

TOWNSHIP OF HARLEY
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of DECEMBER 12TH, 2023
Held at the Harley Municipal Office

Present: **Reeve:** Pauline Archambault
Councillors: Clifford Fielder
 Marc Gosselin
 Sophie MacKewn
 Richard McNaughton
Staff: Krystle Seymour, Clerk-Treasurer
 Guy Godmaire, Road Superintendent
Regrets: None

1. Call Meeting to Order & Adoption of Agenda:

2023-189 **Moved:** Clifford Fielder **Seconded:** Sophie MacKewn
 That we, the Council of the Township of Harley do hereby, open the Regular Meeting of Council of December 12th, 2023 at 7:33 p.m.
 "CARRIED"

2023-190 **Moved:** Marc Gosselin **Seconded:** Sophie MacKewn
 That we, the Council of the Township of Harley do hereby, accept the agenda as amended:
 ADD: 11. a. Fire Chief Review
 "CARRIED"

2. Adoption of Minutes:

- a. Regular Meeting of November 14th, 2023.
- b. Closed Session Meeting of November 14th, 2023.

2023-191 **Moved:** Sophie MacKewn **Seconded:** Clifford Fielder
 That we, the Council of the Township of Harley do hereby, adopt the following minutes:
 a. Regular Meeting of November 14th, 2023 as presented.
 b. Closed Session Meeting of November 14th, 2023 as presented.
 "CARRIED"

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest:

None

4. Delegations:

None

5. Payment of Accounts – Voucher No. 2023-11

2023-192 **Moved:** Richard McNaughton **Seconded:** Sophie MacKewn
 That we, the Council of the Township of Harley, do hereby, approve the payment of accounts as presented:

Roads	\$672,978.57
Fire	\$2,745.79
Recreation	\$2,030.25
Admin	\$76,455.28
Total Voucher 2023-11	\$754,209.89

"CARRIED"

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6. Reports from Staff & Others:

a. Road's Department Report

The Road Superintendent reports that the new grader has arrived. Safety Inspections for the trucks are being done. The Road Superintendent reminds residents to not push snow across any roadways as it is prohibited under the Highway Traffic Act. Scott Dufresne has started this week and will assist with snow removal for the winter months. There is a vacancy on the Ontario Good Roads board of directors and Guy Godmaire would like to put his name in to be considered for the seat. The board meets 4 times per year and Council verbally confirmed their support to nominate Guy for the vacant seat. The Road Superintendent also asked that staff to look into the November meeting that happened in Cochrane with the MTO with other municipalities along Highway 11.

b. Fire Department Report

No report received.

c. Others

i. Timiskaming Health Unit – Minutes October 11th, 2023.

ii. Earlton- Timiskaming Airport – Minutes September 2023 & Financials.

iii. Treasurer's Report - November 2023.

2023-193 **Moved: Richard McNaughton Seconded: Marc Gosselin**

That we, the Council of the Township of Harley do hereby, acknowledge receipt and accept the following reports/minutes, and that it be filed along with the minutes of the regular meeting:

a. Road's Department Report

b. Fire Department Report

c. Others

i. Timiskaming Health Unit – Minutes October 11th, 2023.

ii. Earlton-Timiskaming Airport – Minutes September 2023 & Financials.

iii. Treasurer's Report – November 2023.

“CARRIED”

7. Correspondence for Council's Consideration:

a. Guy Bourgouin – MPP James Bay – Preparation of Bill – Passing on Double Yellow

2023-194 **Moved: Clifford Fielder Seconded: Marc Gosselin**

WHEREAS police services in Ontario do not currently have the legal tools to penalize the dangerous maneuver of vehicles passing vehicular traffic on the left on two solid yellow lines;

AND WHEREAS this dangerous maneuver has had devastating effects on the residents of Northern Ontario Municipalities which center around Highways 11 and 17, and who must use these highways as main thoroughfares;

AND WHEREAS Guy Bourgouin, MPP Mushkegowuk-James Bay, is preparing a bill to make it completely illegal for a vehicle to pass on the left side of a lane when it is marked with two solid yellow lines;

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NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Harley, hereby resolves to support the initiative of MPP Bourgouin in the preparation of this very important bill.
“CARRIED”

b. Municipality of Wawa – Bill C-310 – Support Tax Credit Firefighter

2023-195 **Moved: Marc Gosselin Seconded: Richard McNaughton**
WHEREAS Canada has 90,000 volunteer firefighters who provide fire and all hazard emergency services to their communities; in addition, approximately 8,000 essential search and rescue volunteers respond to thousands of incidents every year; and

WHEREAS many of these individuals receive some form of pay on call, an honorarium, or are given some funding to cover expenses, but they do not draw a living wage from firefighting; and

WHEREAS without volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers, thousands of communities in Canada would have no fire and emergency response coverage; and

WHEREAS in 2013, the federal government initiated a tax credit recognizing these individuals, and calling on the federal government to increase this tax credit from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and

WHEREAS volunteer firefighters account for 71% of Canada's total firefighting essential first responders;

- The tax code of Canada currently allows volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers to claim a \$3,000 tax credit if 200 hours of volunteer services were completed in a calendar year;
- This works out to a mere \$450 per year, which we allow these essential volunteers to keep of their own income from their regular jobs, \$2.25 an hour;
- If they volunteer more than 200 hours, which many do, this tax credit becomes even less;
- These essential volunteers not only put their lives on the line and give their time, training and efforts to Canadians, but they also allow cities and municipalities to keep property taxes lower than if paid services were required;
- It would also help retain these volunteers in a time when volunteerism is decreasing.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Harley call upon the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act in order to increase the amount of the tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and

Direct municipal staff to issue a copy of this resolution to the Municipality of Wawa.
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c. Township of Coleman – Conservation Officer Reclassification

2023-196 **Moved: Richard McNaughton Seconded: Sophie MacKewn**
WHEREAS Ontario has 196 field Conservation Officers including 6 canine handlers who provide protection to Municipalities Natural Resources and uphold public safety by enforcing hunting and firearm laws and investigate gruesome injuries and even deaths that result from hunting-related accidents; in addition, Conservation Officers are often First Responders and ensure public safety by facilitating evacuations and enforcing Emergency Area orders during forest fires during record breaking wildfires such as we witnessed this past summer; and

WHEREAS Conservation Officers perform comparable work to Police Officers and other Enforcement Officers within the province and are professional, armed Peace Officers trained to police standards and undergo the same training; and

WHEREAS Ontario Municipalities are required that their constituents are informed, and their interests are safeguarded and ensure they have access to outreach and natural resources compliance services; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Harley does here by support the Ontario Conservation Officer’s Association (OCA) in their efforts to have Conservation Officers in the Province of Ontario reclassified as Enforcement Officers and be compensated fairly; and

THAT this resolution with a letter of support be forwarded to Ontario Premiere Doug Ford, the Minister of Natural Resources Graydon Smith, the Local Provincial Member of Parliament (MPP) John Vanthof, Temiskaming Municipal Association and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities.
“CARRIED”

8. Correspondence for Council’s Information:

a. TMSA – Hiring of New Planner

9. Other Business:

a. Memo-23-027 – Ontario Good Roads Conference – 2024

2023-197 **Moved: Sophie MacKewn Seconded: Clifford Fielder**
That we, the Council of the Township of Harley do hereby, acknowledge receipt of Memo-23-027 regarding the Ontario Good Roads Conference (OGRA) – 2024; and

Direct municipal staff to register the following individuals to attend the OGRA 2024 conference:

- 1) Guy Godmaire
- 2) Krystle Seymour
- 3) Sophie MacKewn
- 4) Marc Gosselin

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b. Memo-23-028 – Insurance Renewal 2024

2023-198 **Moved: Richard McNaughton Seconded: Sophie MacKewn**
That we, the Council of the Township of Harley do hereby, acknowledge receipt of Memo 23-028 regarding the Township of Harley’s 2024 insurance renewal proposal provided by McDougall Insurance; and

Direct Municipal Staff to prepare and present a by-law for council’s consideration at the Regular Meeting of December 12th, authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to execute an Insurance Program Proposal with an annual premium of \$40,767.00 provided by McDougall Insurance.

“CARRIED”

c. Memo-23-029 – Timiskaming OPP Detachment Board (South) Appointment

2023-199 **Moved: Sophie MacKewn Seconded: Clifford Fielder**
That we, the Council of the Township of Harley do hereby, acknowledge receipt of Memo-23-029 regarding the Timiskaming OPP Detachment Board (South) Appointment; and

That we, the Council of the Township of Harley do hereby appoint Marc Gosselin as the Township of Harley council representative to the Timiskaming OPP Detachment SOUTH Board. (Board 3)

“CARRIED”

d. MTO – Permission to Construct Agreement

2023-200 **Moved: Marc Gosselin Seconded: Richard McNaughton**
That we, the Council of the Township of Harley do hereby, acknowledge receipt of Permission to Construct Agreement with the Ministry of Transportation regarding the rehabilitation along Highway 11; and

That this rehabilitation work will impact Uno Park Rd and Hanbury Rd on a temporary basis during construction; and

Agree to enter into an agreement with the Ministry of Transportation; and Authorize the Reeve and Clerk-Treasurer to execute this agreement on behalf of Harley Township and provide a signed copy to the Ministry of Transportation.

“CARRIED”

e. Memo-23-030 – Blue Box Transition

2023-201 **Moved: Richard McNaughton Seconded: Clifford Fielder**
That we, the Council of the Township of Harley do hereby, acknowledge receipt of Memo-23-030 regarding the Blue Box Transition; and

Agree to attend Belinda Beairsto’s presentation on the Blue Box Transition on February 7th, 2024 at the Hudson Council Meeting; and

Agree to defer a decision until more information is received

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10. By-Laws:

- a. By-Law 2023-21** Being a by-law to authorize the signing of a municipal insurance renewal proposal for 2024
[three readings]

2023-202 **Moved: Sophie MacKewn** **Seconded: Marc Gosselin**
That **By-Law No. 2023-21**, being a by-law to authorize the signing of a municipal insurance renewal proposal for 2024 be received and read a first and second time.
"CARRIED"

2023-203 **Moved: Marc Gosselin** **Seconded: Richard McNaughton**
That **By-Law No. 2023-21**, being a by-law to authorize the signing of a municipal insurance renewal proposal for 2024 be read a third time and that the same be engrossed in the by-law book.
"CARRIED"

11. Resolution to Move to Closed Session:

a. Fire Chief Review

2023-204 **Moved: Marc Gosselin** **Seconded: Sophie MacKewn**
That we, the Council of the Township of Harley do hereby, agree to enter closed session at 9:15 pm to discuss the following item:

- a. Fire Chief Review
"CARRIED"

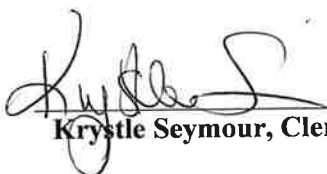
2023-205 **Moved: Marc Gosselin** **Seconded: Richard McNaughton**
That we, the Council of the Township of Harley do hereby, agree to arise from closed session at 9:31 pm; and

Direct municipal staff to request that Fire Chief Logan Miron attend the next council meeting to update Council on the Fire Department.
"CARRIED"

b. Adjournment:

2023-206 **Moved: Marc Gosselin** **Seconded: Sophie MacKewn**
That we, the Council of the Township of Harley do hereby, adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:52 pm and will meet again on January 9th, 2024 or at the call of the Reeve.
"CARRIED"


for: **Pauline Archambault, Reeve**


Krystle Seymour, Clerk-Treasurer