

**CORPORATION OF THE UNITED TOWNSHIPS OF HEAD,
CLARA & MARIA**

August 24, 2007

Minutes of a regular meeting of Council held on Friday, August 24, 2007 at 15:20 h. in the Council Chambers.

The following were present:

Reeve	Tammy Lea Sonnenburg
Councillor	Dave Foote
Councillor	Jim Gibson
Councillor	Ed Aiston
Councillor	Robert Reid

PECUNIARY INTEREST None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Additions - North Bay fire vehicle to Unfinished Business.

Approved by general consent.

MINUTES

Resolution # 1

Moved by Councillor Aiston and seconded by Councillor Reid **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the minutes of the regular meeting Friday, July 27, 2007 be accepted as presented.

Carried

DEPUTATIONS – HYDRO-ONE PUBLIC FORUM

Held prior to Council meeting. Notes included in Appendix "A" as information.

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

- Road Staff Lay-off – Tentatively September 28, 2007 – Terry to return November 15, 2007 for winter maintenance – will advise if changed.
- Insurance renewal – modifications to policy – price same – some minor changes – now includes a policy for volunteers – I will call our rep to determine definition of "volunteer" and "event" and see if those working under declared emergencies or other emergency situations would be covered.
- HHW collection – not advertised, scheduled for Sept. 22 – will advertise in newsletter to be sent next week
- Fr. Brennan – request for material from Swisha to be deposited in our disposal site
- Bear Wise funding – have been approved for Bissett Site \$8,100; have received compensation for labour portion of our Stonecliffe Site - \$1,530.
- Plan to download a copy of adobe so that we can update the information on our website to include minutes, newsletters etc. to reduce costs of mailings and provide a more accurate picture to public – cost of basic program \$400.
- Bob Reid– steps for disposal site vehicle – back as well?
- Monday – Emergency management – review of risks – plot on grid for discussion, set up of EOC
- Report on discussion with Fred Dean – suggested changes

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Resolution #2

Moved by Councillor Reid and seconded by Councillor Gibson **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the budget report dated August 20, 2007 be accepted as presented.

Carried

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Madawaska Valley – re: funding of Valley Manor – recommended by Reeve to accept as info – read motion from Board of Health to County Council not supporting funding based on current request and special consideration - info
2. Marmora and Lake – re: resolution to reform the property tax system - info
3. Town of Erin – re: levy royalty for commercial water taking to be paid to the local municipality - info
4. West Grey – re: extending the length of time to commence legal proceedings under the *Building Code Act* – **support by letter**
5. South Stormont – re: petition to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans concerning reduced turn around times and costs for drain maintenance requests - info
6. Kawartha Lakes – re: incentives to Family physicians to operate community-based family medicine – **support by letter**
7. North Grenville – re: request for Premier to issue statement assuring that his government will not meter private wells – **support by letter**
8. Town of Kingsville – re: WSIB and definition of “firefighters” to include volunteer and part time personnel in their definition – **support by letter**
9. Ontario 911 Advisory Board – re: request for funding – **prepare resolution for next meeting**
10. David Caplan, Minister of Public Infrastructure and Renewal – re: response to Mr. Hackett’s letter - info
11. MNR – Paul Moreau – re: appointment of County Stewardship Coordinator - info
12. MNR – re: rabies program - info
13. L1 – FFSCO – letter to Minister Dombrowsky – **support by letter**

NEW BUSINESS - none

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Draft Fire Report – request that Fire Report form be changed from Publisher to Word document – Clerk explained that the purpose was to provide a document for written use, not to replace the current Word documents that we were receiving, as they were sufficient. Publisher offered better opportunity for frames, check boxes etc. for filling in by hand.

Resolution #3

Moved by Councillor Gibson and seconded by Councillor Foote **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the recommendations of the Committee of the Whole:

1. That Council send a strongly worded letter to Ottawa Valley Rail asking them, yet again, to remove the piles of old ties from along the tracks, which present a dangerous fire hazard and public safety concern.
2. That we officially, approach Ottawa Valley Rail to obtain a map of their line with mile markers and crossings clearly marked so that we may better communicate with them in a language that they better understand in the event of future fires along the railway.
3. That the draft fire report form be accepted and used for all future reporting.

4. That the disposal site attendant commence, on a trial basis, to collect recycling materials from the commercial operators in Deux Rivieres, provided that all materials be appropriately packaged.
5. That the Deux Rivieres Disposal Site be permanently closed effective September 30, 2007.
6. That our draft roads policy be amended to show that the right-of-way for private (cottage) roads remain at 66'.
7. That the concerns of our disposal site attendant that: ventilation be installed in the box of the truck; that a side step be installed on the truck; that coveralls be obtained for her use; and that cover be placed on the active cell at the Stonecliffe site more frequently during the summer months; be addressed as discussed.

Be accepted.

Carried

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Auto-extrication vehicle
 - decision whether to make offer or not – vehicle has been inspected and it appears that it is a decent vehicle that we could use; will require some body work;
 - **Action:** decided that a letter be sent to Deep River clerk explaining our position – we are definitely interested;
 - **Action:** Reeve to contact Heads of Council of Deep River and Laurentian Hills - offer \$1,000 – as we are part owner; or request opportunity to beat any other higher bid;

Resolution #4

Moved by Councillor Gibson and seconded by Councillor Reid **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Head of Council approach the Heads of Council of Deep River and Laurentian Hills and indicate that Head, Clara & Maria wish to purchase the old auto extraction vehicle.

Carried

- North Bay vehicle – Councillor Gibson has inspected it – automatic vehicle - hose/pumps/tanks/winch/lights included – only radio system will be removed – (estimated worth up to \$5,000) – not sure process of disposal whether auction etc. – Recommend that we attempt to have the vehicle removed from surplus system because it is going to another fire service.

Resolution #5

Moved by Councillor Reid and seconded by Councillor Foote **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Jim Gibson enter into negotiations with the City of North Bay on the purchase of their Fire Department 1990 GMC.

Carried

- Fire volunteers and report from Fire Training – letter of resignation by Jeff Juby is still accepted as info– has not resigned yet – if his concerns are satisfied he will not resign – other volunteers have other issues – not decided yet whether they will resign or not.
- Resolution in support of reuniting surface and mining rights on SRO properties.

Resolution #6

Moved by Councillor Foote and seconded by Councillor Gibson

WHEREAS Ontario's municipal governments recognize the importance of Ontario's mining sector to the Ontario economy and to the economies of mining communities; and

WHEREAS Canadian law has traditionally recognized as a fundamental freedom, the right of the individual to the enjoyment of property, a right not to be deprived thereof; and

WHEREAS the *Mining Act* of Ontario recognizes separate mining and surface rights on many private lands, bringing about a state of affairs where there may be two owners to one property; and

WHEREAS mining activities on these properties have frequently resulted in property damage, environmental degradation, and unmapped mining hazards, disturbing residents' quiet enjoyment of the land and risking public health and safety; and

WHEREAS mining activities, prior to advanced exploration, are not subject to any municipal authority, conservation authority, environmental review, nor the approval of the landowner; and

WHEREAS municipal governments in regions with an abundance of surface-rights only (SRO) properties have previously called on the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines to reunite surface and mining rights on SRO properties to resolve the situation; and

WHEREAS many of these properties are on residential, cottage, and recreational lands; and some in areas of environmental, cultural and heritage significance where mining is incompatible with established land use practice; and

WHEREAS the *Mining Act* provides for Ministerial discretion and the ability to cancel or annul the forfeiture of any lands or mining rights under the Act;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT in support of AMO's position, the Council of the Corporation of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria request that the Premier and the Minister of Northern Development and Mines reunite surface and mining rights on SRO properties when requested by the SRO property owner or the municipality in order to effectively resolve this issue.

Carried

BY-LAWS - none

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

ADJOURNMENT

Resolution #7

Moved by Councillor Aiston and seconded by Councillor Foote **BE IT**

RESOLVED THAT this meeting adjourn at 16:35 h. to meet again September 7, 2007 at 14:00 h.

Carried

Reeve - Tammy-Lea Sonnenburg

Clerk – Melinda Reith

Appendix "A" Notes from Hydro One Presentation and Public Information Session - August 24, 2007

Presentation commenced at 14:00 h.

Presenters: Dave Robb – East Central Zone Superintendent
Brian Wilson – Cobden Operations Manager
Rick McCallum – Forestry Territory Manager

Attendance: Full Council, Ruth Morin, Wilfred Lamure, Andy Boissoneault, Doug Antler, Richard Yates;

Dave Robb briefly explained our power supply – a 3 phase line and transmission feeder (D6) – for Swisha, Chalk River, Pembroke T. S., Cobden and Chenaux;

Explained causes of 3 recent outages – each were wide spread – Pembroke up –

1. switch problem during routine testing – simply a faulty switch – no way of forecasting or preventing – a one-off defect in equipment;
2. mischief – a transformer was shot out;
3. tree fell on line in a remote location.

History – In 2000, Hydro was split up by the government with the intent of selling off the divisions. That didn't happen. The forestry division in Cobden was one of the sections that were removed from the area, slated for sale. Within the last 3-4 months, that division has been transferred back to the Cobden office. They are available for this area whenever they are needed. Previously, all forestry personnel would be assigned to whatever areas of the province specific tasks were required to be completed. All available forestry crews were on that/those projects. Now they have reverted to the old system of crews for each area/division.

In 2007, a project has been rolled out to collect data from all poles. This information will be cross referenced with existing data in database and will govern future work scheduling. The information collected included the bar code number, GPS coordinates, location, condition, size etc. Recently the 3 phase feeder up highway 17 from Swisha has been inspected and documented. All yellow banded poles will be replaced in 2008, earlier if possible. They are currently working on the pole data collection project in this area right now.

Information will be reviewed and a plan developed to replace some poles immediately and some (in better condition) in 2008. A large portion of the 2007 program is in our area.

Smart Metering – province has decided that by 2010 smart meters will be in all buildings. 2007-08 has been slated for larger centres with smaller areas being completed after. They have had challenges will supply. The change in provincial government may change this schedule and project.

Rick McCallum – Spoke to specific Forestry Issues

He reiterated that in 2000 Forestry division was on the chopping block. They have reorganized, cut costs and are now part of the core business unit again. They have been sent back to their bases – including Cobden. More money has been allocated to this division which means more hires. They have hired 85 people in the last 2 years and have plans to hire more in the coming years – expected total 185. There are now more personnel available for trouble calls as well as completing routine maintenance.

The D6 line that feeds our area is scheduled for inspection and clearing next month from Pembroke to Swisha.

After receipt of our letter, an assessment was completed in August. They have documented emergency work that needs to be completed in this area. On the drive up today, have noted areas of concern. Has observed problem areas and acknowledged how “you people are getting frustrated with the service” up here. Emergency brushing/clearing is slated for this fall – 4 men for 2-3 weeks to remove dead trees and hopefully lessen the frequency of outages.

Routing brushing has been scheduled for 2008 in our area. Toronto still decides where they will work. Complete line clearing for this area is scheduled for 2009 but may be bumped to 2008 depending on workload.

They will be asking permission from Council and property owners for a larger width of land on which to clear around the lines so that blowdowns have less effect. Public will have to cooperate for this to be effective.

Schedule for our area: Emergency Fall Work – 2007
 Brushing - 2008
 Line Clearing – 2009

Last major clearing was 2001. Those areas along the highway are still OK – challenges are with dead trees and windblown limbs and areas off the main line.

Cobden is hiring line staff. Refer interested individuals to Rick or Dave.

Question and Answers

Danger tree on private property – Hydro One has permission to enter private property to remove it if it will affect their plant and/or property.

Best way to describe location of damage/fire etc. – 911 civic address, switch #, pole #, barcode from nearest pole.

Best way to report – through the Township Office – 1-800 for normal situations, call Cobden for imminent situations.

Fire Service contact line and regular line – emergency #'s are different. Call to 1-800 line goes through call centre – call to emergency # goes directly to dispatch.

Smart meters – will be automatically read by satellites installed on poles at regular intervals.

Staff in Deep River – only one technical customer service staff. Never housed line/forestry staff for our area. Not enough work to increase staffing at this location.

Trees being removed and clean up – if we call them for an emergency call – they do not have the equipment to do clean up (trees/limbs) – if it is their forestry crew doing clean up – they will remove all trees. Trouble calls – will not have means to clean up trees/limbs.

Meeting concluded at 15:15 h.