

Corporation of the Township of The Archipelago



**MINUTES
MEETING OF COUNCIL**

**February 19, 2021
9 James Street, Parry Sound, Ontario
Via Zoom Meeting**

Council Members Present: Reeve: Bert Liverance
Councillors: Greg Andrews Ward 1
Laurie Emery Ward 1
Peter Frost Ward 2
Earl Manners Ward 3
Scott Sheard Ward 3
David Ashley Ward 4
Alice Barton Ward 4
Rick Zanussi Ward 4
Ian Mead Ward 5
Grant Walker Ward 6

Staff Present: John Fior, Chief Administrative Officer
Maryann Weaver, Clerk
Joe Villeneuve, Manager of Corporate Services
Cale Henderson, Manager of Development & Environmental Services
Wendy Hawes, Treasurer
Greg Mariotti, Manager of Operational Services

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:18 a.m., and commenced with the singing of the National Anthem, Roll Call, and a Traditional Land Acknowledgement Statement.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

21-023

**Moved by Councillor Frost
Seconded by Councillor Ashley**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the February 19, 2021 Revised Council Meeting Agenda, be approved.

Carried.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Regular Meeting Of Council

21-024

**Moved by Councillor Zanussi
Seconded by Councillor Mead**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held on January 22, 2021, be approved.

Carried.

Committee of the Whole Meeting

21-025

**Moved by Councillor Walker
Seconded by Councillor Manners**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on January 21, 2021, be approved.

Carried.

Closed Council Meeting Minutes

21-026

**Moved by Councillor Andrews
Seconded by Councillor Sheard**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Closed Council Meeting Minutes held on January 22, 2021, be approved.

Carried.

Closed Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

21-027

**Moved by Councillor Mead
Seconded by Councillor Frost**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Closed Council Meeting Minutes held on January 21, 2021, be approved.

Carried.

4. DEPUTATIONS

**James Cox, Regional Economic Development Officer. West Parry Sound
Economic Development Collaborative**

James Cox introduced himself to Members of Council and provided a brief overview on his role as the Regional Economic Development Officer for the West Parry Sound Economic Development Collaborative.

Mr. Cox extending thanks to CAO Fior and all other staff for welcoming him into The Archipelago Office and for assisting him with getting established.

5. CAO REPORT ON COUNCIL DIRECTIONS

21-028

**Moved by Councillor Manners
Seconded by Councillor Zanussi**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council receives the February 2021 CAO Report on Council Directions, as distributed.

Carried.

6. REPORT OF TASK FORCES/COMMITTEES

• PLANNING AND BUILDING

BRIGGS – Zoning By-law Amendment Application No. Z01-21

21-029

**Moved by Councillor Ashley
Seconded by Councillor Barton**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council receives the Zoning By-law Amendment application, directs staff to complete a full review and circulate Notice for a future public meeting.

Carried.

McLENNAN – Zoning By-law Amendment Application No. Z03-21

21-030

**Moved by Councillor Mead
Seconded by Councillor Andrews**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council receives the Zoning By-law Amendment application, directs staff to complete a full review, and circulate Notice for a public meeting to be held on March 12, 2021.

Carried.

HEALEY LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION – Zoning By-law Amendment Application No. Z04-21

21-031

**Moved by Councillor Walker
Seconded by Councillor Sheard**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council receives the Zoning By-law Amendment application to rezone the Municipally owned lands for the lessee, directs staff to authorize the application and circulate Notice for a future public meeting and agrees to provide a grant equal to the fees in the amount of \$1200.

Carried.

• **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

Parry Sound Area Industrial Park Tower

21-032

**Moved by Councillor Frost
Seconded by Councillor Emery**

WHEREAS the Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the immediate need for affordable accessible internet for municipalities in the West Parry Sound Area including the Township of The Archipelago;

AND WHEREAS the Township of The Archipelago has been responsive with efforts and activities to improve access to internet for its residents and businesses;

AND WHEREAS the efforts of and the resources applied by the Township of The Archipelago have been on the basis of helping the entire West Parry Sound Area;

AND WHEREAS the Township of The Archipelago purchased the MNR tower in Parry Sound, currently referred to as the SMART Tower, and has made it available for connectivity interests that support enhancing internet availability within neighbouring municipalities in the West Parry Sound Area;

AND WHEREAS the connectivity interests of the Township of The Archipelago are aligned with the connectivity interests and priorities of the Provincial and Federal Governments;

AND WHEREAS the Township of The Archipelago supports the advice and leadership of WPS SMART in recommending solutions, providing information and initiating activities that are the basis of connectivity goals for the area;

AND WHEREAS the Township of Carling has utilized the SMART Tower to pilot point-to-point wireless internet delivery technology in collaboration with Vianet via a CENGN grant;

AND WHEREAS the pilot was successfully implemented in 2020 and now Carling Township residents enjoy affordable reliable internet;

AND WHEREAS the Parry Sound Area Industrial Park project is another internet project affording coverage to the residents and businesses of Carling Township at no cost or effort to the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the Township of The Archipelago has earmarked Provincial modernization money for the Parry Sound Area Industrial Park tower and the Pointe au Baril tower to support the further expansion of the point-to-point wireless technology to facilitate the immediate need for internet in the West Parry Sound Area;

AND WHEREAS although the Parry Sound Area Industrial Park is located with Carling Township, it is operated through an agreement between three local area municipalities including Carling Township, the Municipality of McDougall and the Town of Parry Sound;

AND WHEREAS the existing and future businesses located within the Parry Sound Area Industrial Park need access to affordable and reliable internet service to be successful;

AND WHEREAS the Parry Sound Area Industrial Park Board has passed a resolution to support the construction of the communication tower;

AND WHEREAS two Carling Township Councillors participated in the Parry Sound Area Industrial Park discussion and decision to support the construction of the communication tower;

AND WHEREAS the Parry Sound Area Industrial Park Board is investing in the project;

AND WHEREAS the Parry Sound Area Industrial Park Board is undertaking preparation activities to assist with the construction of the tower;

AND WHEREAS the Township of Carling Council has deferred the issuance of a letter of concurrence for the Parry Sound Area Industrial Park tower until they meet with Vianet and examine other options, such as the satellite based Starlink, for the delivery of internet services;

AND WHEREAS Carling Council's actions will delay and could effectively end the terrestrial point-to-point delivery of affordable reliable internet to the West Parry Sound Area;

AND WHEREAS should the Township of Carling determine that Starlink is a better internet delivery solution, they will no longer need access to the pilot point-to-point internet provided by Vianet via the SMART Tower for Carling residents;

AND WHEREAS despite the lack of support by Carling Township on providing a letter of concurrence, the Township of The Archipelago recommends to ISED Canada that the tower build project in the Parry Sound Area Industrial Park along Highway 69, managed by McDougall Township, is a valuable and favourable project to the connectivity interests in the area;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council for the Township of The Archipelago requests that the Township of Carling Council not further delay the issuance of a letter of concurrence for the construction of the Parry Sound Area Industrial Park tower so that implementation of terrestrial point-to-point internet can proceed in a timely manner to address the immediate demand for rural internet;

AND FURTHER that staff be directed to explore options to advance the Industrial Park tower and Pointe au Baril tower projects should the letter of concurrence not be forthcoming;

AND FURTHER that staff be directed to enter into discussions with Vianet, regarding the removal of their equipment which supports the Carling tower point-to-point internet access, should the letter of concurrence from Carling Township Council not be forthcoming in a timely manner which would further delay this project;

AND FURTHER that this resolution be distributed to all Mayors and Councillors in the West Parry Sound Area.

Carried.

Request that Minister Clark review the Municipal Elections Act and provide amendments to provide clearer, stronger wording to assist Municipal Clerks in addressing issues to allow for a more definitive decision to be made when adding names to the voters' list

21-033

**Moved by Councillor Manners
Seconded by Councillor Andrews**

WHEREAS the Township of The Archipelago recognizes that the current language in the Municipal Elections Act with regards to non-resident electors, is weak and ambiguous;

AND WHEREAS the Township of The Archipelago wishes to ensure the integrity of the election process;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council of the Corporation of the Township of The Archipelago hereby request that the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Steve Clark, initiate a review of the Municipal Elections Act and make amendments to provide such clearer, stronger wording, to assist Municipal Clerks in addressing issues related to non-resident electors, and to allow for a more definitive decision to be made when adding names to the voters' list;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Council of the Corporation of the Township of The Archipelago request that the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Steve Clark, ensure that there is a clear and accessible way to enforce the rules described in the Municipal Elections Act;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Norm Miller MPP, all Ontario Municipalities and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Carried.

2021 Council Meeting Schedule

21-034

**Moved by Councillor Mead
Seconded by Councillor Barton**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council hereby approves the 2021 Council Meeting Schedule, as presented.

Carried.

7. DEPUTATIONS CONT'D

Mayor Phil Harding, Township of Muskoka Lakes. Muskoka River Water Management Plan

Mayor Harding spoke to Council about the Muskoka River Water Management Plan, requesting their support for the necessary amendments to the plan to protect property owners and prevent flooding.

David Sweetnam, Georgian Bay Forever & Rupert Kindersley, Georgian Bay Association. Water Levels Concensus Update

Rupert Kindersley and David Sweetnam provided an update on Georgian Bay water levels and reported on the mitigating solutions and tactics that Georgian Bay Forever and Georgian Bay Association are pursuing.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Council Correspondence

21-035

**Moved by Councillor Emery
Seconded by Councillor Zanussi**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council receives the January 2021 Council Correspondence listing.

Carried.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

CPAC Meeting Update

Due to connection issues, this matter was deferred to the March Council Meeting.

Ontario Fire College – Planned Closure

21-036

**Moved by Councillor Andrews
Seconded by Councillor Barton**

WHEREAS Council has received a request for support of a resolution enacted by the Town of Parry Sound regarding the planned closure of the Ontario Fire College in Gravenhurst;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council for the Township of The Archipelago supports the resolution enacted by the Town of Parry Sound, and hereby requests that the Province of Ontario reverse their decision to close the Ontario Fire College as the OFC is one of the best and most cost-effective methods for municipalities to train their firefighters which assists us in protecting our residents; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Sylvia Jones, Ontario Solicitor General; Norm Miller, Member of Parry Sound Muskoka; Jon Pegg, Ontario Fire Marshal, District of Parry Sound municipalities, ROMA, OSUM and AMO.

Carried.

10. BY-LAWS

**LANE, Jeremy & CHUPA, Lisa
Remove the Holding 'H' provision**

2021-08

**Moved by Councillor Sheard
Seconded by Councillor Mead**

That By-law Number 2021-08, being a By-law to amend By-law No. A2000-07 (the Comprehensive Zoning By-law) for Parts 39 and 40 on Plan PSR-1364, in Part Lot 33, Concession 9, in the geographic Township of Shawanaga, be read and finally passed in Open Council this 19th day of February, 2021.

Carried.

11. OTHER BUSINESS CONT'D

North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit – Publication of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases for West Parry Sound

21-037

**Moved by Councillor Mead
Seconded by Councillor Manners**

WHEREAS Council has received requests for support of resolutions enacted by the Town of Parry Sound and the Municipality of McDougall with regards to the status of confirmed cases in the West Parry Sound area;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council for the Township of The Archipelago supports the resolution enacted by the Town of Parry Sound and the Municipality of McDougall, and hereby 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 BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the West Parry Sound Municipalities; the West Parry Sound Health Centre; the Honourable Minister Christine Elliott, Minister of Health; and Norm Miller, Member of Parry Sound Muskoka.

Carried.

12. CONFIRMING BY-LAW

2021-09

**Moved by Councillor Ashley
Seconded by Councillor Emery**

That By-law Number 2021-09, being a By-law to Confirm the Proceedings of the Regular Meeting of Council held on February 19th, 2021, be read and finally passed in Open Council this 19th day of February, 2021.

Carried.

13. ADJOURNMENT

21-038

**Moved by Councillor Frost
Seconded by Councillor Zanussi**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Regular Meeting of Council held on February 19, 2021, be adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Carried.

TOWNSHIP OF THE ARCHIPELAGO

Bert Liverance, Reeve

Maryann Weaver, Clerk