

**MINUTES OF McMURRICH/MONTEITH TOWNSHIP
COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY, DECEMBER 1st, 2008**

The Council of the Township of McMurrich/Monteith met on Monday, December 1st, 2008 at 7:30p.m. inside the municipal office/fire hall in Sprucedale.

Present were Reeve, Glynn Robinson, Councillors: Mervin Mulligan, John Murphy, David Evans and Tina Scott.

The members in the audience were Michael Turner (Municipal Auditor) and Barbara Marlow (Social Services Representative).

Meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Reeve Glynn Robinson.
There were no declarations of pecuniary interest with the agenda.

Mulligan/Evans That we amend the agenda to include correspondence regarding the Ontario Municipal Board Hearing for Bill and Carol Beers, a letter received from Tony Usher and Laurie Brownlee regarding the Axe Lake Development and a resolution from the Village of Burk's Falls regarding student busing. CARRIED

Murphy/Scott That we accept the Minutes of the Council meeting held on November 3rd, 2008. CARRIED

Michael Turner was welcomed to the table. Mr. Turner wished to announce that his company will be merging with Pahapill & Associates in February, 2009 and he will be continuing for some years. Council asked Mr. Turner some questions regarding the new way of reporting capital assets. Council thanked Mr. Turner for attending this meeting.

Barbara Marlow was welcomed to the table. Council had requested Mrs. Marlow attend to discuss the Building update Council had received last month from the Social Services Board in Parry Sound. Mrs. Marlow also discussed the details of the Government uploading some of the costs for Ontario Works. Council thanked Mrs. Marlow for attending this meeting.

Jim Jenkins, Roads Foreman was not present. The temporary plow truck driver position was discussed. Mulligan/Murphy That we hire John Burns as a temporary employee for the Roads Department. CARRIED

Correspondence was reviewed.

A letter thanking Mr. and Mrs. Miehle for their request for gravel on a portion of East Bear Lake Road will be sent.

Staff will contact Muskoka Containerized Services regarding their letter about the extreme drop in the plastic market.

Staff will put a link to the High School Reunion website on the Township website.

Murphy/Scott That we accept the minutes of the Burk's Falls Armour Ryerson Public Library Board meeting held October 15, 2008. CARRIED

The Bear Wise Grant was received and the electric fence has been installed. There is some monies remaining and staff will investigate costs for a solar unit.

Mulligan/Murphy WHEREAS the economy of the Almaguin Highlands is contingent upon a robust tourist industry and further that a tourist industry benefits from an accessible and convenient health care system; and WHEREAS statistics clearly indicate that the Almaguin Highlands has an aging population level higher than the Ontario average thus requiring an increase in health services rather than a decrease; and WHEREAS the Almaguin Highlands has an unemployment rate higher than the Ontario average and further that closure of health services would drastically increase this critical situation and the level of poverty in this area; and WHEREAS past records of the **Burk's Falls and District Health Centre** indicate that an average of 8,000 to 10,000 clients per year are treated in the Urgent Care Clinic and the Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare (MAH) emergency room now averages a three to eight hour wait period for treatment.

THEREFORE be it resolved that the **Minister of Health David Caplan** and the **North Simcoe Local Health Integration Network (NSLHIN)** Board of Directors instruct the Board of the MAH to leave all present services at the Burk's Falls and District Health Centre intact and further that funding be received by this board from the NSLHIN to maintain these services. CARRIED

Mulligan/Murphy That Council supports the resolution dated November 18th, 2008 from Ryerson Twp regarding proper location of Bell Canada cables on municipal land. CARRIED

Evans/Scott That we accept the minutes of the Emergency Medical Services Committee meeting held November 19, 2008. CARRIED

There will be an Ontario Municipal Board Hearing in February, 2009 regarding a consent that was approved in 2001. A neighbouring property owner does not agree with the decision of the East Parry Sound District Planning Board that granted the consent. Council felt that there should be Township representation at this hearing.

Scott/Mulligan That Council support the resolution from the Village of Burk's Falls dated November 25, 2008 petitioning the Near North District School Board to allow all students in the former East Parry Sound School Board to use school buses to go to a friend's house or take part in extra curricular school sponsored activities without a fee being applied to the students. CARRIED

Reeve Glynn Robinson called a 10 minute break.

Business Carried Forward:

John Murphy noticed some changes for the Asset Management Plan. Values for the roadways were determined at the previous Public Works Advisory Committee and will be formulated and sent to the consultant to be included in the Asset Plan.

Evans/Scott Whereas our existing Community Centre and outdoor rink surface require many upgrades in size and repairs to allow the members of our community proper use of these facilities; and Whereas the costs of the required repairs to these facilities would be an overwhelming burden to the taxpayers without financial assistance from other levels of governments; Therefore the Council of the Township of McMurrich/Monteith hereby supports an application to the Building Canada Fund to construct a community centre and enclosed rink surface. CARRIED

New Business:

Mulligan/Murphy That we authorize Almaguin Recycling Initiative – Hazmat Division to enter into and sign an agreement with Stewardship Ontario on behalf of the Township of McMurrich/Monteith and further that the Agreement is to cover the period of July 1, 2008 to July 1, 2011. CARRIED

Murphy/Scott That we continue Jeff Markle's employment to operate the outdoor rink for the 2008-2009 season. CARRIED

By-laws:

Scott/Murphy That we accept third and final reading and pass bylaw 13-2008 accepting Part 8 on Plan 42R-180086 as a public highway (Fern Glen Road). CARRIED

Scott/Murphy That we accept third and final reading and pass bylaw 14-2008 accepting Part 4 on Plan 42R-18390 as a public highway (Stisted Road North). CARRIED

Murphy/Scott That we go into a closed session regarding personnel at 10:00pm. CARRIED

Evans/Scott That we come out of a closed session at 10:13pm. CARRIED

Reports were given.

Merv Mulligan reported on meetings held for Park to Park, Almaguin Recycling Initiative and Almaguin Highlands Economic Development.

Council Concerns: Advertisement flyer to recruit firefighters for the Bear Lake Station, snowplowing at the Bear Lake Fire Station, snowplowing on Oline Street, suggestion to prepare a plan for all infrastructure works so that applications are ready when funding is announced, council table and chairs prices, security cameras required and the Christmas bonus to employees.

Murphy/Scott That we accept the Accounts for Approval Report for the month of November, 2008 in the amount of \$92,926.54. CARRIED

Evans/Murphy That we adjourn this meeting at 10:58pm until Monday, January 5th, 2009 or at the call of the Reeve. CARRIED

Minutes not approved until accepted by Council.

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