

TOWNSHIP OF HUDSON
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of DECEMBER 6TH, 2023
Held at the Hudson Community Hall

Present: **Reeve:** Larry Craig
 Councillors: Crystal Gauthier
 Greg Seed
 Clayton Seymour
 Staff: Krystle Seymour, Clerk-Treasurer
 Eric Lavallee, Road Superintendent
 Jason Morrow, Acting Fire Chief

Regrets: **Councillor:** Dana McLean

1. Call Meeting to Order & Adoption of Agenda

2023-181 **Moved:** **Greg Seed** **Seconded:** **Crystal Gauthier**
That we, the Council of the Township of Hudson do hereby, open the Regular Meeting of Council of December 6th, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.
“CARRIED”

2023-182 **Moved:** **Crystal Gauthier** **Seconded:** **Clayton Seymour**
That we, the Council of the Township of Hudson do hereby, accept the agenda as amended:

ADD: 4. b. Kara Hill – Severance Road C
 8. a. TMSA – Hiring of Planner

“CARRIED”

2. Adoption of Minutes

- a. **Regular Meeting of November 1st, 2023**
- b. **Closed Session Minutes of November 1st, 2023**

2023-183 **Moved:** **Crystal Gauthier** **Seconded:** **Clayton Seymour**
That we, the Council of the Township of Hudson do hereby, adopt the following minutes:

- a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 1st, 2023 as presented
- b. Closed Session Minutes of November 1st, 2023 as presented

“CARRIED”

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None

4. Delegations/Presentation:

- a. **Shawn Morrow (not present) – Hudson Fire Department**
Council discussed the submitted report/email and asked if the Fire Department had a secretary that could help implement electronic programs. Acting Fire Chief Jason Morrow said that the Fire Department’s secretary has not had time to complete this yet. Council reiterated that as discussed at the November 2023 council meeting, salary discussions for next year would take place during the 2024 budget discussions upcoming in the new year. Council discussed the aging pumper truck and required yearly safeties. A new truck is very expensive.

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2023-184 **Moved: Greg Seed** **Seconded: Clayton Seymour**
 That we, the Council of the Township of Hudson, do hereby, acknowledge receipt and accept Shawn Morrow's report and that it be filed along with the minutes of the regular meeting.
 "CARRIED"

b. Kara Hill – Severance on Road C

Kara Hill addressed council in regards to Reeves Craig's proposal on creating new lots on Road C during the November 2023 council meeting. She expressed to council that she had difficulty obtaining a building permit when constructing her home several years ago as the area is close to the landfill, and believes this may be the case should new building lots be created in this same area. The Clerk-Treasurer provided the response from J.L. Richards after reaching out in regards to Reeve Craig's proposal. The planner responded (by email) that a zoning by-law amendment would be required as the current zoning of this area is C-2 and residential uses are not permitted. Additionally, the Official Plan designates a portion as Waste Disposal (closed), and would therefore trigger an official plan amendment. This amendment would not be supported by the planning act or other provincial policy statements. Council thanked Kara for her presentation.

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

2023-185 **Moved: Clayton Seymour** **Seconded: Greg Seed**
 That we, the Council of the Township of Hudson, do hereby, approve the payment of accounts as presented:

Roads	\$43,195.84
Fire	\$2,470.92
General Administration	\$67,355.31
Total Voucher 2023-11	\$113,022.07

"CARRIED"

6. Reports from Staff & Others

a. Road's Department Report

The Road's Superintendent reports that the roads were graded, plowed and sanded as required. Two new laneway culverts were installed. One needed to be dug out and reset. Ditching on Pike Lake was completed and the winter trench was dug at the landfill. Wire was run in the arena for the new fan, floor was swept, and some boards were screwed back on. The Superintendent also reported that the winter sand has been delivered. Tires were installed on the plow trucks and sand screen and lights were also installed. Ice blades and wing posts were put on the grader. New cutting edge and shoes are installed on the one way. Both plow trucks, loader and grader are now able to fit inside the shop.

b. Fire Department Report

Acting Fire Chief Jason Morrow reports that they have had regular business meetings, and discussed purchasing a new generator. An Energizer generator for approximately \$650.00 will be sufficient to fill the need and the Fire Department will purchase. The MNR was contacted about burning slash piles, and they were asked to call the

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Township office to notify them on upcoming burning so that the Fire Department and residents can be notified. The water leaks on the pumper were repaired and Department members participated in a training exercise regarding positive pressure ventilation led by Clayton Seymour.

c. Others

- i. Eco-Logix's Landfill Report – October 2023**
- ii. Timiskaming Health Unit Minutes – October 11th, 2023**
- iii. Earlton-Timiskaming Airport – Minutes September 2023 & Financials**
- iv. Treasurer's Report – November 2023**
- v. Recreation Report**

The Recreation Department held a wreath making event that was well attended. Santa is coming to the hall for a visit later in December. The fan was installed at the Arena and preparation of the ice surface should begin shortly, weather depending.

vi. Reports from Council and Staff

Reeve Craig reported the following from the last TMA meeting. The closing of Thornloe Cheese was discussed. Gay Lea is willing to sell the building but not the equipment. Exotic animals in Latchford were also discussed as there is no by-law regarding this. The province is now inspecting some buildings in unorganised areas. Brethour is having a hard time getting service/maintenance for the telephone landlines. Community Risk Assessments need to be completed by Summer 2024. Correspondence and webinars regarding this have been sent to the Fire Department.

2023-186

Moved: Greg Seed

Seconded: Clayton Seymour

That we, the Council of the Township of Hudson 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's Department Report
- c. Others
 - i. Eco-Logix's Landfill Report – October 2023
 - ii. Timiskaming Health Unit Minutes – October 11th, 2023
 - iii. Earlton-Timiskaming Airport – Minutes September 2023 & Financials
 - iv. Treasurer's Report – November 2023
 - v. Recreation Report *[no item]*
 - vi. Reports from Council and Staff

“CARRIED”

7. Correspondence for Council's Consideration:

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

No Action

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

2023-187

Moved: Greg Seed

Seconded: Crystal Gauthier

WHEREAS Canada has 90,000 volunteer firefighters who provide fire and all hazard emergency services to their communities; in addition,

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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 Hudson 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, and to the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs.

“CARRIED”

c. Township of Coleman – Conservation Officer Reclassification

2023-188

Moved: Greg Seed

Seconded: Clayton Seymour

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

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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 Hudson 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 Planner

Councillor Seymour notified council that TMSA has hired a fully qualified planner and she begins on January 3rd, 2024. TMSA is recommending that we keep our current planner on retainer for 2024 during the transition period.

9. Other Business:

a. Memo-23-020 – Community Arena – Winter Operations

2023-189 **Moved: Crystal Gauthier Seconded: Clayton Seymour**
That we, the Council of the Township of Hudson do hereby, acknowledge receipt of Memo-23-020 regarding winter operations at the Community Arena; and

Direct municipal staff to proceed with opening the Hudson Community Rink for the upcoming 2023-2024 winter season; and

Direct municipal staff to create a job description for the arena attendant.
"CARRIED"

b. Memo-23-021 – Timiskaming OPP Detachment Board (South) Appointment

2023-190 **Moved: Clayton Seymour Seconded: Greg Seed**
That we, the Council of the Township of Hudson do hereby, acknowledge receipt of Memo-23-021 regarding the Timiskaming OPP Detachment Board (South) Appointment; and

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That we, the Council of the Township of Hudson do hereby appoint Dana McLean as the Township of Hudson council representative to the Temiskaming OPP Detachment SOUTH Board. (Board 3).
“CARRIED”

c. Memo-23-022 – 2024 Insurance Renewal

2023-191 **Moved: Crystal Seymour** **Seconded: Clayton Seymour**
That we, the Council of the Township of Hudson do hereby, acknowledge receipt of Memo 23-022 regarding the Township of Hudson’s 2024 insurance renewal proposal provided by McDougall Insurance; and

Agree to add Critical Illness coverage to the insurance policy at the quoted price of \$400; and

Direct Municipal Staff to prepare and present a by-law for council’s consideration at the Regular Meeting of December 6th, authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to execute an Insurance Program Proposal with an annual premium of \$40,499.00 provided by McDougall Insurance.
“CARRIED”

d. Memo-23-023 – Surplus Generator

2023-192 **Moved: Greg Seed** **Seconded: Clayton Seymour**
That we, the Council of the Township of Hudson do hereby, acknowledge receipt of Memo-23-023 regarding the generator; and
That Council do hereby agree to surplus the Generac generator with a serial number of O574490; and

That Council do hereby authorize municipal staff to sell the surplus generator.
“CARRIED”

e. Resident Complaint – Re: A Resort Business Operation in GR Zone

2023-193 **Moved: Clayton Seymour** **Seconded: Crystal Gauthier**
That we, the Council of the Township of Hudson do hereby, acknowledge receipt of resident complaint regarding “a resort business operation in GR zone”; and

Direct municipal staff to respond to the resident’s concerns according to current by-laws.
“CARRIED”

10. By-Laws

a. By-Law 2023-18 Being a by-law to authorize the signing of a municipal insurance renewal proposal for 2024-2025
[three readings]

2023-194 **Moved: Clayton Seymour** **Seconded: Greg Seed**
That **By-Law No. 2023-18**, 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.
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2023-195 **Moved:** **Crystal Gauthier** **Seconded:** **Clayton Seymour**
That **By-Law No. 2023-18**, 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:

None

12. Adjournment:

2023-196 **Moved:** **Greg Seed** **Seconded:** **Crystal Gauthier**
That we, the Council of the Township of Hudson do hereby, adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:38 pm and will meet again on January 3rd, 2024 or at the call of the Reeve.
“CARRIED”



Larry Craig, Reeve



Krystle Seymour, Clerk-Treasurer