

The Corporation of the Township of Gillies

Regular Council Meeting Minutes for February 27, 2023 at 6:30 PM

Present: Wendy Wright, Reeve
Rudy Buitenhuis, Councillor
Bill Groenheide, Councillor
Elizabeth Jones, Councillor (Virtual)

Also Present: Laura Bruni, Clerk/Treasurer
Lynda Lex, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Not Present: Daniel Vanlenthe, Councillor

1. Call to order

Reeve Wright called the meeting to order at 6:33PM.

The Township of Gillies respectfully acknowledges that the lands on which we live, and work are the traditional lands of the Anishinabek Nation and the traditional territory of Fort William First Nation, signatory to the Robinson-Superior Treaty of 1850.

As partners with First Nations communities, the Métis Nation of Ontario, and Inuit people, the Municipality is committed to the common vision of a healthy, safe and sustainable community.

2. Confirmation of the agenda

Resolution No. 2023-41

Moved By: Councillor Groenheide
Seconded By: Councillor Buitenhuis

Be it resolved that the regular meeting agenda for the Township of Gillies held on February 27, 2023 be adopted as amended.
Carried

Amendment was to add a roads report at 7.4.

3. Declaration of pecuniary interest

Reeve Wright declared a conflict at item 11.1.

4. Adoption of the minutes

5. Visitors and deputations

6. Finances and accounts

6.1 Accounts Payable – Payment Register as of February 23, 2023

Resolution No. 2023-42

Moved By: Councillor Groenheide
Seconded By: Councillor Buitenhuis

Be it resolved that the Expense Disbursement List as of February 23, 2023 in the amount of \$63,300.59 be approved for payment.
Carried

6.2 Payroll – Employee Cheque History Report – Pay Period 04 to 06

Resolution No. 2023-43

Moved By: Councillor Groenheide

Seconded By: Councillor Buitenhuis

Be it resolved that the Employee Cheque History Payroll Report in the amount of \$13,204.45 Pay Period 04 to 06 be approved for payment.

Carried

7. Administrative reports

7.1 Fire Chiefs Report – January 2023

Report is filed. Councillor Groenheide raised questions related to entrances and the concern of what would happen in the event emergency services could not make it down the driveway. The Fire Chief reported that a reminder could go out in the newsletter as a reminder that property owners must maintain their own driveways in the event they may require emergency services.

7.2 Admin Report – February 23, 2023

Report is filed. Further, O'Connor Township will be taking the lead on hiring the by-law officer. Council will receive further information prior to the job advertisement going out.

7.3 Council Reports

No reports were made.

7.4 Roads Report

Councillor Groenheide reported that the grader needs repairs at an estimated cost of \$5,000 to \$30,000. Information will be brought back once the machine has been looked at.

Resolution No. 2023-44

Moved By: Councillor Buitenhuis

Seconded By: Councillor Groenheide

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Gillies approves staff to circumvent the procurement by-law for the purpose of grader repairs with Maki Repairs as it is deemed to be an emergency; and

Further, that the cost to be determined at a later date.

Carried

8. Correspondence

8.1 Letter from TBDSSAB re: 2023 Cost Apportionment

For information.

8.2 Email from NOMA re: leaders lunch Hon. Jonathan Wilkinson, Federal Minister of Natural Resources

For information.

8.3 Letter from NOMA re: pre-budget submission to Patty Hajdu and Hon. Peter Behlenfalvy, Minister of Finance

For information.

8.4 Email from the Northern Policy Institute re: 10th Anniversary Gala 2023 (save the date)

For information.

8.5 Letter from NOMA re: first call for nominations for President & Executive Vice President

For information.

8.6 Email from BAO re: pets can be buried with humans under certain conditions and various other topics

For information.

9. Unfinished business

9.1 Response from Chief Hole re: driveway access

For info follow up, this item was addressed under 7.1.

9.2 Draft RFP re: Hymers Fair Drive Brushing/Ditching 2023

Resolution No. 2023-45

Moved By: Councillor Buitnehuis

Seconded By: Councillor Groenheide

Be it resolved that RFP 2023-01 for Hymers Fair Drive Brushing/Ditching be approved as amended.

Carried

Amendment is to include a mandatory site visit. The site date will be provided to the Clerk by the Roads Department.

9.3 Bi-annual bridge inspections

For discussion.

The consensus of Council was to approve JML to complete the bi-annual bridge inspections for 2023 and that an RFP go out for 2024.

9.4 Grader repairs

The Treasurer provided an update on the roads reserve.

9.5 Tire quotation for tandem vehicle

Council reviewed the quote and requested they receive two additional quotes.

9.6 Landfill goodwill shack status (verbal)

Due to concerns, the consensus of Council was to place a moratorium on large items that do not fit in the goodwill shack. A memo will be sent to staff and the community notified through the newsletter.

10. New business

10.1 Motion re: Homelessness to Premier Ford

Resolution No. 2023-46

Moved By: Councillor Groenheide

Seconded By: Councillor Jones

WHEREAS the homeless crisis is taking a devastating toll on families and communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario;

WHEREAS the homelessness crisis is the result of the underinvestment in poor policy choices of successive provincial governments;

WHEREAS homelessness requires a range of housing, social service and health solutions from government;

WHEREAS homelessness is felt most at the local level of government and the residents that they serve;

WHEREAS municipalities and District Social Administration Boards are doing their part, but do not have the resources, capacity or tools to address this complex challenge; and

WHEREAS leadership and urgent action is needed from the provincial government on an emergency basis to develop, resource, and implement a comprehensive plan to prevent, reduce and ultimately end homelessness in Ontario.

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Gillies calls on the provincial government to urgently:

- i) Acknowledge that homelessness in Ontario is a social, economic, and health crisis;
- ii) Commit to ending homelessness in Ontario;
- iii) Work with AMO and a broad range of community, health, indigenous and economic partners to develop, resource, and implement an action plan to achieve this goal.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; The Minister of Health; and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.
Carried

11. By-laws

11.1 2023-03 being a by-law to transfer a portion of Hymers Fair Drive

Resolution No. 2023-47

Moved By: Councillor Jones

Seconded By: Councillor Buitenhuis

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Gillies authorizes the Reeve and Clerk/Deputy Treasurer to affix their signatures to By-law 2023-03 being a by-law to transfer a portion of Hymers Fair Drive.

Carried

Councillor Groenheide requested a recorded vote.

Reeve Wright - ABSTAINED

Councillor Buitenhuis - YES

Councillor Groenheide - YES

Councillor Jones - YES

Councillor Vanlenthe - ABSENT

12. Closed session

13. Adjournment

Time: 7:46PM

Reeve

Clerk