

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HORTON

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 16TH, 2024

There was a Regular Meeting of Council held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday January 16th, 2024. Present were Mayor David Bennett, Deputy Mayor Daina Proctor, Councillor Glen Campbell, Councillor Doug Humphries, and Councillor Tom Webster. Staff present was Hope Dillabough, CAO/Clerk, Nathalie Moore, Treasurer 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 Webster

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-01

Seconded by Councillor Campbell

THAT Council adopt the Agenda for the January 16th, 2024 Regular Council Meeting.

Carried

5. DELEGATIONS &/or PUBLIC MEETINGS

5.1 Delegation – Ted Poirier

Ted & Heather Poirier were present.

Mr. Poirier stated that he wants answers as to why the chickens are still on his neighbour's property because the backyard chicken by-law is not in place. He added that by-law enforcement is not doing their job and he has had to pay money himself to maintain the standards of his property. Mr. Poirier asked the CAO/Clerk Hope Dillabough if he was being discriminated against because he is French and/or a veteran. Mayor Bennett stated that Council and by-law enforcement wants to work with people and give them options, like they did with him. Council members agreed to allow Heather Poirier to speak on the matter. Ms. Poirier stated that people who were commenting on the chicken by-law survey on the Facebook post were not Horton residents. CAO/Clerk Hope Dillabough stated that comments on Facebook do not reflect the actual survey results as they are anonymous and have no affiliation with Facebook. Deputy Mayor Proctor stated that some of Council's concerns are food insecurity and landfill site feasibility, which can both be helped by permitting backyard chickens for residents. She thanked Mr. Poirier for voicing his concern and opinion and that is why Council has requested the data from by-law enforcement to ensure that they have been keeping the situation fair for both parties.

6. MINUTES

6.1 December 19th, 2023 – Regular Council

Moved by Councillor Humphries

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-02

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Proctor

THAT Council approve the following Minutes:

- December 19th, 2023 – Regular Council

Carried

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**8.1 GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE**

Public Advisory Member Spencer Hopping was present.
Public Advisory Member Susan Humphries sent her regrets.

8.1.1 Staff Report – 2024 Budget Timelines

Treasurer Nathalie Moore reviewed the report.

8.2 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Public Advisory Member Bob Johnston was present.
Public Advisory Member Lisa Branje sent her regrets.

8.2.1 December Building Report

Council reviewed the report.

8.2.2 Planning Files Report

Council reviewed the report. Mayor Bennett stated that he will be meeting with the County Planner on January 17th to discuss consents and development. Councillor Campbell stated that he will also join the meeting.

8.3 RECREATION COMMITTEE**8.3.1 Chair's Report – January 11th, 2024**

Councillor Humphries reviewed the report. Deputy Mayor Proctor requested a break down of expenses and revenues from the Christmas Craft Show, and questioned who was responsible for the insurance liability for the hockey tournament. Councillor Humphries stated Nathalie Moore, Treasurer had the numbers, and that the Township is liable. He added that the change rooms will only be open during rentals when someone is there to monitor them.

8.4 COMMUNITY COMMITTEES / COUNTY COUNCIL**8.4.1 Renfrew & Area Seniors Home Support**

There was no update.

8.4.2 Chamber of Commerce

Councillor Humphries gave a brief update.

8.4.3 County Council

County information was previously sent to Council Members for review.

9. CORRESPONDENCE SUMMARY**9.1 INFORMATION CORRESPONDENCE****9.1.1 CAO/Clerk's Information Memo**

Discussion went around the table with information previously distributed. Council members congratulated Dustin Howard on the completion of his Associate Roads Supervisor Certificate.

9.2 ACTION CORRESPONDENCE**9.2.1 Letter of Support – AORS Potential Municipal Equipment Operator Course**

Council members were in agreeance for support.

10. BYLAWS

- 10.1 2024-01 Borrowing By-law
- 10.2 2024-02 Interim Taxes 2024
- 10.3 2024-03 Appoint Livestock Valuer
- 10.4 2024-04 Appoint Committee of Adjustment
- 10.5 2024-05 Backyard Chickens By-law

11. NOTICE TO FILE MOTION FOR NEXT COUNCIL

Mayor Bennett reviewed the request.

12. COUNCIL/STAFF MEMBERS CONCERNS

Mayor Bennett stated that we would like to have a meeting with Council members to further discuss working as a team.

13. RESOLUTIONS

Moved by Councillor Humphries
Seconded by Councillor Webster

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-03

THAT Council receive the following reports as information:

- Staff Report – 2024 Budget Timelines
- December Building Report
- Planning Files Update
- Recreation Chair’s Report – January 11th, 2024

Carried

Moved by Deputy Mayor Proctor
Seconded by Councillor Webster

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-04

THAT upon recommendation from the Recreation Committee, Council agree to allow Tina Hunt to rent the hall and ice surface for the weekend of February 10th and 11th, 2024 at the cost of \$1,300 plus HST; provided that Jamie Prince looks after maintaining the ice during the event.

Deputy Mayor Proctor requested a recorded vote.

| Yea | Voting | Nay |
|-----|--------------|-----|
| ✓ | D. Bennett | |
| | T. Webster | ✓ |
| | G. Campbell | ✓ |
| ✓ | D. Humphries | |
| | D. Proctor | ✓ |

Defeated

Moved by Deputy Mayor Proctor
Seconded by Councillor Webster

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-05

THAT Council accept the CAO/Clerk’s Information Memo for January 15th, 2024.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Webster
Seconded by Councillor Campbell

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-06

WHEREAS, municipal public works departments from across the Province of Ontario provide invaluable services to our communities ensuring the health and safety of all residents;

AND WHEREAS, if it was not for our municipal public works employees from across the Province of Ontario maintaining our public roads systems, our communities would not be able to function as emergency personnel could not respond to calls, school buses could not get our children to school, residents would not be able to get to work, school or appointments and many more basic functions would not be able to happen;

AND WHEREAS, municipal public works departments are already feeling the impacts of a labour shortage, which will only be exasperated over the next three to five years, which will cause levels of service municipalities are able to provide to ensure the health and safety of our residents to decrease;

AND WHEREAS, there is currently no provincial-wide course that properly trains potential municipal public works employees, specifically relating to municipal heavy equipment.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township of Horton supports the work of the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors to develop a Municipal Equipment Operator Course to address this issue;

AND THAT, The Township of Horton calls on the Province of Ontario's Ministry of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades to fully fund the Municipal Equipment Operator Course in 2024 through the Skills Development Fund;

AND THAT, a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades David Piccinni, the Township of Horton's Member of Provincial Parliament John Yakabuski, and the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors.

Carried

Moved by Deputy Mayor Proctor
Seconded by Councillor Humphries

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-07

THAT Council enact the following By-laws:

- 2024-01 Borrowing By-law
- 2024-02 Interim Taxes 2024
- 2024-03 Appoint Livestock Valuer
- 2024-04 Appoint Committee of Adjustment

Carried

Moved by Deputy Mayor Proctor
Seconded by Councillor Humphries

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-08

THAT Council enact the following By-law:

- 2024-05 Backyard Chickens By-law

Tabled

Moved by Councillor Webster
Seconded by Councillor Humphries

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-09

THAT Council agree to revisit the discussion regarding purchasing land adjacent to the Community Centre.

Carried

14. IN CAMERA (Closed) SESSION – NONE

15. CONFIRMING BYLAW

Moved by Councillor Campbell
Seconded by Councillor Webster

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-10

THAT Council enact By-law 2024-06– Confirming By-Law.

Carried

16. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Bennett declared the meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

MAYOR David M. Bennett

CAO/CLERK Hope Dillabough