

The Corporation of The Town of Parry Sound

Council Meeting Minutes February 16, 2021

This meeting was live streamed, recorded and is available on the internet by visiting the Town of Parry Sound's website at www.parrysound.ca.

Minutes

Date:

February 16, 2021

Time:

7:00 P.M. (Closed 6:30 PM)

Location:

Zoom Video Conference

Members Present:

Mayor McGarvey, Councillor Backman, Councillor Borneman, Councillor Burden, Councillor Horne, Councillor Keith, Councillor Doug McCann

Staff Present:

CAO Clayton Harris, Clerk Rebecca Johnson, Director of Finance Stephanie Phillips, Director of Development & Protective Services Dave Thompson, Director of Public Works Mike Kearns, Human Resources Coordinator Alicia Lesperance, Chief Building Official Mark Vandermeer, Manager of Building & Planning Services Taylor Elgie, Manager of Infrastructure & Technology Forrest Pengra

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Prior to the Meeting, Council adjourned to a meeting closed to the public per the following resolution:

Resolution 2021 - 018

Moved by Councillor Backman

Seconded by Councillor Burden

That pursuant to Section 239(2) of the Municipal Act, R.S.O. 2001, Chapter 25, as amended, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Parry Sound move to a meeting closed to the public in order to address matters pertaining to:

- c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board, **(Proposed property exchange);**
- d) labour relations or employee negotiations **(Director level salaries).**

Carried

Presentations:

Prior to the Agenda, Mayor McGarvey addressed Council and the public with concerns about the recent decision by the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit to continue the COVID-19 lock-down designation and Stay at Home order. Mayor McGarvey expressed concerns over the lock-down designation of such a large area, and the lack of advance communication to local leadership to help prepare them for implementation. Mayor McGarvey concluded with notice that two resolutions have been drafted for consideration at this meeting: requesting the Health Unit provide more pro-active communication regarding announcements; and that statistics on confirmed cases be provided for the West Parry Sound Area, distinct from the east side of the District. Mayor McGarvey then introduced Jim Hanna, Public Relations and Communications Officer of the West Parry Sound Health Centre.

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Mr. Hanna read from a statement issued today by the Health Centre which expressed support for the Ontario Hospital Association's calls for "discipline and ruthlessness" in the shared fight against COVID-19 and asked that individuals continue to practice COVID-19 transmission prevention measures.

Mr. Hanna commented that Health Centre leadership was taken by surprise by the continued lock-down announcement; that the local Health District was the only one lumped into the grey lockdown category along with the GTA after all others were lifted from lockdown to some other less restrictive category. Mr. Hanna noted that a patchwork approach won't benefit the province and that if people don't understand the reason for a health zone being categorized as it is, they don't buy into it.

Upon conclusion of Mr. Hanna's comments, Mayor McGarvey introduced two resolutions under items 9.5.2 and 9.5.3 of the minutes. Upon carriage of those two resolutions, Clerk Rebecca Johnson read from a press release provided just prior to the meeting from the Parry Sound Rotary Club advising that Rotary Club is providing disposable masks free of charge to businesses that would like them.

1.1 Additions to Agenda/Notice of Motion

1.2 Prioritization of Agenda - N/A

1.3 Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Councillor McCann

Seconded by Councillor Borneman

That the Council agenda for February 16, 2021 be approved as circulated.

Carried

1.4 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof - N/A

2. Public Meeting - N/A

3. Minutes and Matters Arising from Minutes

3.1 Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Burden

Seconded by Councillor Horne

That the Minutes from the Regular Council meeting held February 2, 2021 be approved as circulated.

Carried

3.2 Questions of Staff

3.2.1 Councillor Borneman inquired as to the impact on Town staffing, operations and recreation programs if the current COVID-19 lock-down order is extended or shifted to any other designation but "green". Director of Public Works Mike Kearns responded that a red zone designation, which might be the next transition out of lock-down, affects programming, as the Ontario Minor Hockey Association will permit training practices limited to 10 people on-ice but does not permit play. Mr. Kearns noted that ice typically comes out the end of March, and that proposals to extend the season would also impact other issues as staff then transition to outdoor maintenance activities. Mr. Kearns listed area municipalities which either did not install ice this season or have now removed it. Mr. Kearns also noted that the building is energy intensive with energy costs based on peak 24-hour demand.

3.2.2 Councillor Borneman reported on his understanding of the past process of tax billing and payment for non-profit housing units which have subsequently been declared tax exempt. Non-profit housing passed on the bills to District Social Services Administration Board which secured funding from senior levels to pay the Town. Since

declaration of the tax-exempt status, and DSSAB's defeat of a resolution requesting that they continue to pay the taxes, Councillor Borneman suggested there should be an accounting of the funding secured from senior levels of government and the following motion was made:

Moved by Councillor Borneman

Seconded by Councillor McCann

That the Town send a letter to Chair of DSSAB to ask for an accounting of funding sources through senior levels of government designated for non-profit housing taxes with a reply provided as soon as possible due to spring budget preparations.

Carried

3.2.3 In response to Councillor Backman's inquiry regarding plowed snow preventing access to Big Sound Marine, Mr. Kearns responded that this is normal practice, and that it may be helpful to prevent people from accessing the area which is not maintained in winter.

4. Correspondence

4.1 Lynne Atkinson, Executive Director, West Parry Sound Health Centre Foundation

RE: Appreciation for \$50,000 donation from BOHF Reserve Fund towards x-ray system. - Filed

4.2 Lynne Atkinson, Executive Director, West Parry Sound Health Centre Foundation

RE: Appreciation for \$50,000 donation from BOHF Reserve Fund towards renewing dining room area of Lakeland Long Term Care. - Filed

4.3 Mackenzie Taylor, Deputy Clerk, Township of Carling

RE: Approval of Parry Sound's request for removal from Planning Board contingent upon Carling receiving same approval. - Filed

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4.4 Nicole Dimond, Project Coordinator, Georgian Bay Forever

RE: Follow-up to questions asked following February 2, 2021 deputation to Council. -
Filed

4.5 Craig Jeffery, Clerk, Township of Seguin

RE: Notice of Public Meeting for proposed Zoning By-law Amendment to permit
cannabis grow operations in industrial zones. - Filed

4.6 Jane Wang, Communication Officer, Census Communications

RE: Promotion of May, 2021 Census. - See item 9.5.1

4.7 Jo Bossart

RE: Concerns with erosion on the Rotary & The Algonquin Regiment Fitness Trail

4.8 Larry Woolner, President, Sail Parry Sound

RE: Current projects and funding request

Items 4.7 and 4.8 were circulated to Council, and Directors of Public Works, and Finance for follow-up. Upon confirming no objection from Council, Mayor McGarvey directed that the \$20,000 request in the Sail Parry Sound letter for Sunset Trail remediation be referred to Council's 2021 budget considerations.

5. Deputations

5.1 Christy Cafovski, Executive Director, Chamber of Commerce

RE: Chamber of Commerce Year in Review, new Strategic Plan

Withdrawn

6. Mayor & Councillors' Reports

Members of Council gave reports on meetings attended and matters arising. Councillor Backman's internet connection cut off and she was not present during the meeting for some of the reports and item 9.4.1, from approximately 7:50 to 8:04 PM

7. Ratification of Matters from Closed Agenda

8. Consent Agenda

9. Resolutions and Direction to Staff

9.1 Finance and POA Court Services

9.2 Public Works

9.3 Development and Protective Services

9.4 CAO's Office/Administration

9.4.1 Non-Union Compensation Grid

Spokesperson(s): Clayton Harris, Chief Administrative Officer

Alicia Lesperance, Human Resources Coordinator

Resolution 2021 - 019

Moved by Councillor McCann

Seconded by Councillor Burden

That Council authorize a pre-budget expenditure related to the procurement of professional services of a compensation consulting firm for non-union job evaluation.

Carried

9.4.2 Update - Key Performance Objectives in Support of the Strategic Plan

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Spokespersons: Clayton Harris, CAO; Senior Leadership Team

Resolution 2021 - 020

Moved by Councillor Keith

Seconded by Councillor Horne

That Council approve the progress report on the Town's Key Performance Objectives (KPOs) as set out in Schedule A

Carried

In response to a Councillor request, CAO Clayton Harris confirmed that they would publish the KPOs on the Town website.

9.5. Other Business

9.5.1 Promotion of May, 2021 Census

Spokesperson: Jamie McGarvey, Mayor

Resolution 2021 - 021

Moved by Councillor Burden

Seconded by Councillor Borneman

Whereas accurate and complete census data support programs and services that benefit our community;

Now Therefore the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Parry Sound supports the 2021 Census, and encourages all residents to complete their census questionnaire online at

<https://link.edgepilot.com/s/ae524374/JNWCCJEa1kmOGFUP2SdHAA?u=http://www.census.gc.ca/>.

Carried

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9.5.2 Request that Health Unit be Proactive in Communication on COVID-19

Resolution 2021 - 023

Moved by Councillor Burden

Seconded by Councillor McCann

Whereas there is a willingness in the community to support directives from the Province and the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit; and

Whereas the North Bay Parry Sound Health District was a Green Zone prior to the Stay-at-Home Order; and

Whereas the more restrictive the directives, the greater the financial burden on businesses and individuals in the community; and

Whereas the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit has taken a more restrictive approach than many District Health Units in Ontario by extending the Stay-at-Home Order until at least February 22, 2021; and

Whereas the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit has also taken a very restrictive approach by ordering all public ice rinks, tobogganing hills, skating trails, and Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs' (OFSC) trails and trails utilizing Crown Land in the health unit district to be closed; and

Whereas community understanding and support is critical to achieving the objective of the directives - slowing the spread of the virus; and

Whereas the conditions in the North Bay Parry Sound Health District do not appear to be dissimilar to the conditions in many other Ontario health districts; and

Whereas variants of the virus have been confirmed in other Ontario Health Districts and the Stay-at-Home Order has been lifted; and

Whereas a greater community awareness generates greater community support; and

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Whereas the Parry Sound Town Council has no authority with respect to Provincial and Health Unit directives;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Town of Parry Sound requests that the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit take a more pro-active approach to community outreach and communication through a range of communication techniques; and

That increased communication include greater dialogue with municipal and healthcare leaders across the health district in advance of announcements; and

That this resolution be forwarded to the Mayors and healthcare leaders within the health district, Norm Miller, MPP for Parry Sound-Muskoka and the Honourable Victor Fedeli, MPP Nipissing.

Carried

9.5.3 Request that Health Unit Publish COVID-19 Statistics for West Parry Sound

Resolution 2021 - 022

Moved by Councillor Borneman

Seconded by Councillor Keith

Whereas in order to fight the COVID-19 virus in a community it is important to understand the status of confirmed cases in that community; and

Whereas the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit represents a very large geographic area; and

Whereas the catchment area of West Parry Sound is only a portion of the area served by North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit; and

Whereas the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit publishes and provides opioid overdose statistics to the municipal level which demonstrates the Health Unit's ability to provide health related information without breaking confidentiality issues; and

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Whereas the flow of individuals and commerce tends to follow a north/south pattern, rather than an east/west pattern;

Now therefore the Council of the Town of Parry Sound requests that the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit publish statistics that provide the number of confirmed cases and other appropriate information for West Parry Sound; and

Further That this resolution be sent to municipalities in the West Parry Sound Area; the West Parry Sound Health Centre; the Honourable Minister Christine Elliott, Minister of Health; and MPP Norm Miller.

Carried

10. By-laws

10.1 Finance and POA Court Services

10.1.1 Approval of Funding Agreement - Provincial Gas Tax for Public Transportation

Spokesperson: Stephanie Phillips, Director of Finance/Treasurer

By-law 2021 - 7106

Being a By-law to authorize the execution of a Letter of Agreement with the Ontario Minister of Transportation regarding funding under the Dedicated Gas Tax Funds for Public Transportation Program.

Read a First, Second and Third Time, Passed, Signed & Sealed

10.2 Public Works

10.3 Development and Protective Services

10.3.1 Appoint Plans Examiner/Building Inspector

Spokesperson: Mark Vandermeer, CBO

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By-law 2021 - 7105

Being a by-law to appoint Nicholas Derooy as a Plans Examiner/Building Inspector.

Read a First, Second and Third Time, Passed, Signed & Sealed

10.4 CAO's Office/Administration

10.5 Other Business

10.5.1 Confirming by-law

By-law 2021 - 7107

Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council.

Read a First, Second and Third Time, Passed, Signed & Sealed

11. Adjournment

Mayor McGarvey adjourned the meeting at 8:16 PM

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