

# THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HORTON

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING SEPTEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

There was a Regular Meeting of Council held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Present were Mayor David Bennett, Deputy Mayor Tom Webster, Councillor Glen Campbell, Councillor Doug Humphries, and Councillor Daina Proctor. Staff present was Hope Dillabough, CAO/Clerk, and Nichole Dubeau, Executive Assistant– Recording Secretary.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bennett called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

### 2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mayor Bennett read the Land Acknowledgement in its entirety.

### 3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There was no declaration of pecuniary interest.

### 4. CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Humphries

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-162**

Seconded by Councillor Proctor

**THAT** Council adopt the amended Agenda for the September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Regular Council Meeting to remove item 5.1 Delegation – Don Eady – McDougal Mill Museum.

**Carried**

### 5. DELEGATIONS &/or PUBLIC MEETINGS – NONE

### 6. MINUTES

6.1 July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Public Meeting

6.2 July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Regular Council

Moved by Deputy Mayor Webster

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-163**

Seconded by Councillor Campbell

**THAT** Council approve the following Minutes:

- July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Public Meeting
- July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Regular Council

**Carried**

### 7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

### 8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

#### 8.1 RECREATION COMMITTEE

##### 8.1.1 Staff Report – Recreation Master Plan

CAO/Clerk Hope Dillabough reviewed the report. Councillor Humphries questioned if communication could be broadcasted to residents about the programs offered through the Town of Renfrew Recreation Agreement. Council members were in agreeance to move forward with a Request for Proposal.

##### 8.1.2 Staff Report – Food Insecurity Update

CAO/Clerk Hope Dillabough reviewed the report. Councillor Proctor stated that she will be in contact with “Farm to Table” and “Taste of the Valley” to see if there is any additional information available.

**8.2 COMMUNITY COMMITTEES / COUNTY COUNCIL****8.2.1 Renfrew & Area Seniors Home Support**

Councillor Humphries gave a brief update. He stated that Dennis Harrington, Executive Director, should be invited to a Council meeting to further discuss their duties.

**8.2.2 Chamber of Commerce**

Councillor Humphries gave a brief update.

**8.2.3 County Council**

Mayor Bennett previously sent County info to Council Members for review.

**9. CORRESPONDENCE SUMMARY****9.1 INFORMATION CORRESPONDENCE**

Discussion went around the table with information previously distributed.

**9.2 ACTION CORRESPONDENCE****9.2.1 Legislative Amendments to Improve Municipal Codes of Conduct and Enforcement**

Mayor Bennett declared pecuniary and did not vote.

Council members were in agreeance to support the resolution.

**10. BYLAWS – NONE****11. NOTICE TO FILE MOTION FOR NEXT COUNCIL – NONE****12. COUNCIL/STAFF MEMBERS CONCERNS**

Councillor Proctor questioned how the Strategic Plan interviews were going. CAO/Clerk Hope Dillabough stated that some staff have not had their interviews yet, and the public sessions are scheduled for the end of the month. Councillor Campbell questioned for clarification regarding the Request for Proposal for the excavator. Executive Assistant Nichole Dubeau is to send Council the documents for their information.

**13. RESOLUTIONS**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Webster

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-164**

Seconded by Councillor Campbell

**THAT** Council direct the CAO/Clerk to issue a Request for Proposal for a Recreation Master Plan that will allow the Township to strategically manage the direction of Recreation services.

**Carried**

Moved by Councillor Humphries

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-165**

Seconded by Councillor Proctor

**THAT** Council receive the reports for Community Committees and County Council as information.

**Carried**

Moved by Councillor Proctor

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-166**

Seconded by Councillor Humphries

**THAT** Council accept the CAO/Clerk's Information Memo for the September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting.

**Carried**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Webster  
Seconded by Councillor Proctor

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-167**

**WHEREAS** all Ontarians deserve and expect a safe and respectful workplace;

**WHEREAS** municipal governments, as the democratic institutions most directly engaged with Ontarians need respectful discourse;

**WHEREAS** several incidents in recent years of disrespectful behaviour and workplace harassment have occurred amongst members of municipal councils;

**WHEREAS** these incidents seriously and negatively affect the people involved and lower public perceptions of local governments;

**WHEREAS** municipal Codes of Conduct are helpful tools to set expectations of council member behaviour;

**WHEREAS** municipal governments do not have the necessary tools to adequately enforce compliance with municipal Codes of Conduct;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** The Township of Horton supports the call of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for the Government of Ontario to introduce legislation to strengthen municipal Codes of Conduct and compliance with them in consultation with municipal governments;

**AND ALSO BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the legislation encompass the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's recommendations for:

- Updating municipal Codes of Conduct to account for workplace safety and harassment;
- Creating a flexible administrative penalty regime, adapted to the local economic and financial circumstances of municipalities across Ontario;
- Increasing training of municipal Integrity Commissioners to enhance consistency of investigations and recommendations across the province;
- Allowing municipalities to apply to a member of the judiciary to remove a sitting member if recommended through the report of a municipal Integrity Commissioner;
- Prohibit a member so removed from sitting for election in the term of removal and the subsequent term of office.

**AND FURTHER THAT** this resolution be sent to Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, MP Cheryl Gallant Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke, MPP John Yakabuski Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke, Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Hon. Charmaine Williams, Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, the Association of Municipalities Ontario, and local municipalities.

**Mayor Bennett declared pecuniary interest and did not vote.**

**Carried**

**14. IN CAMERA (Closed) SESSION – NONE****15. CONFIRMING BYLAW**

Moved by Councillor Campbell  
Seconded by Councillor Humphries

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-168**

**THAT** Council enact By-law 2023-37– Confirming By-Law.

**Carried**

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Bennett declared the meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

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MAYOR David M. Bennett

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CAO/CLERK Hope Dillabough