

COUNCIL MEETING - MINUTES

On Thursday, August 6th, 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: Harold Luckasavitch, Clerk-Treasurer
 Councillor Jane Dumas Works Superintendent/CBO, Gerald Dunn
 Councillor Joe Florent
 Councillor Dave Harper
 Councillor Randy Jessup
 Councillor Robert Ogilvie
 Councillor Richard Shalla

Regrets: Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, Geraldeen Dubreuil

Moved by: R. Jessup Seconded by: J. Florent Res. #09-346
“That Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin calls to order the Regular Council Meeting of August 6, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.”

-Carried-

ADDITIONS/AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Moved by: J. Dumas Seconded by: R. Shalla Res. #09-347
“That Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the agenda as prepared and circulated for the meeting of August 6th, 2009 as amended”.

-Carried-

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST: None Declared.

PRESENTATION on the Redevelopment of Downtown Bancroft and Strengthen the Greater Bancroft Area presented by Deputy Mayor Larry McTaggart and John Weir the Consultant for the project.

At the end of the presentation Deputy Mayor McTaggart thank Council for being able to meet with them. He advised Council that a letter of support from the Township would be greatly appreciated. A copy of the complete presentation was left at the office for public viewing.

Guest Present – Gregory Laginski, with a concern regarding the drain from his daughter’s residence on Post Street. He advised that it appears that the drain pipe has been cut and removed where it empties into the ditch. Mr. Laginski advised that the only water coming from the pipe was from the weeping pipe around the house and not from a sump hole. The owner of the house Melanie McCloskey advised the same. Council advised that a resolution would be dealt with in motions of Council.

Moved by: R. Ogilvie Seconded by: R. Shalla Res. #09-348
“That Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the minutes of the Regular Council meeting July 16th, 2009 as circulated and amended”.

-Carried-

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Councillor Dumas – follow up on the thank you letter to the Fire Department. The Clerk advised that he wasn’t sure of the status of it, but would investigate to see if it was sent.

Councillor Ogilvie – follow up on the status of the Stage 2 funding application to NOHFC. The Clerk advised that the application was about 95% complete other than the information from the Engineer on the drawings and their back ground information.

Councillor Florent – follow up on the hiring of the Office Assistant. The Clerk advised that he was waiting for confirmation from the HR Committee on how the job was to be advertised and what the hourly rate would be.

Councillor Shalla – follow up on the signs for no camping at Hay Lake. The Works Superintendent advised that the signs were installed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fire Chief Brian August – advised that in the last couple of months two Fiber Optic cables were cut in Renfrew County. In both cases our Township had complete phone outage, including the use of emergency phone numbers. Chief August suggested that with Council’s authorization he would like permission to man both Fire Halls when this happens as local calling still works, along with radio contact, so crews could be paged out in the event of an emergency. Council supported the Chiefs recommendation to have a person man each fire hall during a telephone outage.

Road report – Works Superintendent/Chief Building Official Gerald Dunn, presented Council with a letter received from Jewell Engineering addressing some concerns received regarding the construction on Post Street. Mr. Dunn also advised that the tenders were advertised for Lake Street and that the closing of the tenders was set for 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday August 12th, and opened at 3:05. He advised that John Foster would be present for the opening. A Roads/Multi-Purpose meeting was scheduled for August 12th, at 7:00 p.m. regarding accepting the lowest bid price. At that meeting Mr. Foster would be presenting Council with revised drawings for the new building. Councillor Shalla also advised he would like to address Lake Street regarding the turn around for the snowplow at the end of the street. Mr. Dunn advised that from the site meeting it was decided that the street should continue to the beach road, as it was the feeling of those present that the cost would be too great to construct the turn around. Discussion took place regarding Madawaska Street Construction. Mr. Dunn advised that the road had been moved over to realign the road. Mr. Dunn also advised it would give a greater turning area onto the main road and move it off of private property.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m for a short break.

Meeting reconvened at 9:00 p.m.

Discussion regarding Post Street Re-Construction - Mayor Bresnahan advised that on Saturday August 1st, he had met with some of the residents on Post Street. He advised that concern had been expressed the way the street was designed, also that property owners felt that there could be a problem with water running into their properties and possibly flooding their basements and wells.

Guest Present – Terry and Geraldene Dubreuil – Mr. Dubreuil advised Council on the following concerns – elevation of Post Street

- slop of his driveway
- possible water run off concerns.

Mr. Dubreuil advised that he had 3 questions for Council that his wife Geraldene would read, and requested a written reply from Council.

- 1) was Council aware of the affect that this reconstruction project would have on the adjacent properties or what the finished product was going to look like?
- 2) if so, why were the residents within this construction area not notified in writing or invited to a public meeting to make them aware of the proposed affects to their property or properties (as per the Townships Notice Policy)?
- 3) If not, why did Council approve a design that they did not fully understand?

It was decided that the Clerk arrange a meeting with the Dubreuils and Mr. Foster the Engineer to address and rectify the concerns.

Guest – Mr. & Mrs. Lary - concerns about the entrance into their property.

- concerns about water problems, spring run off.
- felt that the Engineers that stamped the design should be present at this meeting. Council advised that a meeting has been scheduled for August 12th, their concerns will be addressed with Mr. Foster, and suggested they attend the meeting.

Moved by: R. Jessup

Seconded by: J. Florent

Res. #09-349

“That Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin wishes to extend the meeting of August 6th, 2009 beyond 10:00 p.m. at the call of the Chair.”

-Carried-

COMMITTEE REPORTS OF COUNCIL:

Councillor Dumas – advised that she had been in contact with Chris Fullerton regarding the Official Plan and advised that a draft copy of the plan is now ready, Councillor Dumas advised she would like to call a meeting for August 27th, at 6:30 p.m. to review the plan. With regards to filling the administrative position, Councillor Dumas advised that the Job Description for the position should be what is used for the advertisement.

Councillor Ogilvie – advised that he reviewed the Stage 2 Funding Application and suggested that Section #3 should include his response to the question.

Councillor Shalla advised that he will be attending a cottage association meeting shortly and was wondering the status of the grading and brushing. Mr. Dunn advised that grading and brushing has been ongoing in all Wards.

Councillor Florent advised Council regarding the use of the M/L Portable School for the Library while Construction is going on. And that the Clerk is to get an Insurance Certificate to cover the period and also advise the boards that the Township will assume the liability.

Councillor Jessup – advised that the HR meeting scheduled for August 11th, is cancelled as the Mayor and Councillor Ogilvie will be away.

Councillor Harper – presented Council with a written report from the Library Board meeting held in July. He advised that the Libraries received funding for two 50 inch flat screen TV's for the use with the Wii gaming system. In his report he also advised that an application was submitted under Cap Funding for 2009 for 840 hours.

MOTIONS OF COUNCIL:

Moved by: R. Jessup **Seconded by: J. Dumas** **Res. #09-350**
“That Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin endorses the revised Organizational Chart, the First Aid Policy (HS-007-00) and the Substance Abuse Policy (HR-008-00) as presented by the Human Resources and Administration Committee.”

-Carried-

Moved by: J. Florent **Seconded by: D. Harper** **Res. #09-351**
“To authorize staff to obtain information on any term financing in an amount up to \$350,000.00 over a term of 20 years to finance the purchase of two tanker trucks, one each for Whitney Fire Hall and Madawaska Fire Hall.”

-Carried-

Moved by: J. Florent **Seconded by: R. Shalla** **Res. #09-352**
“To make an exception on Post Street regarding the drainage pipe originating on the G. Laginski property, allowing for this drainage pipe to remain intact as this pipe does not originate inside the basement, but contains only clean water originating outside the dwelling and that this pipe terminate in the ditch flowing into the Madawaska River. Any maintenance will remain the responsibility of the property owner.”

-Carried-

Moved by: R. Shalla **Seconded by: D. Harper** **Res. #09-353**
“Due to information received it appears Township employees classified the same may be paid a substantial difference per hour. Therefore Council agrees to have the Clerk prepare a report and present it in a ‘Closed Session’ at the next Council meeting, identifying classification of employees and hourly rate of pay.”

-Carried-

Moved by: R. Ogilvie **Seconded by: J. Florent** **Res. #09-354**
“To authorize the Stage 2 Funding Application to Northern Ontario Heritage Program for the Multi-Purpose Building in Madawaska.”

-Carried-

Moved by: R. Ogilvie **Seconded by: R. Jessup** **Res. #09-355**
“That the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin supports in principle, the Building Bancroft Re-Development Project and urges the Provincial and Federal Governments to seriously consider supporting the project which will have positive economic impact throughout a very broad area including our own.”

-Carried-

Moved by: R. Ogilvie **Seconded by: J. Dumas** **Res. #09-356**
“**WHEREAS** there is a clear need for all communities in Canada to have access to High-Speed Internet or Broadband services in order to improve communications, enhance educational opportunities, and attract businesses requiring hi-tech capabilities; and **WHEREAS** South Algonquin remains poorly served by internet providers because our Township presents special challenges to the delivery of High-Speed, namely, geographic terrain which blocks signals and a small, widely-distributed population which makes service delivery uneconomical. **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin strike a small Broadband subcommittee with staff and Council representation to actively seek and pursue avenues which might lead to better Broadband service in our community.”

-Carried-

Moved by: R. Ogilvie **Seconded by: R. Jessup** **Res. #09-357**
“**WHEREAS** AMO frequently sponsors or conducts workshops and holds conferences, attendance at which would be beneficial for participating Municipal Councillors and/or employees and ultimately for their municipalities; and **WHEREAS** the registration fees for such events frequently range in the multiple hundreds of dollars; and **WHEREAS** travel and accommodation also represent an expense for the municipality of additional hundreds of dollars; and **WHEREAS** small municipalities (i.e. those representing fewer than 2500 residents) cannot afford to send representatives to these otherwise worthwhile meetings. **BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that the Township of South Algonquin hereby request that AMO reduce registration fees to workshops and conferences which they sponsor to a nominal \$50.00 per representative from municipalities with populations of 2500 or less; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that AMO split the cost of travel and accommodation equally with such small municipalities in order to encourage smaller communities to attend and benefit from AMO sponsored programs. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Clerk-Treasurer for South Algonquin forward this resolution

