

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon held a hybrid meeting on the 14th day of December, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. Mayor Darren White, Deputy Mayor James McLean (left at 12:58 p.m.), Councillor Ralph Moore, Councillor Bill Neilson and Councillor Ruth Plowright were present. Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk and Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk were also present. Mayor White presided and called the meeting to order.

Mayor White advised that the meeting was being recorded and would be posted to the Township's website under Council Agendas and Minutes.

Land Acknowledgement Statement

Mayor White shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

Announcements

Councillor Plowright announced that some partitions had been constructed upstairs in the Horning's Mills Community Hall. The events are all done now until March – St. Patty's Day Event.

Councillor Neilson advised that the Shrigley Missionary Church (located at the corner of 8th Line NE and 240 Sideroad) held its last service on November 26th. It is the last operating Church in Melancthon and had been in existence for 130 years.

Additions

Deputy Mayor McLean – Council packages and the timing of receiving them.

Deletions

None.

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Plowright, Seconded by Moore that Council approve the Agenda as amended. Carried.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

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.

Minutes

Approval of Draft Minutes

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by Plowright that Council approve the minutes of the November 16th, 2023 Council meeting as circulated. Carried.

Business Arising from Minutes

None.

Point of Privilege or Personal Privilege

None.

Public Question Period

Harvey Lyon was present in the gallery and asked Council where they plan to go with the Strada Quarry application.

There was one written question from Kristine Pedicone pertaining to the Council wage increase during the last term of Council.

Committee of Adjustment

During this time, it was Moved by McLean, Seconded by Moore that we adjourn Council to move into Committee of Adjustment and reconvene as Council. Carried.

Council reconvened at 9:54 a.m.

Public Works

Accounts

Craig Micks was in attendance for this portion of the meeting and presented the public works accounts in the amount of \$587,655.30. Moved by Neilson, Seconded by McLean that Council receive the Public Works Accounts as presented by the Public Works Superintendent. Carried.

Winter Plan 2023-2024

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Neilson that Council receive the Winter Operations Plan 2023-2024 as presented. Carried.

Roads Sub-Committee Recommendations – December 4th, 2023

Deputy Mayor McLean who is Chair of the Roads Sub-Committee spoke to the recommendations in the Report.

Recommendation 8.2

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Plowright that Council accept the recommendation from the Roads Sub-Committee and direct Treasury Staff to include the following in the 2024 Budget, as per the Memorandum from Kaitlin Dinnick dated December 11, 2023:

1. The road projects identified in Option 2 with the change of the section of 260 Sideroad to be rehabilitated, and the rehabilitation of Structure 2023;
2. All capital asset recommendations;
3. That Staff tender and order a plow truck in 2024 for a 2025 delivery date and include funds in the 2024 budget to go in the equipment reserve.

Carried.

Motion Recommendation 8.3

Moved by Plowright, Seconded by Neilson that Council accept the recommendation from the Roads Sub-Committee and that Treasury Staff include wages in the 2024 Operating Budget for an additional Public Works Employee to start May of 2024. Carried.

Recommendation 8.4

Moved by Plowright, Seconded by Neilson that Council accept the recommendation from the Roads Sub-Committee and direct Staff to put an item on the January 11, 2024 Closed Session Agenda regarding a proposed acquisition and disposition of land by the Municipality in the Hamlet of Riverview. Carried.

Other

There was nothing for this item.

Planning

Applications to Permit

There were no questions or concerns regarding the applications on the spreadsheet.

Other

There was nothing for this item.

Strategic Plan

There was nothing for this matter.

Climate Change Initiatives

There was nothing for this matter.

Police Services Board

There was nothing for this matter.

Committee/Board Reports & Recommendations

Mayor White provided an update on the last Mulmur Melancthon Fire Board meeting regarding the radio system upgrades in the amount of \$400,000.00.

Correspondence

Board, Committee & Working Group Minutes

1. Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Department – September 19th, 2023
2. Roads Sub-Committee – November 1st, 2023
3. Heritage Advisory Committee – November 7th, 2023

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Plowright that the Board, Committee and Working Group minutes Items 1-3 be received as information. Carried.

Items for Information Purposes

1. Dufferin County Council Election of the 2024 Warden – December 14, 2023
2. Grand River Conservation Authority Summary of the General Membership Meeting – November 24, 2023
3. Township of Clearview – Official Plan Review Notice of Public Meeting – December 13, 2023
4. Dufferin County Council Resolution to Support the Motion from the Town of Grimsby regarding Establishing a Guaranteed Livable Income
5. Town of Orangeville Council Resolution regarding Gender Based Violence and Intimate Partner Violence an Epidemic
6. Dufferin County Council Resolution regarding Gender Based Violence and Intimate Partner Violence an Epidemic
7. Township of Amaranth Resolution on Barriers for Family Physicians
8. Dufferin County Council Resolution regarding Ontario Works Financial Assistance Rates
9. Township of Amaranth Resolution of support on Bill 21, Fixing Long-Term Care Amendment Act (Till Death Do Us Part), 2022

10. RJ Burnside and Associates – Drainage Superintendent Services July-September 2023
11. Shelburne and District Fire Department Adopted 2024 Operating Budget
12. Township of Mulmur Council Motion to not Support iRadios' Proposed Event
13. Town of Grand Valley Notice of the Passing of a Zoning By-law – 502180 Highway 89
14. Town of Orangeville Resolution regarding Ontario Works Financial Assistance Rates
15. Town of Parry Sound Resolution to Request Legislative Change to Permit Online Public Notices
16. Town of Shelburne Resolution regarding the Primrose Boundary Review Process
17. Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority November 2023 Board Meeting Highlights
18. Watson and Associates Economists Ltd – Royal Assent of Bill 134, Affordable Homes and Good Jobs Act, 2023

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Neilson that the Correspondence Items 1-18, for information purposes, be received as information, except items 12, 16 and 18 pulled for further discussion. Carried.

Councillor Neilson spoke to all of the items that were pulled from the list of correspondence.

Items for Council Action

1. Resignation Letter from Beckie Connell from the Horning's Mills Hall Board

Moved by Plowright, Seconded by Moore that Council accept, with regret, the resignation from Beckie Connell from the Horning's Mills Hall Board and thank her for her contributions to the Board. Carried.

2. NDACT Request to Post Information in Melancthon's Newsletter and Tax Bill Mailing

Discussion ensued regarding the request and there were a few concerns raised by Council, and therefore the request was denied. Staff suggested that NDACT could go into the Post Office and ask about the Community mailer program and Staff were directed to advise NDACT of this.

General Business

Accounts

Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer presented the general accounts in the amount of \$287,689.61.

Moved by Moore, Seconded by Neilson that Council receive the general accounts as presented by the Treasurer. Carried.

Notice of Intent to Pass the following By-laws:

By-law to Appoint Municipal Officials

Moved by McLean, Seconded by Moore that leave be given to introduce a By-law to appoint Municipal Officials from January 1, 2024 until December 31, 2024 and it be hereby read a first and second time and numbered 55-2023. Carried.

By-law to Constitute and Appoint a Committee of Adjustment

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by Moore that leave be given to introduce a By-law to constitute and appoint a Committee of Adjustment who shall hold office until December 31, 2024 and it be hereby read a first and second time and numbered 56-2023. Carried.

By-law to Appoint a Municipal Service Board for the Horning’s Mills Community Hall

Moved by Plowright, Seconded by Neilson that leave be given to introduce a By-law to appoint a Municipal Service Board for the Horning’s Mills Community Hall and it be hereby read a first and second time and numbered 57-2023. Carried.

By-law to Authorize an Agreement Between the Corporation of the Township of Southgate and the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon for Recreation Services

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by Moore that leave be given to introduce a By-law to authorize an Agreement between the Corporation of the Township of Southgate and the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon for Recreation Services and it be hereby read a first and second time and numbered 58-2023. Carried.

By-law to Amend By-Law Number 36-2023 in the Township of Melancthon, in the County of Dufferin – Schill Drainage Works Levying By-law

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by Moore that leave be given to introduce a By-law to amend By-law Number 36-2023 to provide for the levying of the Schill Drainage Works and it be hereby read a first and second time and numbered 59-2023. Carried.

New/Other Business/Additions

Notice of Motion – Council Salaries (Deputy Mayor McLean)

Moved by McLean, Seconded by White that Council salaries grow by the rate of inflation but not more than 3% each year. Mayor White asked the Deputy Mayor to speak to his motion which he did, and discussion ensued amongst Council. A friendly amendment was made to the motion and the motion then read as follows:

That Council salaries grow by the rate of inflation but not more than 4% each year; And that Council salaries be compared and reviewed at the end of the Council term; And that any salary changes be implemented for the new Council term. Carried.

Report from Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk – Asset Retirement Obligation Policy

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by Plowright that Council receive the Report from Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer regarding an Asset Retirement Obligation Policy and approve the implementation of a new Asset Retirement Obligation Policy as per the required Public Sector Handbook Section 3280. Carried.

2023 Supplemental and Write-off Summary

Moved by Moore, Seconded by Plowright that Council approve the 2023 Supplemental and Write-off Summary as presented by the Treasurer. Carried.

Deputy Mayor McLean leaves at 12:58 p.m.

Report from Denise B. Holmes regarding Community Risk Assessments

Moved by Moore, Seconded by Neilson that Council for the Township of Melancthon accept the recommendation from Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk and approve the quote from Emergency Management & Training Inc. to prepare the Community Risk Assessment for the Township of Melancthon in the amount of \$16,630.00 + HST and to enter into the required contract with them. This purchase complies with the Township's Procurement Policy. Carried.

Unfinished Business

Strategic Plan Quote from Rob Adams, Town Hall Consulting Inc.

Moved by Moore, Seconded by Neilson that Council approve the quote from Rob Adams – Town Hall Consulting Inc. in the amount of \$26,000.00 + HST to develop and implement a Strategic Plan for the Township of Melancthon in 2024. Carried.

The first workshop will be Thursday, February 1st – 12:30 – 4:30 p.m.

2024 Draft Operating and Capital Budget

Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer reviewed her Report and the draft budgets with Council. She will bring another draft to the January 11, 2024 meeting.

Report from Denise B. Holmes, CAO/Clerk - Draft Procedural By-law Legal Review

The CAO/Clerk advised that she would make the suggested changes and had hoped that the By-law would be on the January 11, 2024 meeting to be adopted.

Delegations

During the meeting, Council heard from the following Delegations in Closed Session.

10:00 a.m. – Chris Johnston, Johnston Consulting Enforcement Services – Update on By-law Enforcement Matters

10:13 a.m. - Moved by Moore, Seconded by Neilson that Council move into a Closed Session Meeting pursuant to Section 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended for the following reason – (b) personal matters about identifiable individuals, including municipal or local board employees.

10:55 a.m. - Moved by McLean, Seconded by Neilson that Council rise from Closed Session with Report. Carried. The Report being the directives given to Staff in the Closed Session meeting.

Council took a five-minute break during this time.

11:00 a.m. – Marianne Love, ML Consulting – Township of Melancthon 2023 Compensation Review – Confidential Summary Report

Moved by Plowright, Seconded by McLean that Council move into a Closed Session Meeting pursuant to Section 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended for the following reason – (b) personal matters about identifiable individuals, including municipal or local board employees regarding the 2023 Compensation Review. Carried.

12:27 p.m. – Moved by Neilson, Seconded by McLean that Council rise from Closed Session with Report. Carried. The Report being the directives given to Staff in the Closed Session meeting.

Closed Session

There was no other closed session business to be dealt with at this meeting.

Third Reading of By-laws

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by Moore that By-laws 55-2023, 56-2023, 57-2023, 58-2023 and 59-2023 now be read a third time, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed and engrossed in the By-law Book. Carried.

Notice of Motion

Confirmation By-law

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by Moore 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 Council meeting held on December 14, 2023 and it be given the required number of readings and numbered 60-2023. Carried.

Adjournment and Date of Next Meeting

Moved by Neilson, Seconded by Moore that Council adjourn this meeting at 1:05 p.m. to meet again on Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. or at the call of the Mayor. Carried.

MAYOR

CLERK