

**COUNCIL MEETING - MINUTES**

On Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009 Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin held their first regular meeting for the month.

**Present:**

Council:	Mayor Percy Bresnahan	Staff:	Clerk, Harold Luckasavitch
	Councillor Jane Dumas		Deputy Clerk, Geraldene Dubreuil
	Councillor Joe Florent		Works Superintendent/CBO, Gerald Dunn
	Councillor Dave Harper		
	Councillor Richard Shalla		

Regrets: Councillor Randy Jessup and Councillor Robert Ogilvie

**Moved by: D. Harper**                      **Seconded by: R. Shalla**                      **Res. #09-147**

“That Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin calls to order the regular Council meeting of April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.”

**-Carried-**

**ADDITIONS/AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:** None at this time.

**Moved by: J. Florent**                      **Seconded by: J. Dumas**                      **Res. #09-148**

“That Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the agenda as prepared and circulated for the meeting of April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009.”

**-Carried-**

**DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:** None declared.

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Colin Slight, Detachment Commander, Killaloe O.P.P.; Jim Stewart, EMS Manager, North Bay & Mattawa Ambulance; Aurel Thom, Fire Chief - Madawaska Fire Station and Brian August, Fire Chief – Whitney Fire Station. The aforementioned individuals were all present to obtain information and clarify the mandate assigned to each service with respect to emergency response within the Township South Algonquin and to be more specific, emergencies in isolated areas/locations of South Algonquin.

**Mandate issues discussed/addressed but not limited to the following:**

- Whitney Firemen’s Association prepare to purchase and donate to the Township of South Algonquin one (1) ATV for the purpose of responding to off road emergencies if Council so chooses to authorize such responses by the South Algonquin Fire Departments;
- Township has tried to avoid extra services or responding to emergencies such as water, snowmobiles and ATV rescues due to the lack of proper equipment, personnel, training, and also the liability and cost to the taxpayer;
- O.P.P. responds to any/all emergency situations in a collective and cooperative approach by first assessing/evaluating each situation to determine the resources needed and the best way to respond:
  - a) type of emergency/situation (vehicle accident – investigative response; life threatening or lost individual – emergency response; death – recovery response);
  - b) access to location (drive, walk, fly, etc.);
  - c) proper equipment required to respond (ATV, snowmobile, boat, helicopter, etc.);
  - d) availability of required equipment (readily available or must be requested from another location);
  - e) health and safety issues (proper safety equipment and trained individuals available).
- Not feasible for every O.P.P. detachment to be equipped with every type of response vehicle (resources not being utilized in current location/area are relocated to areas where they will be of better use). The O.P.P. will ask for additional equipment if necessary but there are situations when response times may be delayed due to:
  - a) inability to obtain the proper equipment locally;
  - b) location of emergency/situation;
  - c) safety issues;
  - d) weather conditions (snow storm);
  - e) time of day (night time), etc.
- Concern was expressed regarding liability and cost recovery in the event responders from the Township were called upon by the O.P.P. to assist at an emergency – O.P.P. would not be liable and currently there is no means available for reimbursement of costs incurred.
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Paramedics are not responsible to respond and will only attend a scene if it is safe to do so (O.P.P. / Fire Dept. backup). Paramedics will not go into a situation unless provided with all the proper safety equipment, accompanied by trained individuals and an evacuation plan is in place.

- Fire Departments have assisted in the past by providing the EMS or O.P.P with the proper safety equipment to enable them to respond to isolated emergency situations.
- It is Council's decision to determine if it is feasible for the Township to implement an emergency response program, and provide the proper training and equipment necessary.

**Meeting adjourned for a short break at 7:47 p.m.**

**Meeting reconvened at 7:57 p.m.**

**Moved by: J. Dumas**

**Seconded by: J. Florent**

**Res. #09-149**

“That Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the minutes of the second regular Council meeting of March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009 as circulated.”

**-Carried-**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

Mayor Bresnahan follow-up on letters to be drafted to the Whitney Seniors regarding lease agreement issues/matters. Clerk, H. Luckasavitch confirmed that these letters had been issued. Mayor Bresnahan / Clerk H. Luckasavitch informed Council as to why D. Eakins from Beacon Construction did not feel that it was necessary for him to attend this meeting to discuss renovation (ramp/chair lift) issues at the Whitney Seniors Centre. Background research revealed that a lift system required a safety inspection annually and a trained individual (staff member) on site during the operating hours of this type of system which would be a very costly venture for the Township to consider.

**COMMITTEE and/or STAFF REPORTS:**

Councillor Florent provided a verbal report with respect to the Multi-Use Building Committee which outlined/addressed the following: minutes from the January 20<sup>th</sup> and March 12<sup>th</sup> meetings provided in Council's correspondence for information; letters being prepared for distribution to MP Cheryl Gallant and MPP John Yakabuski regarding proposed funding applications; applications to be submitted by the Township and the Committee will provide the background research information.

Councillor Harper provided a verbal and written report with respect to the South Algonquin Public Library Board which outlined/addressed the following: minutes from the March 23<sup>rd</sup>, meeting; utilizing grant dollars instead of tax dollars to improve the library resources; purchase and use of videos, movies and DVDs; Ministry of Culture grant application to provide the necessary equipment for viewing electronic books, movies, etc.; February Stats (users) for both libraries; CAP student reports.

Councillor Harper provided a verbal and written report with respect to the South Algonquin Fire Departments which outlined/addressed the following: vehicle and equipment checks/inspections; completion of monthly Health & Safety inspections; safety issues regarding the use of the pumper truck at the Galeairy Lake dam; Health & Safety presentation conducted by office staff; upcoming meetings, training and presentations.

Councillor Shalla provided a verbal report with respect to the Whitney Recreation Committee which outlined/addressed the following: fundraiser (Mexican Dinner) held to raise funds for children's baseball this summer; basketball registration; Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for Easter long weekend.

Mayor Bresnahan provided a verbal report with respect to the Community Policing Advisory Committee meeting which outlined/addressed the following: completion of Police Checks for volunteer firefighters - O.P.P. Officer will attend each Fire Hall to collect the required information for Police Checks; possibility that the fee for such checks may be waived; issue with respect to the use of tasers by the O.P.P. – Councillors opinion: tasers should not be used because they are not regulated, the voltage is not consistent and people are being killed; O.P.P. have other means of protection.

Clerk H. Luckasavitch provided a verbal update with respect to the renovations at the Seniors Centre: proposed completion within approximately 2-3 weeks; electrician will be installing lights next week; painting of front entrance doors and exit doors not included in the contract.

Works Superintendent/Chief Building Official G. Dunn presented Council with a written and verbal report which outlined/addressed the following: High Speed Internet – cost to be included in the 2009 budget; Health & Safety – training and being in compliance with the Ministry of Labour and the Workplace Safety Insurance Board requirements; Bancroft Loyalist College – Job Connect Program; Jewell Engineering – schedule meeting to discuss the Post Street Reconstruction Project costs; Madawaska Swimming Dock – replacement/rehabilitation; Bark Lake Dock – rehabilitation; Whitney Rink – replacement of boards due to damage; Building Permit – Murray Bros (replacement of garage).

- **Possible dates to meet with Jewell Engineering: Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> or Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. Works Superintendent G. Dunn to confirm date.**





