

**THE CORPORATION OF
THE TOWNSHIP OF BONNECHERE VALLEY
MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY OCTOBER 7th, 2014 7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

PRESENT Mayor Jennifer Murphy
Deputy Mayor Cairine Cybulski
Councillor Jack Roesner
Councillor Charlotte Neitzel
Councillor Bob Peltzer
CAO Bryan Martin

ABSENT

GALLERY 2

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Jennifer Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRAYER – Recited

ADDITIONS/CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

14.134 MOVED BY Cairine Cybulski
SECONDED BY Charlotte Neitzel

That: The agenda be accepted as amended/presented. Carried

PECUNIARY INTEREST – none

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Minutes from the September 16th, 2014 and September 23rd, 2014 public meeting for approval.

14.135 MOVED BY Charlotte Neitzel
SECONDED BY Cairine Cybulski

THAT: The minutes from the Public Meetings held on September 16, 2014 and the minutes from the Public Meeting held on September 23, 2014 as amended/presented by hereby adopted.

Carried

Minutes from the September 16th, 2014 regular meeting for approval and minutes from September 23, 2014 special council meeting.

14.136 MOVED BY Bob Peltzer
SECONDED BY Cairine Cybulski

THAT: The minutes of the regular council meeting held on September 16th, 2014, as amended/presented be hereby adopted and the minutes of the special council meeting held on September 23, 2014, as amended/presented be hereby adopted.

Carried

DELEGATION – none

CORRESPONDENCE

(1) Correspondence "A"

- (i) County of Renfrew – Supply and Delivery of Fuel
- (ii) McCarthy Fuels Killaloe – Fuel Prices
- (iii) Ontario Provincial Police – 2015 Municipal Policing Billing Statement

(2) Correspondence "B"

- (i) Ryan Hoelke – Purple Martin House System Request
- (ii) Township of Greater Madawaska – Protection of Public Participation Act
- (iii) Royal Canadian Legion – Poppy Campaign

(3) Correspondence "C"

14.137 MOVED BY Jack Roesner
SECONDED BY Bob Peltzer

THAT: the Correspondence be filed. Carried

BUSINESS ARISING FROM COMMITTEE

(1) Community Centre – Hall & Ice Surface Rental Rates

14.138 MOVED BY Cairine Cybulski
SECONDED BY Bob Peltzer

THAT: The Eagle's Nest hall rental fee be increased effective immediately to \$300 (arena run bar) and that the rental rate for the ice surface be increased, effective immediately to \$475 (arena run bar). Hall rental contracts that have already been signed will be honored at the rate on the contract.

Carried

(2) Protection for Property Taxpayers - Resolution

14.139 MOVED BY Jack Roesner
SECONDED BY Bob Peltzer

WHEREAS in December 2000, the Province of Ontario passed the Continued Protection of Property Taxpayers Act, (Bill 140);

WHEREAS the Continued Protection for Property Taxpayers Act, among other matters, exempted certain hydro-electric stations and poles and wires from municipal taxation as of January 1, 2001;

WHEREAS the Continued Protection for Property Taxpayers Act removed the right and authority of affected municipalities across the Province to levy property tax notices to hydro-electric stations, poles and wires, representing significant taxable property assessment;

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario replaced the above noted rights and authority to tax hydro-electric stations, poles and wires with a compensatory payment, known as the Power Dam Special Payment Program, equivalent to the taxes levied on the subject structures in 2000;

WHEREAS the amount of payments under the Power Dam Special Payment Program were adjusted for the Consumer Price Index in some but not all years, an adjustment which did not keep pace with either changes in municipal taxation rates or costs;

WHEREAS the above noted changes resulted in an unfair shift in taxation to the remaining property assessment base, more specifically to residents and businesses alike;

WHEREAS upon exempting from municipal property taxation, hydro-electric stations, poles and wires that had been subject to such taxation, the Province of Ontario amended the Electricity Act, 1998 requiring the owners of the subject structures to then pay to the Province of Ontario a Gross Revenue Charge (GRC) of three components:

- A property tax component payable to the Minister of Finance
- A property tax component payable to the Ontario Electricity Financial Corporation
- A water rental component payable to the Minister of Finance;

WHEREAS in July 2014, the Province of Ontario introduced Bill 14, Building Opportunity and Securing Our Future Act (Budget Measures) where phases down or decreases the Power Dam Special Payment Program for hydro-electric stations, poles and wires by 23.53% by 2017, starting in 2015.

WHEREAS the reduction in the Power Dam Special Payment Program will result in a reduction of annual revenues for affected municipalities by 2017;

WHEREAS District Social Services Administration Boards (DSSAB's) that use the proceeds of the Power Dam Special Payment Program as part of their funding formula will also be directly affected, thereby affecting municipalities who do not participate in the Power Dam Special Payment Program;

WHEREAS many municipalities are already struggling as a result of accelerated cuts to the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF), the unknown aspects of a new OPP Billing Model, the elimination of the Connecting Link Program and other cuts;

WHEREAS a result of reductions in the Power Dam Special Payment Program, affected municipalities may not be able to meet their fiduciary obligations;

WHEREAS the reduction in the Power Dam Special Payment Program is punitive in nature;

WHEREAS the Power Dam Special Payment Program is very small when compared to the multi-billion dollar annual budget of the Province of Ontario yet the impact of the decreased funding is devastating for affected municipalities;

WHEREAS affected municipalities will have to increase property tax rates to the remaining property assessment base (assessment in some cases which is decreasing) to compensate for the loss of revenue or be forced to significantly compromise municipal services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Corporation of the Township of Bonnechere Valley request that the Government in the Province of Ontario reverse the decision to decrease funding to the Power Dam Special Payment Program;

FURTHER that the Province of Ontario also be requested to annually increase the amount of funding by the amount of any change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) to compensate for the increase in the municipal costs;

AND FURTHER that a copy of the Resolution be sent to the Premier of the Province of Ontario; the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, John Yakabuski, MPP Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC).

(3) Fire Department – Double Hatting

14.140 **MOVED BY** Bob Peltzer
 SECONDED BY Jack Roesner

WHEREAS the training and certification of professional firefighters is established and mandated by the Province of Ontario under the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997*;

AND WHEREAS it is the responsibility to establish fire departments and appoint fire chiefs to provide fire protection services as they determine may be necessary in accordance with their needs and circumstances;

AND WHEREAS many Ontario municipalities rely on both full time and volunteer firefighters in order to provide fire protection;

AND WHEREAS the International Association of Fire Fighters (“IAFF”) Constitution prohibits full time firefighters from volunteering as firefighters in another municipal jurisdiction (i.e. “Double Hatting”);

AND WHEREAS the IAFF’s stance on Double Hatting is specifically prohibited by legislation in almost all provinces in Canada and much of the United States;

AND WHEREAS a volunteer firefighter in the Innisfil Fire and Rescue Service is challenging the IAFF ban on Double Hatting and their expulsions from that union because of his desire to continue volunteering while being employed as a full-time firefighter in another jurisdiction;

AND WHEREAS the right of individuals to use their free time in service of their community is a fundamental right in a free, open and democratic society.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of Township of Bonnechere Valley requests that the Province of Ontario amend the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997* with respect to salaried firefighters who also work as volunteer firefighters, such that if a person is denied membership in an association of firefighters, is expelled or disciplined by the association or engages in reasonable dissent within the association in connection with this kind of dual role, the association is not permitted to require the employer to refuse to employ the person as a salaried firefighter, terminate his or her employment as a salaried firefighter or refuse to assign the person to fire protection services.

AND FURTHER that a copy of the Resolution be sent to:

- Hon. Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario
- Hon. Madeleine Meilleur, Attorney General
- Hon. Kevin Flynn, Minister of Labour
- Hon. Yasir Naqvi, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services
- Hon. Ted McMeekin, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

Carried

BYLAWS

14.141 **MOVED BY** Bob Peltzer
 SECONDED BY Charlotte Neitzel

THAT:

- (1) By-Law 2014-057 Being a By-Law to confirm the proceedings of Council
- (2) By-Law 2014-058 Being a By-Law to approve the expropriation of groundwater rights on property described as part of Lot 26, Concession

9, South Algona, in the geographic Township of Bonnechere Valley for the purposes of expanding the municipality's landfill contamination attenuation zone

- (3) By-Law 2014-059 Being a By-Law to dedicate a one foot reserve shown on registered plan nos. 429 and 430, Township of Bonnechere Valley and include it as part of Klondike Road as shown on registered plan nos. 429 and 430
- (4) By-law 2014-060 Being a By-Law to amend comprehensive zoning by-law number 2006-28

BE READ A FIRST TIME, BE DEEMED READ A SECOND TIME, BE DEEMED READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

Carried

ACCOUNTS RESOLUTION

14.142 MOVED BY Cairine Cybulski
SECONDED BY Bob Peltzer

THAT: the accounts for the month of September in the amount of \$549,519.84 be paid from the Bank of Montreal Eganville Branch.

Carried

MEDIA SESSION - none

CLOSED - none

ADJOURNMENT

14.143 MOVED BY Cairine Cybulski
SECONDED BY Bob Peltzer

THAT: This Council meeting be adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Carried

Mayor Jennifer Murphy

CAO Bryan Martin