

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon held a Special electronic meeting on the 30th day of March, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. to receive advice that is subject to Solicitor/Client Privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose regarding a Notice of Libel served on the Township on February 17, 2022. Mayor Darren White, Deputy Mayor Dave Besley, Councillor Margaret Mercer and Councillor James McLean were present. Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk and Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk, Grant Ferguson, Township Solicitor for this matter and Amanda Gaudet, Intact Insurance were also present. Mayor White presided and called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

Land Acknowledgement Statement

Mayor White shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Besley that Council approve the Agenda as circulated. Carried.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

Mayor White advised that disclosure of pecuniary interest can be declared at this time or anytime throughout the meeting by giving the general nature thereof and that declarations must be submitted to the Clerk in writing.

Mayor White declared an interest for the reason that: I have been named in 2 separate Notices of Libel by Councillor Margaret Mercer in an attempt to silence me and members of the public from making statements about a Municipal Council Member's actions and accountability for them.

Councillor Mercer declared an interest for the reason that: Litigation I am involved with.

General Business/Closed Session

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Mercer that Council move into a Closed Session Meeting at 12:04 p.m. pursuant to Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended for the following reason: to receive advice that is subject to Solicitor/Client Privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose regarding a Notice of Libel served on the Township on February 17, 2022. Carried.

Mayor White was placed in the waiting room and Councillor Mercer advised that she was leaving the meeting, as she had to work and would not be coming back.

Deputy Mayor Besley presided as Chair for the rest of meeting.

Rise With Report

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Besley that we rise from Closed Session at 12:48 p.m. with report. Carried.

The Report is that directives were given in the Closed Session Meeting to the Township's Solicitor regarding the Notice of Libel.

Confirmation By-law

Moved by McLean, Seconded by White that leave be given to introduce a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon at its meeting held on March 30, 2022 and it be given the required number of readings and numbered 17-2022. Carried.

Adjournment

Moved by McLean, Seconded by White that we adjourn this Special Meeting of Council at 12:50 p.m. Carried.

MAYOR

CLERK