

The Corporation of The Town of Parry Sound

Council Meeting Minutes April 2, 2024

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Council Meeting Minutes - April 2, 2024

7:07 PM, Parry Sound Council Chambers 52 Seguin St. Parry Sound

Members Present

Mayor McGarvey, Councillor Ashford, Councillor Beleskey, Councillor Borneman, Councillor Keith, Councillor McCann, Councillor McDonald

Staff Present:

CAO Clayton Harris, Clerk Rebecca Johnson, Director of Public Works Mike Kearns, Director of Finance Stephanie Phillips, Director of Development & Protective Services Dave Thompson, Chief Building Official Mark Vandermeer, Manager of Parks & Recreation April McNamara

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1. Agenda and Minutes Review, Pecuniary Interest

1.1 Land Acknowledgement

1.2 Presentations/Announcements

1.3 Additions to Agenda - N/A

1.4 Prioritization of Agenda

1.5 Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Borneman Seconded by Councillor Keith

That the Council agenda for April 2, 2024 be approved as circulated.

Carried

1.6 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof - George Ashford

1.7 Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Beleskey Seconded by Councillor Ashford

That the Minutes from the Regular Council meeting held March 19, 2024 be approved as circulated.

Carried

2. Public Meeting - N/A

3. Questions of Staff

3.1 In response to Councillor McDonald's inquiry requesting updates of the Friday night incident with a person on top of the observation tower at Tower Hill, Fire Chief Dave Thompson reported that the incident involved police and fire crews at the scene with a hole cut in the tower in order to bring the individual down. While there is no structural damage, it is not safe to head up to the top floor and the tower is currently closed until repairs have been made. Mr. Thompson said he is currently working with the OPP regarding the cause of the incident and what opportunities there are to pursue compensation.

Mayor McGarvey thanked the various Fire Departments, paramedics and OPP who attended at the scene. Chief Thompson further explained the mutual aid system used to respond to the incident.

3.2 In response to Councillor Keith's inquiry regarding the status of follow-up to the August, 2023 Council direction that public washroom hours be extended in the summer, Director of Development & Protective Services Dave Thompson reported that staff is still working on developing a plan that deals with and aligns hours for washrooms at Big Sound Marina, Waubuno Beach and the Town Dock, some of which necessitates negotiations with contractors.

3.3 In response to Councillor Borneman's inquiry regarding Earth Day activities, Manager of Parks & Recreation April McNamara reported that partners including Early On, the Parry Sound Public Library, and the Parry Sound Friendship Centre will be hosting activities on Saturday April 20 from 9 AM to noon at the Bobby Orr Community Centre. Ms. McNamara identified additional activities in April, including 1) Pitch-in Week April 20-27; 2) Paint Winter Goodbye from 10 AM to 2 PM on Sunday, April 7 with families invited to get artistic on the ice surface before the ice is taken out; and 3) Sport, Rec & Leisure Fair on Thursday, April 18, from 5 - 7 PM at the BOCC providing parents with an opportunity to learn about all the activities going on in Parry Sound.

3.4 In response to Councillor Ashford's inquiry regarding how areas in Town with a bad odour might be dealt with, Mr. Thompson reported that the Clean Yards By-law has provisions to respond to odours.

3.5 In response to Councillor McCann's inquiry as to how to avoid eye injury during the solar eclipse on Monday, April 8th, Mr. Thompson advised to avoid looking directly at the sun.

4. Correspondence

4.1 Parry Sound Seniors - Request for Parking Control exemption April 20, 2024 - See item 9.5.2

4.2 Mary Jane Zisoff - Request to schedule Plaque Presentation date to acknowledge Yvonne Williams Park - referred to Manager of Parks & Recreation.

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- 4.3 Amanda Greenfield - Opposition to TC Energy's Ontario Pumped Storage - filed
- 4.4 Anne Boody Horwood - Opposition to TC Energy's Ontario Pumped Storage - filed
- 4.5 Kellie Haslam - Opposition to TC Energy's Ontario Pumped Storage - filed
- 4.6 Louise Buccella - Opposition to TC Energy's Ontario Pumped Storage - filed
- 4.7 Jarvis Strong of Escarpment Corridor Alliance - Opposition to TC Energy's Ontario Pumped Storage - filed
- 4.8 Donna Mitchell - Opposition to TC Energy's Ontario Pumped Storage - filed
- 4.9 Teresa Sorska - Opposition to TC Energy's Ontario Pumped Storage - filed
- 4.10 Jinny Thompson - Opposition to TC Energy's Ontario Pumped Storage - filed
- 4.11 David Fraser - Opposition to TC Energy's Ontario Pumped Storage - filed
- 4.12 Louise Green - Opposition to TC Energy's Ontario Pumped Storage - filed
- 4.13 Nancy Fraser - Opposition to TC Energy's Ontario Pumped Storage - filed
- 4.14 Lindy & Bent Iversen - Opposition to TC Energy's Ontario Pumped Storage - filed
- 4.15 Martha McKee - Opposition to TC Energy's Ontario Pumped Storage - filed
- 4.16 David Brandy - Opposition to TC Energy's Ontario Pumped Storage - filed
- 4.17 Clair Balfour - Opposition to TC Energy's Ontario Pumped Storage - filed
- 4.18 Lynne Brown - Opposition to TC Energy's Ontario Pumped Storage - filed
- 4.19 John Martinson - Opposition to TC Energy's Ontario Pumped Storage - filed
- 4.20 Suzanne Jarvis - Opposition to TC Energy's Ontario Pumped Storage - filed
- 4.21 Charles Murphy - Opposition to TC Energy's Ontario Pumped Storage - filed
- 4.22 Thomas Duyck - Opposition to TC Energy's Ontario Pumped Storage - filed

4.23 Joyce Gateman - Opposition to TC Energy's Ontario Pumped Storage - filed

5. Deputations

5.1 Eric McIntyre - Installation of New Radio Read Water Meters

Mr. McIntyre addressed council with respect to the Town's planned installation of a water meter at his residence, noting that for 9 years he has been charged a flat rate, even though he has a water meter.

Mr. McIntyre suggested that if the current meter is faulty, use of a correction factor instead of switching out the meter would be a simpler way of dealing with it. Mr. McIntyre noted that he received no response from the Town regarding leakage but would be happy to pay a surcharge on lost revenue regarding leakage.

Mr. McIntyre requested that the Town provide a project description, and business case for this project of new meter installations as he expected that the program will cost hundreds of dollars in labour and materials for each installation and therefore hundreds of thousands of dollars for the entire project. He requested to know how the project is being financed since he has been told the meter installation will be at no cost to himself and requested a response to all of these questions by April 24th before the new meter is to be installed.

Director of Public Works Mike Kearns reported that a response to Mr. McIntyre's previous request by letter on the same matter was sent to him by e-mail this date.

5.2 Bob Baranski, Save Georgian Bay, Opposition to OPS

Bob Baranski of the organization Save Georgian Bay addressed Council noting the movement of opposition to TC Energy's planned Ontario Pumped Storage (OPS) project. Mr. Baranski said that the project is a bad deal economically, with great risk to contaminate Georgian Bay and the Niagara Escarpment with forever chemicals.

Mr. Baranski said that TC Energy wants a 50 year contract for the OPS which will not be on-line until 2035. With consumption set to reduce, the high demand today may not be an issue by the time TC Energy's OPS project is completed. Mr. Baranski suggested battery costs are trending down, are a better solution and more efficient; and that Tesla says batteries last 20 years and can be recycled.

With respect to cost, Mr. Baranski said that the price tag has skyrocketed with the Minister of Energy admitting that he did not know ultimately how much this will cost, heightening the risk to taxpayers. Mr. Baranski noted that the province's own Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO), the expert on the electricity market and bulk electrical system in Ontario has recommended against this project.

Amanda Greenfield, and Executive Director of the Georgian Bay Association Rupert Kindersley, also addressed Council with concerns about the project, identifying the more than 20 registered endangered species, excavation of ordnance left on Department of National Defence (DND) property and absence of a public tendering process in awarding the project to TCE. Mr. Kindersley also said that the IESO has largely determined that battery storage is what they want, as it can deal with current storage needs, and that storage projects which pump water uphill to have it run downhill is old technology which uses and loses electricity in an inefficient manner.

5.3 TC Energy - Ontario Pumped Storage (OPS) Project, Meaford

John Mikkelsen, Director of TC Energy's power and energy solutions addressed Council on behalf of the project noting it was in partnership with Saugeen Ojibway Nation. Mr. Mikkelsen said that this project is important to achieve net 0, meaningful towards reconciliation and contributes towards jobs. Prior to the start of the project, environmental assessments will be undertaken set to take 3 years.

Mr. Mikkelsen noted the population growth in Ontario of 450,000 last year necessitating the need for energy storage and said that pumped storage is a clean energy initiative.

Mr. Mikkelsen noted that batteries will have an important role in the energy system and that the project is not a matter of one or the other, but that the life span for batteries at 40 years is short with the supply chain dominated by China. Mr. Mikkelsen noted that both the City of Owen Sound and Town of Meaford have provided resolutions of conditional support. Mr. Mikkelsen recommended that Council review the Ministry of Energy's report *Powering Ontario's Growth*, for more information on energy needs.

Mr. Mikkelsen responded to questions from members of Council related to how the pumped storage system works and the impact on electricity in Ontario.

6. Mayor & Councillors' Reports

Mayor & Councillors reported on meetings attended and matters arising.

7. Ratification of Matters From Closed Agenda - N/A

8. Consent Agenda - N/A

9. Resolutions and Direction To Staff

9.1.1 Enhanced Infrastructure Support for Urban Municipalities

Resolution 2024 - 048

Moved by Councillor McDonald

Seconded by Councillor Borneman

Whereas both the Federal Government and the Province of Ontario have identified housing as a top priority in municipalities across the province;

Whereas most Small Urban Municipalities are economic hubs serving an area much larger than their respective municipality;

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Whereas they provide the infrastructure essential to the delivery of a wide range of business, economic, social and educational services as well as a range of housing options that benefit surrounding municipalities;

Whereas the surrounding municipalities that benefit from those services do so without contribution to the infrastructure costs which are entirely born by Small Urban Municipalities;

Whereas Small Urban Municipalities face increased social and fiscal pressures as a result of providing infrastructure in support those services;

Whereas this results in Small Urban Municipalities having disproportionately higher cost structures as compared to more rural municipalities;

Whereas these services available in Small Urban Municipalities also leads to a much higher proportion of their assessment base being exempt from property taxation;

Whereas these factors, when combined, result in significantly higher property tax rates in Small Urban Municipalities compared to neighbouring municipalities;

Whereas criteria used in federal and provincial funding programs doesn't effectively distinguish between the needs of these Small Urban Municipalities as compared to other municipalities;

Whereas the most cost-effective and timely way to increase the housing supply is to leverage existing urban infrastructure through infill development;

Now therefore be it resolved that provincial and federal governments be requested to review their funding program criteria with the objective of providing a greater focus on funding infrastructure in Small Urban Municipalities;

That the provincial and federal governments continue to work together to coordinate infrastructure funding to ensure the optimum return on their combined infrastructure investments;

That as part of that coordination the provincial and federal governments undertake a 3rd party review to determine how all levels of government can be assured their infrastructure investments deliver the optimum return on investment in a timely manner, and small urban municipalities responsible for such infrastructure are appropriately incentivized for taking on such significant risks; and

That this resolution be forwarded to the federal Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities, the provincial Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Infrastructure, MP Scott Aitchison, MPP Graydon Smith, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM) and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM).

Carried

9.2.1 2023 Statement of Remuneration Paid to Council and Appointed Board Members

Spokesperson: Stephanie Phillips, Director of Finance/Treasurer

Resolution 2024 - 049

Moved by Councillor McDonald Seconded by Councillor Borneman

That the 2023 Statement of Remuneration Paid to Council and Appointed Board Members, attached as Schedule "A", be accepted.

Carried

9.5.1 World Autism Day Proclamation

Spokesperson: Mayor McGarvey

Resolution 2024 - 050

Moved by Councillor McDonald Seconded by Councillor McCann

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Whereas Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) affects more than 135,000 Ontarians and is now recognized as the most common neurological disorder affecting 1 in every 66 children, as well as their friends, family and community; and

Whereas ASD not only manifests itself differently in every individual in whom it appears, but its characteristics will change over the life of each individual as well; and

Whereas Autism Ontario is dedicated to increasing public awareness about autism and the day-to-day issues faced by individuals with autism, their families, and the professionals with whom they interact;

Now Therefore the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Parry Sound hereby declares April 2, 2024 as World Autism Day in the Town of Parry Sound.

Carried

9.5.2 Relief from Time Limited Parking for PS Seniors Club

Resolution 2024 - 051

Moved by Councillor McCann

Seconded by Councillor Borneman

That pursuant to By-law 2019-6912 as amended which permits Council to grant an exemption from the time limited parking regulations as set out in Section 4.5 of the Bylaw, and upon the request of the Parry Sound Seniors Club 1269, Council hereby grants exemption to the Parry Sound Seniors Club 1269, from the time limited parking regulations as set out in Section 4.5 of Parking By-law 2019-6912 on Saturday, April 20, 2024 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM pertaining to the west side of James St from McMurray St to Rosetta St only.

Carried

10. By-laws

10.1.1 Development Charges (DC) Deferral Policy

Spokesperson: Clayton Harris, CAO; Stephanie Phillips, Director of Finance/Treasurer

By-law 2024 - 7400

Being a By-law to approve the Development Charges (DC) Deferral Policy for the Corporation of the Town of Parry Sound.

Read a First, Second and Third time, Passed, Signed and Sealed

10.3.1 Partnership with Science North to Deliver Youth Camp Programs at the Bobby Orr Community Centre

Spokesperson: Jayme Young, Community Recreation Coordinator

By-law 2024 - 7408

Being a By-law to authorize the execution of an agreement with Science North for the delivery of education-based youth camp programming.

Read a First, Second and Third time, Passed, Signed and Sealed

10.4.1 Town Leased Commercial Water lots/Commercial Properties: Chippewa, Georgian Bay Airways, Sound Boat Works, Chantler Barging

Spokesperson: Dave Thompson, Director of Development and Protective Services

By-law 2024 - 7409

Being a By-law to authorize the execution a License of Occupation with Sound Boat Works for the use of the property identified Pt Water Lt C West of Mill St Foley as in PS8343 Except Pt 11, 42R6597 & Pt 4, 42R11471; Parry Sound

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Read a First, Second and Third time, Passed, Signed and Sealed

By-law 2024 - 7410

Being a By-law to authorize the execution of an agreement with Georgian Bay Airways for the lease of a water lot located between the Georgian Bay Airways property and the Town Dock.

Read a First, Second and Third time, Passed, Signed and Sealed

By-law 2024 - 7411

Being a By-law to authorize the execution of an agreement with Parry Sound Cruise Lines for the lease of the property LT 6-21 PL 154; PARRY SOUND.

Read a First, Second and Third time, Passed, Signed and Sealed

By-law 2024 - 7412

Being a By-law to authorize the execution a Lease with Chantler Barging Ltd for the use of the property identified as Lot 2 Plan 155 being Part on Plan 42R9587, Lot 3 Plan 166, Lot 4 Plan 166 all in the Town of Parry Sound.

Read a First, Second and Third time, Passed, Signed and Sealed

10.4.2 Appoint additional building officials employed by an Ontario-based consultant service.

Spokesperson: Mark Vandermeer, Chief Building Official

Read a First, Second and Third time, Passed, Signed and Sealed

By-law 2024 - 7413

Being a By-law to appoint Grant Schwartzentruber and Margaret Lawson as Building Officials.

Read a First, Second and Third time, Passed, Signed and Sealed

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10.5.1 Confirming By-law

By-law 2024 - 7414

Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council.

Read a First, Second and Third time, Passed, Signed and Sealed

11. Adjournment

Mayor McGarvey adjourned the meeting at 9:44 PM

Personal Information collected in Section 2. Public Meeting, Section 4. Correspondence and/or Section 5. Deputations is collected under the authority of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA), Section 21. (1) c and will be used to create a record available to the general public.

Mayor Jamie McGarvey

Clerk Rebecca Johnson