

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon held a meeting on the 5th day of February, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers. Mayor D. Fawcett, Deputy Mayor B. Hill, Councillor J. Crowe, Councillor J. Elliott and Councillor B. Kumprey were present. Wendy Atkinson, Acting CAO/Clerk-Treasurer was also present. Mayor Fawcett presided.

Additions

- Mayor Fawcett- advised of meeting with Sylvia Jones on February 4/09
- e-mail from Alan Selby regarding 2010 OMPF grant

Deletions

- None

Approval

- S Show of hands

Minutes

Moved by Hill and Crowe that we approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on January 22, 2009 as circulated. Carried.

Business Arising from the Minutes

ROMA/OGRA Conference - Mayor Fawcett commented that the workshops on February 23rd and 24th look interesting.

Members Privilege

Member Fawcett commented that we may be using the wrong terminology and we should investigate its use.

County Council Update

County Council update of January 8, 2009 was reviewed. Deputy Mayor Hill reported that Ken McGhee, Deputy Mayor of Mono was sworn in. Deputy Mayor Hill also advised of a presentation made by CDDHS students regarding a recent trip to Normanby.

Committee Reports

Deputy Mayor Hill

CDRC - not in attendance at last meeting due to illness. Items under discussion - budget, reciprocal insurance, o/t.

Councillor Crowe

Mulmur Melancthon Fire Board - January 14, 2009 - all members present. Councillor Crowe appointed Chairperson for 2009, Earl Hawkins appointed Vice Chair and Karen Davidson-Lock appointed Secretary. Mulmur Township has been working on their procedure with the Ontario Fire Marshal's Office with respect to requirements under the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997. Melancthon presently in process of getting an OFM rep to Council meeting to achieve same goal. Chief's year report received and accepted - Councillor Crowe gave highlights - occurrences down - donated ambulance in full service - training room has been furnished by association - front parking lot paved - thermal imaging camera purchased by association. Goals for 2009 - review of standard

operational guidelines - creation of a truck committee for replacement of tanker - fence in rear parking area - update hiring policy. The budget has been prepared and reviewed for next meeting of February 11, 2009.

Provincial Offences - January 16, 2009 - decline in charges for 2008, also decline in revenue - OPP charges also down. Looking at increasing court time for serious POA charges - pay ticket system has caught on well - considering adding an administration fee to offset credit card payments - collection of old fines has proved successful.

Horning's Mills Hall Board - January 19, 2009 - main topics of discussion were upcoming fundraisers - Treasure Sale - April 18/09, Fish Fry - May 2/09 (to include a draw for a BBQ, a cooler and a lounge chair). Sarah Harrison working on the showing of a movie shot at the mansion last summer entitled "Adoration" - small fee to be donated to the Hall.

Councillor Elliott

Southgate Recreation Advisory Committee - January 29, 2009 - delegations from Wesleyan Church re: proposed "free brunch event", Hopeville Minor Ball re: park condition and Holstein Farmers Market re: upcoming season. Free public skating day scheduled for Bluewater PD day - January 30/09. Budget presented with a 0% increase but a 1.1 % increase was suggested. Recreation capital for Dundalk District Comm Centre - pool needs a new heater - would like to take boiler from arena and then upgrade heater. Councillor Elliott asked Council if our capital commitment is to the arena only? Plans underway for Family Day activities at community centre. Open meeting on March 26/09 for public and service organizations to bring concerns and ideas to Committee. Next meeting February 26/09 at 7:00 p.m.

Councillor Kumprey

Shelburne Fire Board - budget presented 6% increase -not accepted. Discussion regarding pumper and tanker truck.

Shelburne Library Board - within budget.

Debbie Fawcett

Procedural Committee Meeting - held January 26,2009

Mulmur Recreation Board - two meetings - main issues are funding and upgrades. Working on raising funds for a new cooler for Norduff Room - catering group will help - one available that has been reduced from \$9000.00 to \$4000.00+ - still need to raise \$2500.00. Requested Karen Davidson-Lock to inquire if Mulmur Township would grant a loan until money could be raised - to be brought back to next meeting.

Budget discussions ongoing.

Meeting with Sylvia Jones, M.P.P. - February 4, 2009- discussed booklet released by Ontario Farm Animal Council entitled "The Real Dirt on Farming" . Also discussed the possibility of Trillium Funding for accessibility for arena and she will be looking into it.

Correspondence

1. Head's Up Alert from OGRA - Federal Budget 2009
2. AMO Member Communication Alert - Ontario Municipalities to Benefit from Federal Budget Measures for Infrastructure, Housing and Employment Insurance
3. Information from Melissa Kovacs, County of Dufferin regarding the New "Do What You Can" Household Hazardous Waste Program with Retailers

4. OGRA Board Brief - January 2009
5. ROMA/OGRA Conference 2009 - Preliminary Conference Program
6. Resolution from Tay Valley Township regarding recycled materials
7. AMO Member Communication Alert - Federal Government Announces New Infrastructure Funding
8. Biosolids & Residuals Master Plan - January 2009
9. Information from Waste Diversion Ontario & Stewardship Ontario - Blue Box Material Commodity Markets
10. Information from Waste Diversion Ontario & Stewardship Ontario regarding the Industry's 3rd Contribution to the Municipal Blue Box Recycling Program for 2008
11. Resolution from the Town of New Tecumseth regarding the NVCA 2009 Preliminary Budget and Municipal Levy
12. Resolution from the Township of Clearview regarding the 2009 NVCA Draft Budget and Municipal Levy
13. Letter from the Municipal Health and Safety Association congratulating the Township for its injury and illness free work place in 2007
14. Joint Fire Board Meeting Minutes - November 4, 2008
15. Letter/Resolution from the Township of East Garafraxa regarding the issue of representation at County Council to allow both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of East Garafraxa to attend
16. Letter of congratulations from the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors for Allen Braiden's (Road Superintendent) recent CRS Certification
17. Letter from the Ontario Farm Animal Council regarding an orchestrated campaign being conducted by a politically motivated US based animal rights group to get some Canadian municipalities to pass resolutions on egg choices
18. Survey and information discussed at the last meeting of Council regarding a municipal survey conducted by Karren Wallace on municipal meetings, agendas and agenda materials

#15 -

Moved by Crowe and Hill that the Council of The Corporation of The Township of Melancthon has reviewed a resolution dated January 29, 2009 from the Township of East Garafraxa, requesting that their representation at County Council be increased to two members. We hereby support the Township of East Garafraxa in their request for increased representation, with the understanding that they would have one vote each. Carried.

#17 - invited at last meeting.

Correspondence on File at the Clerk's Office

1. Notice of Public Meeting - Township of Southgate - Zoning By-law Amendment to be held February 18, 2009
2. Minutes of the Shelburne Public Library Board Meeting held on February 15, 2008
3. Resolution from the Town of Shelburne regarding Indigent Funeral Payment
4. Thank you letter from the Canadian Cancer Society for the donation received from the Township, in Memory of Debra Leece (Councillor Kumprey's daughter)
5. Notice of Public Meeting - Township of East Luther Grand Valley - Proposed New Comprehensive Zoning By-law Amendment to be held February 10, 2009
6. Draft Minutes of the Mulmur Recreation Committee Meeting held on January 27, 2009
7. Mulmur Melancthon Fire Department - Chief's Year End Report 2008

Delegation

9:45 a.m. - Rick Riddall, Landfill Supervisor, attended Council and presented his monthly report on operations at the landfill site. He also reported that he had conducted a small survey for information purposes. Of 232 cards he collected the average bag use was less than 1 bag per week per household.

General Business

Accounts

Moved by Hill and Crowe that the general accounts in the amount of \$68,988.06 be approved as circulated. Carried.

Grand River Conservation Authority - 2009 Budget and Levy Meeting

Discussion took place regarding the 6.17 % increase which Council considers to be unacceptable.

Moved by Hill and Crowe that the Council of The Corporation of The Township of Melancthon requests that the Grand River Conservation Authority reduce the 2009 budget to reflect the cost of living, 2.4 %, notwithstanding that the maximum acceptable increase would be 3%. Carried.

2009 Spring/Summer Newsletter

Good.

Delegations - Cont.

10:00 a.m. - Vera Lloyd , Dufferin Grey ATV Club attended the meeting regarding ATV Trail Mark-up. She supplied a map of trails. Ms. Lloyd also brought with her a sample of the signs and permits. She advised they have 150 members. Discussion ensued regarding landowner agreements, insurance, policies and enforcement. Council instructed the Acting Clerk to check with the Road Superintendent to see if he had any concerns.

General Business - Cont.

Source Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Protection Region - Resolution regarding the Two-Year Time of Travel Zones

Discussion took place regarding the technicality of the study and that it needs to be simplified so it is more easily understood. Discussion ensued as to whether a letter should be sent to this effect. It was decided to discuss this matter further at the next meeting.

Request from Roberto and Donna DeMichele to extend their licence agreement

Council agreed to extend the agreement by six months, but no further.

Delegations - Cont.

10:15 a.m. - Karren Wallace attended the meeting regarding her letter dated January 23, 2009. Ms. Wallace requested that the next item of general business, a letter from Andrew Osyany, be addressed first. Mayor Fawcett read the letter from Andrew Osyany, Township Solicitor regarding an opinion on making the Council agendas available for the public prior to the Council meeting. He referred to s.15 of the Act: A head may refuse to disclose a record if, (a) the record or the information contained in the record has been published or is currently available to the public; or (b) the head believes on reasonable grounds that the record or the information contained in the record will be published by an institution within

ninety days after the request is made or within such further period of time as may be necessary for printing or translating the material for the purpose of printing it. Ms. Wallace advised Council that at a public meeting on January 17, 2009 she verbally presented a survey of 78 municipalities. She stated the survey consisted of 3 questions - Whether the municipality conducted day or evening meetings? How soon was material available to the public? and How is the agenda available i.e. web or paper? She commented that Melancthon does not provide any information on what is on the agenda prior to the meeting and in her opinion this practice does not conform to transparency and accountability. She also advised that she had made a request under the Freedom of Information Act for an agenda package. Council advised Ms. Wallace that they were reviewing the Procedural By-law and there had been one meeting already. Ms. Wallace asked how many more meetings there would be and was advised possibly two. Ms. Wallace commented that meeting dates should be posted on the website. Further discussion ensued regarding the survey.

10:30 a.m. - PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

Five questions had been submitted previously by Karren Wallace who was in attendance at the meeting. Ms. Wallace asked if the municipality had looked into passing a tree cutting by-law on private property? Council advised they had not as the County has a by-law. Ms. Wallace asked who was on the Rail Committee and Deputy Mayor Hill advised that he sat on this committee. Ms. Wallace also asked if public consultations have been undertaken to determine the need/want of the public in selling the rail line to form a policy on the rail corridor? Deputy Mayor Hill advised that the committee had just been expanded in November under Government Services and there had only been one meeting thus far. Ms. Wallace advised Council that in the last election 711 ratepayers voted which is approximately 25.16%. She asked how many signatures would be required on a petition to move the meetings to the evening. Ms. Wallace was advised that Council had in the past conducted some evening meetings and there was very low attendance. Deputy Mayor Hill advised he would gladly have an evening meeting upon request when dealing with special issues as this has been done in the past.

Janet Campbell questioned Council as to how she would find out about meetings as she has no computer and does not receive a paper. Council advised that in the past flyers have been sent out regarding public meetings. They also advised they communicate the best they can.

Michael Daniher asked for clarification on the OMPF funding which Mayor Fawcett brought up earlier.

Deputy Mayor Hill advised he would like to clarify an item in the letter dated January 23, 2009 submitted by Karren Wallace, stating that an individual who works for a proponent of rail lines, aggregates and wind turbines had reason to be admitted to the "employee only" section of the municipal office with some elected officials and staff after the Council meeting on January 22, 2009. Deputy Mayor Hill advised the conversation began in the Council Chambers regarding a resolution and continued in the lunch room. Councillor Crowe advised the doors were open.

A representative from the Orangeville Citizen asked Council to share the issues causing hesitation in providing agenda packages prior to the meetings. She advised that without a package it is difficult for the press to be accurate. The representative was advised that Council is reviewing its procedural by-law and the next meeting will be Thursday, February 12, 2009 at 2:45 p.m. Ms. Wallace inquired as to whether this is a public meeting and was advised that it is a public meeting. Deputy Mayor Hill stated that Council has always been open. He advised that they will be resolving the issue of how they handle requests under the FOI within the next month and a procedure will be established.

11:00 a.m. - Council took a 5 minute break and then reconvened.

11:05 a.m. - **General Business - Cont**

Information regarding the proposed impact the tax rate calculations will have on a person's taxes based on increased/decreased assessments

Discussion on scenarios. Acting Clerk instructed to forward a copy to Mr. Kelly.

Shelburne Public Library Budget 2009

Councillor Kumprey advised Melancthon's share of funding is approximately \$34,000. Agreement coming. Councillor Kumprey to question insurance.

Applications to Permit

None

New/Other Business

Other:

Freedom of Information Requests

Discussion ensued regarding preparing a draft by-law appointing 2 members of Council as head of FOI requests. This removes staff of responsibility. Mayor Fawcett indicated she would like to be on. Council instructed Acting Clerk to have CAO/Clerk Treasurer prepare a by-law appointing 2 members.

Procedure to be put in place regarding residents contacting the Township Planner via e-mail

The Township Planner has been receiving numerous e-mails from Township residents. Discussion ensued with regard to the Planner attending the office one day a month. Ratepayers could call ahead to make an appointment. As the Planner is attending the next meeting of Council the matter can be addressed further. Council instructed to direct the Planner to refer requests back to the Township for now.

Additions:

E-mail from Alan Selby regarding 2010 OMPF grant

Council instructed requested that the CAO write to the Ministry of Finance for clarification on this matter and to contact Alan Selby to determine where the information came from.

Road Business

Allen Braiden, Road Superintendent attended Council and presented his accounts. The Mayor advised Allen that he should have the tender process on the Horning's Mills Project completed by spring as Sylvia Jones had advised her to get applications in early. The Acting Clerk was instructed to contact Sylvia Jones' office to check the funding amount. Allen also advised Council of a snow removal dispute in the Township. A resident had contacted him as he cannot see to get out his driveway due to accumulated snow. Allen also updated Council that former road employee Mac McLaren is very ill.

Moved by Crowe and Hill that the road accounts in the amount of \$79,910.76 be approved as circulated. Carried.

Unfinished Business

Dundalk and District Community Centre - Agreement

Councillor Elliott advised there is no agreement at present and requested direction. Council advised her to check with the CAO to see where its at for the next meeting.

Closed Session

Nothing

Adjournment - 11:45 a.m.

Moved by Hill and Crowe that we adjourn Council to meet again on Thursday, February 19, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. or at the call of the Mayor. Carried.

MAYOR

CLERK