of the pavillion and whether it should be fixed or taken down. Village Management and Park Board will meet to discuss a solution and Reeve Harding will share the OPP response when received.

He also presented report to Council-Public Works-2021-23 recommending approval for the tender for the bridge project in Wroxeter.

Moved by Deputy Reeve Bowman; Seconded by Councillor Illman:

Be it resolved that Council award Tender BR1303 for the Wroxeter bridge project to VanDriel Excavating Inc at a cost not to exceed \$806,000.00 including taxes.

Lost. Resolution No. 119/21

Moved by Councillor Gibson; Seconded by Deputy Reeve Bowman:

Be it resolved that Council award Tender BR1303 for the Wroxeter bridge project to VanDriel Excavating Inc at a cost not to exceed \$509,676.17 plus applicable taxes. Carried. Resolution No. 120/21

He also presented report to Council-Public Works-2021-25 recommending approval to change from one stop sign to a three way stop in Wroxeter. Council considered By-law 30-2021 later in the meeting.

6.2 Treasurer Brenda Weishar

Treasurer Weishar presented report to Council-Treasurer-2021-09 including the accounts payable listing from April 21 to May 18, 2021; financial report for period ending April 30, 2021 and taxes receivable comparison from 2019, 2020 and 2021.

6.3 Clerk Carol Watson

A report to Council-Clerk-2021-12 recommending entering into an agreement with Simply Voting to provide an internet/telephone voting system for the 2022 municipal election was presented.

Moved by Councillor Gibson; Seconded by Councillor Illman:

Be it resolved that Council approve entering into an agreement with Simply Voting to provide an internet/telephone voting system for the 2022 municipal election; and further, that staff prepare the necessary by-law. Carried. Resolution No. 121/21

A report to Council-Clerk-2021-13 announcing Mary Sanderson as Howick's volunteer for the Business Retention and Expansion project was presented.

7. Correspondence

Correspondence received from Journalist Kelsey Bent requesting approval to record Council meetings was discussed.

Moved by Deputy Reeve Bowman; Seconded by Councillor Gibson:

Be it resolved that Council give consent to Journalist Kelsey Bent to record open Council meetings for personal use only and are not to be made public or distributed in any way. Carried. Resolution No. 122/21

Correspondence received from Huron County Library requesting support celebrating Pride was discussed.

Moved by Councillor Gibson; Seconded by Deputy Reeve Bowman:

Be it resolved that Council display a flag at the Howick Community Centre in support of Pride Month. Carried. Resolution No. 123/21

Correspondence received from Coalition for Huron Injury Prevention introducing Constable Wes Coast, a life-size aluminum cut-out of a police officer and a Memorandum of Understanding was discussed.

Moved by Councillor Gibson; Seconded by Deputy Reeve Bowman:

Be it resolved that Council authorize Reeve Harding to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the Coalition for Huron Injury Prevention for use of Constable Wes Coast for the 2021 season. Carried. Resolution No. 124/21

Correspondence received from Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility inviting nomination for 2021 Senior of the Year Award was noted and filed.

8. Members Privilege – Good News and Celebrations

Reeve Harding announced that Kettles Back Home Cookin' in Clifford was now open.

9. By-laws and Motion

Moved by Councillor Illman; Seconded by Deputy Reeve Bowman:

Be it resolved that Council accept letter of resignation received from Chair of the Wroxeter Village Management Ryan Sanders effective May 18, 2021, with regret. Carried. Resolution No. 125/21

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. 30-2021; being a by-law to stop up, close and sell part of Maitland Street North from William Street to Martin Street in the Village of Gorrie. Carried. Resolution No. 126/21

Moved by Councillor Illman; Seconded by Deputy Reeve Bowman:

Be it resolved that Council give first, second and third and final reading to By-law No. 31-2021; being a by-law to provide for the erection of stop signs in the Village of Wroxeter in the Township of Howick. Carried. Resolution No. 127/21

10. Closed Session

Council proceeded into closed session to discuss a matter pertaining to personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal employee (employee relations) and approval of the May 4, 2021 closed meeting minutes.

Moved by Councillor Illman; Seconded by Deputy Reeve Bowman:

Be it resolved that Council go into “Closed Session” at 8:50 pm under Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended, to discuss a matter pertaining to personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal employee; and that Clerk Watson remain in attendance. Carried. Resolution No. 128/21

Moved by Councillor Gibson; Seconded by Deputy Reeve Bowman:

Be it resolved that Council adjourn the “Closed Session” at 9:20 pm. Carried. Resolution No. 129/21

Reeve Harding reported that only the items that Council went into Closed Session for were discussed. Council also approved minutes from the May 4, 2021 closed session.

11. Adjournment

Moved by Deputy Reeve Bowman; Seconded by Councillor Illman:

Be it resolved that Council give first, second and third and final reading to By-law No. 32-2021; being a by-law to confirm the actions of Council at the May 18, 2021 Council meeting. Carried. Resolution No. 130/21

Moved by Councillor Hargrave; Seconded by Councillor Illman:

Be it resolved that Council adjourn the Council meeting at 9:23 pm. Carried. Resolution No. 131/21

Reeve Doug Harding

Clerk Carol Watson