

**MINUTES OF McMURRICH/MONTEITH TOWNSHIP
COUNCIL MEETING – TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th, 2009**

The Council of the Township of McMurrich/Monteith met on Tuesday, September 8th, 2009 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: Lloyd Nelson, Roads Foreman, Jim Jenkins, Dave and Karen Stewart.

Meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Reeve Glynn Robinson.

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest with the agenda.

Evans/Murphy That we amend the agenda to include correspondence from the Ministry of Natural Resources approving our application for funding of an automatic gate (Electric Fence) at the Landfill Site. Carried

Murphy/Scott That Council accepts the Minutes of the meetings held August 4th, 10th, and 31st, 2009 including the closed portion of the meeting held August 31st, 2009. Carried

There were no scheduled delegations for this meeting.

Jim Jenkins, Roads Foreman presented his monthly report. Some items of discussion were: the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund project of applying slurry seal on Stisted Road starting later this week, sign post quotes, cover duties at the landfill site need to increase as per Certificate of Approval, Bear Wise funding of an automatic gate at the landfill site, concern from property owner regarding logs being left on roadside.

Mulligan/Evans That Council accept the quote from E.S. Hubbell and Sons Limited in the amount of \$1616.80 plus applicable taxes for 70 sign posts. Carried

Correspondence was reviewed.

The funding application through the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program was discussed. The annual meeting will be scheduled with our Community Emergency Management Co-ordinator, Dick Gibb.

Scott/Murphy That Council apply to the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program to install a generator at our new Community Centre. Carried

Mulligan/Evans 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 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 6000 to 10,000 clients per year are treated in the Urgent Care Clinic;

AND WHEREAS the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) has struck a Task Force whose mandate is to develop a Rural Healthcare Policy;

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty, Health Minister David Caplan, the North Simcoe Local Health Integration Network (NSLHIN) and the Muskoka Algonquin Health Care (MAHC) Board of Directors immediately confer and determine to call a moratorium on further changes at the Burk's Falls Health Centre until such time as the MOHLTC Task Force has completed the proposed Rural Healthcare Policy;

AND FURTHER be it resolved that the Rural Task Force come to Burk's Fall to consult with the public about the future of health care services in this community;

AND FURTHER that this resolution be circulated to area municipalities, Premier Dalton McGuinty, Health Minister Caplan, MPP Norm Miller, MP Tony Clement, Progressive Conservative Leader Tim Hudak, New Democratic Party Leader Andrea Horwath, NE LHIN, NS LHIN, MAHC Board Chair Mike Provan. Carried

The upcoming Municipal Association meeting was discussed. A resolution regarding the Harmonized Tax will be drafted and presented at the Association Meeting for support.

Mulligan/Scott WHEREAS children are our most precious asset and it is our responsibility to teach, guide and protect them to ensure they have a safe, nurturing environment in which to grow to their full potential, free from violence, abuse and neglect; and WHEREAS child abuse and neglect are tragedies inflicted on innocent children, an ever-increasing problem in today's society that crosses all socio-economic boundaries; and WHEREAS with increased public awareness, education and support programs, together with community involvement, we can help to ease the pain and suffering and stop the abuse of our children; and WHEREAS during Child Abuse Prevention Month, groups and organizations within our community will be holding a variety of events and activities, and will offer information on the vitally important child abuse support and prevention programs that are available in our Township.

NOW THEREFORE the Council, on behalf of the 790 people of our great Township of McMurrich/Monteith, does hereby proclaim October 2009 as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" to recognize the ongoing commitment of individuals and organizations in our Community whose tireless efforts help prevent child abuse.

Evans/Scott That with approval of partial funding from FedNor, Council authorizes an advertisement be placed in the Almaguin News to hire a Youth Intern to assist with office administration. Carried

Murphy/Evans That Council accept the minutes of the Belvedere Heights Board meeting held July 22nd, 2009. Carried

Mulligan/Scott That Council accept the minutes of the Almaguin Highlands Economic Development Committee meeting held June 18th, 2009. Carried

Business Carried Forward:

The final copy of the Asset Management Plan is being sent from AM/FM Consulting later this week.

Glynn Robinson updated Council on the Building Canada Fund project. The anchor bolts required are bigger than first anticipated, extra work required welding the rebar from pier to pier. An electrical company was requested to give us a quote so that Council could put together a tender. Hydro One was contacted to prepare a layout. Glynn wished to schedule a Committee meeting to review the layout of the Community Centre. The date is Thursday, September 10th, 2009 at 8pm.

Merv Mulligan reported on the meeting held with the MNR (Bart Brown). Council has suggested that one of the pamphlets on Bear Management be sent with the tax notices in Spring.

Glynn Robinson reported that an application was prepared to request funding of an Affordable Housing project for Seniors.

Scott/Murphy That Council approve the submission of an application to the District of Parry Sound Social Services Board for funding of a 12 unit "Affordable Housing" Complex for Seniors to be located on municipal property located on Henry Street in Sprucedale. Carried

New Business:

The report from the Ministry of Environment regarding an inspection completed at our Landfill Site was discussed earlier with Jim Jenkins, Roads Foreman.

Evans/Mulligan That Council authorize the execution of the agreement with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs for funding under the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund to apply Slurry Seal to portions of Stisted Road. Carried

Reeve Glynn Robinson called a 10 minute break.

By-laws: No Bylaws were required.

Reports were given.

Merv Mulligan reported on the Health Care meeting he attended in Burk's Falls on August 24th. He also suggested that a call be made to the MNR regarding extra funding possibilities to promote the prevention of bear encounters. Tina Scott asked if a letter could be sent to the Sprucedale Hotel thanking them for their fundraising efforts that assist the Firefighter's Association.

Council Concerns: Old Fire Hall building septic system, Building Dept. issues/concerns, Hazardous Waste agreement with ARI dissolved and unsuccessful attempts of receiving G8 Funding.

Evans/Scott That Council accept the Accounts for Approval Report for the month of August, 2009 in the amount of \$203,813.07. Carried

Scott/Evans That Council adjourn this meeting at 9:53pm until Monday, October 5th, 2009 or at the call of the Reeve. CARRIED

Reeve, Glynn Robinson

Clerk, Cheryl Marshall

Minutes not approved until accepted by Council.