

The Corporation of the
Township of Billings
Regular Meeting
Minutes

May 19, 2020

Electronic Meeting

Present (electronically): Mayor Ian Anderson, Councillors Sharon Alkenbrack, Bryan Barker, Michael Hunt and Sharon Jackson

Staff: Floyd Becks, Public Works Superintendent; Megan Bonenfant, Deputy Clerk, Todd Gordon, Economic Development Officer; Kathy McDonald, CAO/Clerk

Media: Tom Sasvari

Members of the General Public

Regrets: none

1. Opening of Meeting

2020-158 Hunt – Barker

BE IT RESOLVED that this regular meeting of council be opened with a quorum present electronically at 4:00 p.m. with Mayor Anderson presiding.

Carried

2. Approval of Agenda

2020-159 Alkenbrack – Barker

BE IT RESOLVED that the agenda for the May 19, 2020 regular meeting of council be accepted as presented.

Carried

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

4. Adoption of Minutes

2020-160 Hunt – Alkenbrack

BE IT RESOLVED that Council accepts the minutes of the May 5, 2020, regular meeting as presented.

Carried

2020-161 Barker – Jackson

BE IT RESOLVED that Council accepts the minutes of the May 5, 2020, special meeting as presented.

Carried

5. Delegations

Municipal auditor Corey Houle presented the draft consolidated financial statements to Council.

2020-162 Barker – Alkenbrack

BE IT RESOLVED that Council accepts the 2019 Consolidated Financial Statements as presented.

Carried

6. Committee Reports

None.

7. Old Business

a) 15 Old Mill – update on office and wastewater

2020-163 Alkenbrack – Jackson

BE IT RESOLVED that Council accept the quotation for replacement blinds from Red Bow Floor and Wall Fashions at a cost of \$5,554.60 + HST.

Carried

b) 2020-16 Open Air Burning by-law

2020-164 Barker – Jackson

BE IT RESOLVED that by-law 2020-16, being a by-law to provide for the regulation of open-air burning and precautions to be taken while burning, be given first, second and third readings and enacted.

Carried

c) Truck tender

2020-165 Hunt – Alkenbrack

BE IT RESOLVED that Council accept the tender for a new truck from McQuarrie Motor Products at a cost of \$33,953 + HST and licensing.

Carried

8. New Business

a) Interest waiver for property tax and water levy

2020-166 Barker – Hunt

BE IT RESOLVED that Council authorize the waiver of interest for the final 2020 property tax instalment and final two 2020 water levies until December 31, 2020.

Carried

b) Main Street – engineering RFP

c) Asset Management Planning funding application

2020-167 Alkenbrack – Jackson

BE IT RESOLVED that Council enter into a contract with PSD to apply for grant funding and complete an Asset Management Plan for Billings Township that is compliant with O. Reg 588 2021-2023 requirements.

Carried

d) Memorial plaque request

2020-168 Barker – Hunt

BE IT RESOLVED that Council authorize the installation of a memorial plaque along the small craft basin breakwall.

Carried

Councillor Hunt requested future consideration of installing a live-saving ring at the breakwall.

e) Newburn dock removal

2020-169 Alkenbrack – Barker

BE IT RESOLVED that Council authorize staff to source and hire a contractor to remove the old Newburn commercial fish dock.

Carried

f) Running route signage

2020-170 Jackson – Hunt

BE IT RESOLVED that Council authorize the Parks, Recreation and Wellness Chair and staff to develop a project budget and installation plan for Council's approval.

Carried

9. Correspondence

a) Lawrence Briscoe re: subdivision boundary revisions for hunting restrictions

2020-171 Alkenbrack – Hunt

BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct staff to undertake a comprehensive review of by-law 2004-43.

Carried

b) City of Hamilton re: request to regulate and enforce odour and lighting nuisances related to the cultivation of cannabis plants

2020-172 Barker – Jackson

BE IT RESOLVED that Council for the Township of Billings joins the City of Hamilton in asking the province to extend to municipalities the authority to enforce odour and lighting nuisance complaints stemming from licensed and unlicensed cannabis cultivations within their jurisdictions; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Attorney General, MPP Michael Mantha, the City of Hamilton and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Carried

c) Oakville Economic Task Force and Town of Grimsby re: Commercial Rent Assistance Program

2020-173 Alkenbrack – Jackson

BE IT RESOLVED that Council for the Township of Billings joins the Oakville Economic Task Force and the Town of Grimsby in encouraging the federal and provincial governments to consider the following enhancements to their Commercial Rent Assistance Program:

1. Suspend evictions of commercial tenants for a minimum of 6 months;
2. Allow tenants to make an application for the rent assistance if the property owner does not want to apply or is ineligible;
3. Allow property owners to make one application for all of their properties rather than individual applications;
4. Lower the 70% revenue decline threshold for tenants;
5. Extend the program past June 2020;
6. Make the program 100% forgivable for small business; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Prime Minister, the Premier, the federal and provincial Ministers of Finance, MP Carol Hughes, MPP Michael Mantha, the Oakville Economic Task Force and the Town of Grimsby.

Carried

d) Town of Midland and Township of Montague re: federal grant funding to forgive property taxation

2020-174 Barker – Alkenbrack

BE IT RESOLVED that Council for the Township of Billings supports in principle a program of federal relief for 2020 property taxation, as outlined by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the Town of Midland; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Prime Minister, the Premier, the federal and provincial Ministers of Finance, Minister of Municipal Affairs, MP Carol Hughes, MPP Michael Mantha, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Town of Midland and the Township of Montague.

Carried

10. Information

None.

11. Accounts for Payment

2020-175 Jackson – Hunt

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

General Accounts \$253,355.99

and that cheques number 6242 to 6255 be authorized for signing as described in the attached register.

Carried

12. Closed Session

None.

13. Confirming By-Law

2020-176 Alkenbrack – Barker

BE IT RESOLVED that By-law 2020-20, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council be given first, second, third reading and enacted.

Carried

14. Adjournment

2020-177 Barker – Hunt

BE IT RESOLVED that this regular meeting of council be adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Carried

Ian Anderson, Mayor

Kathy McDonald, CAO/Clerk

05/20/2020:mb