

The Corporation of the
Township of Billings
Regular Meeting

October 18th, 2021 7:30 p.m.

Electronically

Present: Mayor Ian Anderson, Deputy Mayor Bryan Barker, Councillors Sharon Alkenbrack, Michael Hunt and Sharon Jackson

Staff: Kathy McDonald, CAO/Clerk; Tiana Mills, Deputy Clerk; Arthur Moran, By Law Enforcement Officer; Todd Gordon, Economic Development Officer; Martin Connell, Fire Chief

Media: Tom Sasvari

Members of the General Public

1. OPEN

2021-344 Barker – Hunt

BE IT RESOLVED that this regular meeting of Council be opened with a quorum present at 7:30 p.m. with Mayor Anderson presiding.

Carried

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2021-345 Alkenbrack – Jackson

BE IT RESOLVED that the agenda for the October 18th, 2021 regular meeting of Council be accepted as presented.

Carried

3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

I, Councillor Sharon Jackson declare a potential deemed pecuniary interest on agenda item number 8 h) item title “Christmas Event in Kagawong” for the following reason: my husband Craig has product for sale at Fiddleheads Gift Shop which is owned by Kelly Thibault.

I, Councillor Sharon Alkenbrack declare a potential direct pecuniary interest on agenda item number 8 h) item title “Christmas Event in Kagawong” for the following reason: I sell teas at Kelly Thibault’s shop.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

a) October 5th 2021

2021-346 Alkenbrack – Hunt

BE IT RESOLVED that the minutes for the October 5th, 2021 regular meeting of Council be accepted as presented.

Carried

b) October 13th, 2021

2021-347 Barker – Jackson

BE IT RESOLVED that the minutes for the October 13th, 2021 special meeting of Council be accepted as presented.

Carried

5. DELEGATIONS

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) **Lake Kagawong Resource Committee Report – October 7th, 2021**
Council received report.

b) **Library Board Meeting Committee Report – September 21st, 2021**
Council received report.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a) **Main Street Construction Update**
Council received update.

b) **H&M COFI Update**

2021-348 Barker – Alkenbrack

BE IT RESOLVED that Council pass a resolution explicitly stating that the Township of Billings does not support the H&M COFI broadband project.

Carried

2021-349 Alkenbrack – Jackson

BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct the CAO to write letters to the appropriate officials at the Ontario Ministry of Infrastructure, as well as the local MP and MPP. Namely:

Jill Vienneau, Assistant Deputy Minister, Broadband Strategy Division, Ministry of Infrastructure, Ontario Government

Aryn Assopardi, Chief of Staff, Ontario Ministry of Infrastructure

Michael Mantha, Member of Provincial Parliament for the riding of Algoma – Manitoulin

Carol Hughes, Member of Parliament for the riding of Algoma – Manitoulin – Kapuskasing

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities Ministry of Infrastructure's Chief of Staff, Aryn Assopardi

Carried

2021-350 Barker – Hunt

BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct staff to continue to communicate and collaborate with Blue Sky Networks, within the limits of the Township's mandate and resources (financial and human) in advocating for/implementing broadband improvements that will serve the ratepayers and residents of Billings Township and the District of Manitoulin.

Carried

c) **Enabling Accessibility Fund**

2021-351 Hunt – Jackson

BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct staff to write and issue an RFP for the Engineering and Construction of a new accessibility ramp and doors at the Old Mill Heritage Centre.

Carried

d) **Manitoulin Streams - Angling Platform**

Council received update.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a) Closed Meeting Investigator

2021-352 Barker – Jackson

BE IT RESOLVED that effective January 1, 2022 that the township switches from using LAS (Local Authority Services) as a provider for closed meeting investigations to the Ontario Ombudsman's Office.

Carried

b) Tourism Adaptation Study

Council received update.

c) Scugog Resolution

2021-353 Barker – Alkenbrack

BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Billings supports the resolution passed by Township of Scugog that the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada be encourages to provide more funding to rural municipalities to support infrastructure projects related to major bridge and culvert replacements; and

THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Provincial Minister of Finance, and the Federal Finance Minister.

Carried

d) DSAB Mental Health Resolution

2021-354 Alkenbrack – Barker

WHEREAS Communities across the province are addressing an intensified social crisis, and Northern Ontario is no different. We recognize that creating solutions will require a multi-ministry approach, but if there are lessons to be learned from this pandemic, what were once cracks in the health care foundation, there are now large gaps forming especially around mental health, addictions, and homelessness.

WHEREAS Northern Ontario has significant challenges when it comes to accessing mental health and addictions services for people in our communities.

WHEREAS over 300 child care staff who provide services to over 21,000 licensed child care spaces in over 340 locations across the North, and they see the effects of Mental Health and Addictions every day in the children they are care for and the parents they support.

WHEREAS over 500 Social Services Staff who provide financial and employment assistance to over 15,000 families in 37 delivery sites across over 800,000 square kilometers in the North. The over 300 Community Housing Staff who provide safe and affordable housing to over 17,000 families in the North.

WHEREAS Police and over 900 Paramedics responded to 200,000 medical emergency 911 calls, and Paramedics have seen the direct results of the Mental Health and Addictions crisis in the North and in some cases becoming ill themselves trying to cope with what they have seen.

WHEREAS FONOM appreciates the efforts of all the agencies that are working to help and support those addicted to opioids. In some districts, over 30 agencies are providing some assistance. But we would like to see the consolidation of these agencies with the input of Municipalities/DSSAB's and local stakeholders. As we believe, a streamlined agency would be able to put the combined funds to better use.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Billings supports FONOM's request that our Northern Ontario Health Teams, in consultation with Municipalities/DSSAB's and local stakeholders support a province-wide strategy that supports such consolidation.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be shared with Premier Ford, Christine Elliott, the Minister of Health, Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and the Leaders of the Provincial Oppositions, AMO, FONOM, NOMA and DSB member municipalities.

Carried

e) Recommendation from the Museum Committee

2021- 355 Hunt – Jackson

BE IT RESOLVED that Council accepts the Museum Committee's motion to have the furnace maintenance costs for 2021 and ongoing to be paid out of the general bank account and not the museum bank account.

Carried

f) Tulloch: Project Scoping Report Fire Hall

2021-356 Alkenbrack – Jackson

BE IT RESOLVED that Council instruct staff to enter into an agreement with Tulloch Engineering to complete a scoping report to help determine options for the repair or replacement of the existing Fire Hall structure.

Carried

g) ROMA 2022 Virtual Conference

2021-357 Barker – Alkenbrack

BE IT RESOLVED that Council authorizes the following person to attend the 2021 ROMA conference January 23, 2021 – January 25, 2021: Councillor Sharon Jackson.

Carried

h) Christmas Event in Kagawong

2021- 358 Barker – Hunt

BE IT RESOLVED that Council supports in principle the continuation of Christmas in Kagawong and does offer in use the parking lot at the Park Centre and or the grounds at the Old Church on the Hill to assist in this venture proposed by Kelly and Jason Thibault.

Carried

9. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Tower Road Access

2021-359 Alkenbrack – Hunt

BE IT RESOLVED that Council allow M'Chigeeng First Nation and MERE General Partner Inc. to perform road maintenance on the unopened road allowance access road (Tower Road) at their cost in order to safely access the wind farm site at all times.

Carried

b) Manitoulin Navy League – Thank You

Council received letter.

10. INFORMATION

a) Museum Committee Minutes – October 4th, 2021

Council received report.

b) 2021 Annual Museum Report

Council received report.

c) Application for Consent – Decision

Council received report.

d) Crown Forest Sustainability Act Amendments

Council received report.

e) Environmental Assessment Modernization

Council received report.

f) Save Eye Care Ontario

Council received report.

11. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

2021-360 Hunt - Alkenbrack

BE IT RESOLVED that Council Authorizes the following accounts for payment:

General Accounts \$103,083.65

and that cheques numbered 6952 to 6965 be authorized for signing as described in the attached register.

Carried

12. CLOSED SESSION

13. CONFIRMING BY-LAW

2021-361 Alkenbrack – Jackson

BE IT RESOLVED that By-law 2021-47, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council be given first, second, third reading and enacted.


Carried

14. ADJOURNMENT

2021-362 Barker – Hunt

BE IT RESOLVED that this regular meeting of Council be adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Carried



Jan Anderson, Mayor
BRYAN BARKER
DEPUTY MAYOR



Kathy McDonald, CAO/Clerk