

The Corporation of the Township of Gillies
Council Meeting Minutes for June 14, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held on June 14, 2021 at 6:30 pm in the Gillies Municipal Office.

Present: Wendy Wright, Reeve (virtual)
Rudy Buitenhuis, (virtual)
Bill Groenheide, Councillor (virtual)
Elizabeth Jones, Councillor (virtual)
Karen O’Gorman, Councillor (virtual)

Also Present: Laura Bruni, Clerk-Treasurer (virtual)
Franki Dacosta, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer (virtual)
Art LaBelle, Acting Roads Maintenance Coordinator (Virtual)
Karen Kerk, Thunder Bay & Area Food Strategy

1. Call to order

Reeve Wright called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

2. Confirmation of the agenda

Resolution No. 2021-110

Moved By: Councillor Jones
Seconded By: Councillor Groenheide

Be it resolved that the meeting agenda for the Township of Gillies for June 14, 2021 be adopted as amended.
Carried

Amendment was made to provide a verbal report on an HR matter update in closed session.

3. Declaration of pecuniary interest

None

4. Adoption of the minutes

4.1 Minutes – Regular Meeting – May 25, 2021

Resolution No. 2021-111

Moved By: Councillor Jones
Seconded By: Councillor Buitenhuis

Be it resolved that the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on May 25, 2021 be approved as amended.
Carried

Amendment was to include when Councillor Buitenhuis left the meeting.

5. Visitors and deputations

5.1 Thunder Bay & Area Food Strategy – Karen Kerk

Reeve Wright and Council welcomed Karen Kerk to the meeting. Ms. Kerk shared information related to upcoming social and economic opportunities for constituents.

Explained the Connect Food community goal of working towards reconciliation. Provided an overview of the 2020 pandemic year and their emergency response. She also discussed a new project titled tBayInSeason, which is a Local Food Marketing Initiative. The initiative will be housed through an online portal to connecting portal available to the public to make it easier to find and buy local foods. Ms. Kerk further discussed a potential farmland mapping project that is at the planning stages. The slide show presentation is on file.

6. Finances and accounts

6.1 Accounts Payable – Payment Register as of June 8, 2021

Resolution No. 2021-112

Moved By: Councillor Jones

Seconded By: Councillor Groenheide

Be it resolved that the Expense Disbursement List as of June 8, 2021 in the amount of \$15,242.83 be approved for payment.

Carried

Councillor O’Gorman questioned items 9076 and 9077 relating to mileage, administration informed her that the expenses were incurred over 3 months.

6.2 Payroll – Employee Cheque History Report – Pay Period 20-24

Resolution No. 2021-113

Moved By: Councillor Jones

Seconded By: Councillor Buitenhuis

Be it resolved that the Employee Cheque History Payroll Report in the amount of \$19,442.89 for Pay Periods 20 to 24 be approved for payment.

Carried

7. Administrative reports

7.1 Roads Manager’s Report – June 14, 2021

The Acting Roads Maintenance Coordinator reported that the roads are in fairly good shape, there were a few potholes and washboards that have been repaired. Mr. LaBelle informed council that there will be a need to discuss the landfill site plan. Mr. LaBelle will provide Council a report at a future meeting. Riverside cemetery has been mowed as well as PeeDee Park. Interviews will take place later on in the week for the landfill job. Mr. LaBelle will also be providing, at a future meeting, a cost for a new flag pole, flags, and concrete footing. The Roads Manager’s Report is on file.

7.2 Fire Chief’s Report – Not at this meeting

7.3 Administration Report – May 10, 2021

The administrative report is on file.

Council discussed a date to have Mr. McKittrick attend a council meeting to have a discussion about new by-laws. This meeting is scheduled for September 27, 2021.

The Clerk-Treasurer provided an update on the budget and Council provided direction on a 2% increase in expenses at this time and a budget meeting of Council to begin at 6pm on July 12th. A public budget meeting, will be scheduled after July 12th.

Council discussed the continuance of offering wedding ceremonies, The consensus of council was to no longer provide this service as the need does not justify the time and cost involved. A by-law will be presented to council at a future meeting to reflect these changes.

Council requested a report be brought back on purchasing a water bottle dispenser for each department to help reduce single use plastic bottles.

Resolution No. 2021-114

Moved By: Councillor Jones

Seconded By: Councillor O’Gorman

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Gillies approves to waive penalties on current year arrears taxes until September 30, 2021.

Carried

Resolution No. 2021-115

Moved By: Councillor Buitenhuis

Seconded By: Councillor Groenheide

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Gillies approves the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer to enrol in the Cemetery Sales Representative Course.

Carried

8. Correspondence

8.1 TBDSSAB Board Meeting – April 15, 2021

For information

8.2 Perth County - Resolution for support re: Domestic COVID-19 vaccine production and capacity

Resolution No. 2021-116

Moved By: Councillor O’Gorman

Seconded By: Councillor Jones

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Gillies supports Perth County's resolution re: Domestic COVID-19 vaccine production and capacity.

Carried

8.3 Town of Gore Bay – Resolution for support re: Additional level of lottery licensing for small organizations in rural communities

No action taken.

8.4 Email from resident re: condition of cemetery grass

For information.

8.5 Conmee Township - Notice of resolution re: supporting the creation of 2 local police services boards

For information.

8.6 LRCA – Letter to Member Municipalities re: MECP Consultation Guide

Resolution No. 2021-117

Moved By: Councillor Groenheide

Seconded By: Councillor O’Gorman

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Gillies wishes to provide comment to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks through the consultation relating to the "Regulatory Proposal Consultation Guide: Regulations Defining Core Mandate and Improving Governance, Oversight and Accountability of Conservation Authorities" for the following:

That the Province provide on-going adequate funding to Conservation Authorities to administer provincially mandated programs, complete all provincially required strategies and administer mandatory Public Advisory Boards;

That Conservation Authorities be permitted to make their own decisions in relation to whether or not an Advisory Board is necessary in their jurisdiction or alternatively be given the option to request an exception from the Minister;

That the Province recognizes the need to categorize recreation as a mandatory program.

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to Hon. Jeff Yurek, Minister of Conservation, Environment and Parks; Member Municipalities of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority; Michael Gravelle, MPP – Thunder Bay-Superior North; Judith Monteith-Farrell, MPP – Thunder Bay-Atikokan; and Conservation Ontario.

Carried

9. Unfinished business

9.1 Rural and Northern Project (ICIP) – Extension consideration

Council discussed the possible delay of this project and requested more information be brought back from the Acting Roads Maintenance Coordinator about this project. The Clerk-Treasurer will have a discussion with Mr. LaBelle regarding council's questions.

9.2 Clerk-Treasurer Report 2021-04 COVID-19 Steps 1-3 Reopening Plan

The consensus of Council was to follow the proposed plan in the report and to bring back the same report once the province begins Step 2 of their re-opening plan.

10. New business

10.1 Council Reports – Verbal

There were no updates from Council.

Reeve Wright informed council the history book is in the final editing stages and will be ready for mid July.

10.2 Helipad Compliant Report – 2021

For information.

10.3 TBDSSAB – 2020 Audited Consolidated Financial Statements

For information.

10.4 Thank you Letter to Council and Staff from Kathy McGowan

For information.

11. Upcoming Matters

A signing by-law will be brought to council at a future meeting for the High Interest Savings Account.

12. By-laws

None.

13. Closed session

Closed to the public pursuant to Section 239 (2) (b) of the Municipal Act to discuss matters related to identifiable individuals including municipal or local board employees.

Matters being to review Closed Session Minutes, review employee time sheets, review an employee contract and one HR update.

Carried

The time being 8:08 pm, the following resolution was passed:

Resolution No. 2021-118

Moved By: Councillor Jones

Seconded By: Councillor Buitenhuis

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Gillies now holds a meeting that is Closed to the public pursuant to Section 239 (2) (b) of the Municipal Act to discuss matters related to identifiable individuals including municipal or local board employees.

Matters being to review Closed Session Minutes, review employee time sheets, review an employee contract and one HR update.

Carried

Resolution No. 2021-119

Moved By: Councillor Buitenhuis

Seconded By: Councillor Groenheide

Be it resolved that the time being 9:45 pm, we do now rise from the closed session and return to the open meeting.

Carried

Matters arising from closed session

Resolution No. 2021-120


Moved By: Councillor Jones

Seconded By: Councillor Groenheide


Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Gillies authorizes the Clerk-Treasurer to proceed as discussed in closed session.

Carried

14. Adjournment



Reeve



Clerk