

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL  
OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF LATCHFORD**

**WEDNESDAY APRIL 12, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.**

**1. Call to order and mayoral comments.**

Mayor Peter Davies called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:**

**Council:** Mayor Peter Davies, Councillor Larry Anderson, Councillor Mac Hamilton, Councillor Lilliemay Matton, Councillor Gerry Remillard

**Staff:** Betty Gibson, Clerk-Treasurer

There were approximately 15 members of the public in attendance.

**2. Adoption of the agenda as circulated.**

**Resolution No.:** 06/133

**Moved By:** Mac Hamilton

**Seconded By:** Lilliemay Matton

**Be it resolved that** the April 12, 2006 Agenda be adopted as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**3. Declaration of pecuniary interest/conflict of interest.**

Councillors Gerry Remillard and Lilliemay Matton declared a conflict of interest with respect to items in the In-Camera Session.

**4. Adoption of the minutes of the meeting of Council held on March 22, 2006.**

**Resolution No.:** 06/134

**Moved By:** Larry Anderson

**Seconded By:** Lilliemay Matton

**Be it resolved that** the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held March 22, 2006, be adopted as read and circulated by the Clerk.

**CARRIED**

**5. Delegations:**

Larry Wiwchar attended to provide Council with an update on Nastagwan Trails and answer any questions Council may have.

Mr. Wiwchar circulated pictures that will be included in a book being published, which should be ready in early summer. Mr. Wiwchar advised that funding had been provided for the book. The Nastagwan Trails Committee is working on the layout for a map of the trails.

Volunteer crews have been out on the trails, marking trees in order for people using the trail to know they are on the right trail. Trails to the north are completed and the volunteers will be working to the south, where there are a number of great spots for lookouts. Mr. Wiwchar suggested that a location on the Dump Road would be a good spot for the beginning of the trail, heading toward the Roosevelt Road, and would also serve as good potential for Latchford.

Mr. Wiwchar advised that they would be preparing press releases and inviting people to the trail in June, when the book and maps will be completed.

Gord Lomax commented that the "canoers" would be participating in the 8 day trip and working their way back along the trail to continue with clearing, etc.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Wiwchar for his presentation.

## **6. COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **Councillor Lilliemay Matton**

#### **1. Recreation Committee:**

Councillor Matton updated Council, as follows:

- Recreation Meeting was held on April 1, 2006.
- The Communities-in-Action Fund was discussed and the Committee will be purchasing sports equipment for the youth, and are hoping to start some healthy living programs.
- Charles Hallworth was recognized for his effort in raising money for the purchase of a microwave and kitchen utensils for the Community Centre.
- A grant in the amount of \$38,000.00 was received from Temfund for the purchase of new playground equipment. Councillor Matton thanked Councillor Anderson for advising the Committee of this grant.
- The Easter Egg Hunt will take place on April 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.
- The Committee has decided on a set of kitchen cupboards for the Community Centre, with most of the money being raised from generous donations.
- Councillor Matton invited new members to join the Latchford Recreation and Community Association.
- The next Recreation meeting will be held on May 1, 2006.

#### **2. Communities-in-Action Fund:**

- A letter was forwarded to all seniors (over 50) to attend an information meeting with respect to a Communities-in-Action Fund grant that will fund special physical activities and health programs. Councillor Matton thanked those who attended. Martha McSherry from the Timiskaming Health Unit attended this meeting to answer any questions. A number of activities were noted – line dancing; foot care programs; Yoga; massage therapy; cross country skiing; cooking classes; snow shoeing; aqua fitness; dancer size/low impact aerobics; diabetic clinics; stained class classes; quilting; weight management; woodworking; workout with weights; and many more.
- Councillor Matton noted that all these programs are feasible for our community, but the involvement of residents is necessary.
- Another meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Centre, with ALL residents invited - seniors, families with young children and youths.
- Special thanks to Diane, Jackie, Michelle, Mrs. Remillard, Mac Hamilton and Mrs. Cull.

### **Councillor Larry Anderson**

#### **1. Public Works:**

- Road inspection took place on Monday April 10<sup>th</sup>.
- 2 culverts will have to be reset at a deeper level.
- If dry weather continues, grading will begin shortly.
- A survey of street lights will be carried out soon, and any lights not working should be reported to the Clerk to add to the list, in order for it to be cost effective to have the repairs carried out.

#### **2. Community Policing:**

- Meeting was held on April 4 at 7:00 p.m.

- Stats were reviewed.
- The next Community Policing Meeting is scheduled for June 6, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Office.

### **Councillor Gerry Remillard**

1. Medical Centre:

Councillor Remillard contacted Dr. Hardie with respect to complaints he received from residents concerning the long wait to get an appointment. Dr. Hardie responded with a letter advising that she will be reviewing office procedures and the booking of appointments.

2. Water and Sewer Costs:

Councillor Remillard reviewed the costs of water and sewer over the past number of years, emphasizing the absolute necessity to lower the cost of water and sewer for the Latchford residents. Councillor Remillard noted that the present Council can not do anything about actions of the past but are working towards some resolution to the extreme cost of water and sewer in Latchford.

### **Councillor Mac Hamilton**

1. Development:

- Heritage Latchford – Application to FedNor is being prepared for a one-year coordinator position. Two computers were donated to the Heritage Project, or as needed elsewhere. A motion may be presented tonight to repair the floor in the Loggers Hall of Fame (\$4,000.00). A letter was forwarded to the Latchford Montreal River Heritage Preservation Society requesting a donation towards these required repairs, but no response has been received at this time.
- Latchford Real Estate – The list is being finalized for the surplus lots available in town.
- Community Centre – Two quotations received for sound proofing of the Community Room. There is interest in renting this room. Ontario Power Generation is renting it on April 20<sup>th</sup> for a Public Information Meeting concerning the Hound Chutes Project.
- Funding Applications – Awaiting results from three applications for Community Centre Projects.
- A number of parallel projects are proceeding to eventually have Latchford designated as trail central in North Eastern Ontario. These projects involve the development of the Greenwood Park and coordination with Nastawgan Trails, plus participation of Provincial Government and other Recreation Trail organizations. Council has provided an endorsement letter to be placed in the Greenwood Park Development Business Case, in order to finalize the package.
- Local Development – A letter has been forwarded to two local business suppliers to consider an outlet in Latchford.
- Latchford Heritage Cooperative – a meeting was held last week with Cooperative representatives.
- Latchford Web Site – Contact has been made with other communities. Various groups, including Historical Society Groups have enquired about a Latchford Website, and Councillor Hamilton proposes that the Town send out “Request for Proposals” in this regard.

2. Finance:

- Computers – Computers are in place, however high speed internet service has not been completed. It was suggested that Council express their concern to the provider, with a final deadline of April 21<sup>st</sup> for completion of this work.
- Interim tax bills are out. It was noted that tax arrears are not indicated on the interim bills and will be addressed by special billing.
- In accordance with the Municipal Act 2001, Section 373(1), special applied tax treatment collection of tax arrears beyond a three year period is collectible via legislation. It was suggested that a special letter be forwarded to ALL taxpayers of Latchford to apprise them of this mandatory policy. Concurrently, the letters should address the fact that disputes of assessment values with MPAC should not affect the current payment of taxes owing or utility fees payable. Taxpayers who are paid up should not be supporting MPAC disputes.
- Councillor Hamilton advised that two computers have been donated to the Town, and requested a letter of thanks be forwarded.

3. Communities-In-Action Fund (C.I.A.F.)

Councillor Hamilton attended an information session organized by Councillor Matton and Martha McSherry of the Timiskaming Health Unit. Invitations to this session were mailed to residents of Latchford (seniors over 50) on April 6th and only nine citizens attended. This fund provides for any community development which represents an improvement in the standard of life and the quality of life in our community, and is not to support any specific citizen organization or group. It is for all residents' programs, in which case the recent session was addressed to the seniors. The fund will support any social program in Town that has a signed up enrolment that makes it feasible to provide it to the Community. It also provides transportation expenses to area municipalities which may offer programs not available in Latchford. The funding is flexible and is extendable over future years. If Latchford shows no interest, it will be lost. Another notice to ALL residents, advising of an information session, will be forthcoming – PLEASE ATTEND AND BRING A FRIEND!

**Mayor Peter Davies**

The Mayor presented an update, as follows:

- The final touches have been completed to the software at the Town Office. After a few trial runs, the interim tax and utility bills were sent out.
- There have been problems with minor flooding on Mowat Street and Murphy Mill road. A culvert was repaired on Murphy Mill road, and the flooding on Mowat Street, which was on Town property, was pumped out with the aid of a rented pump. The Town deemed it expedient to purchase a pump for future use.
- A grant from Temfund in the amount of \$38,681 was received for new playground equipment.

- A one time grant in the amount of \$39,000 was received from the Ministry of Transportation for improvements to roads and bridges.
- A grant in the amount of \$10,000 was received from the Ministry of the Environment to carry out a water screening project.
- Council and staff work hard to procure and maintain grants and funding, and endeavour to find every dollar for which the Town of Latchford is eligible.
- It was noted that it is imperative for Councillors to attend scheduled meetings with funding partners and/or associate agencies, as it reflects badly on Council and ultimately on the Town, if such meetings are not attended by the appropriate Council representative. The Mayor asked Councillors who are unable to attend meetings to contact the Clerk, in order that a replacement can be arranged.
- Work has commenced on the Water Treatment Plant Upgrades. The Timiskaming Health Unit issued a “boil water advisory” prior to work commencing, which was a last minute advisory, and at this time it is unsure how long this advisory will be in effect. The Mayor noted that although the Health Unit, the Ministry of the Environment, the Ontario Clean Water Agency, the Project Engineer, and the Contractor are all doing their job, better communication would avoid such last minute advisories. The Town has written a letter of complaint to the local MPP, David Ramsey, protesting the lack of coordination between ministries and organizations in the hopes that further “surprise” disruptions can be avoided.

## **7. CORRESPONDENCE**

### **A. Action Items**

#### **1. Dogs at large**

**Resolution No. 06/135**

**Moved By:** Larry Anderson

**Seconded By:** Lilliemay Matton

**Be it resolved that** the letter from Susan Scott regarding dogs running at large be received and the Clerk will follow up further with an animal control officer requesting a proposal to service the Town of Latchford and Ms. Scott be sent a letter advising her of this.

**CARRIED**

#### **2. Annual Global Traders Awards**

**Resolution No. 06/136**

**Moved By:** Larry Anderson

**Seconded By:** Lilliemay Matton

**Be it resolved that** the letter from the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade re: Annual Ontario Global Traders Awards regional ceremony on April 27<sup>th</sup> in North Bay be received and filed.

**CARRIED**

#### **3. 2006 Ontario Family Fishing Weekend**

**Resolution No.: 06/137**

**Moved By:** Mac Hamilton

**Seconded By:** Gerry Remillard

**Be it resolved that** the letter from the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters re: 2006 Ontario Family fishing Weekend – July 7 – July 9, 2006 be received and a notice be placed in the Moose Call and posted in the usual locations;

**And Further** that Council does hereby declare July 7 to July 9, 2006 as Ontario Family Fishing Weekend in the Town of Latchford.

**CARRIED**

**4. Seniors' Month**

**Resolution No. 06/138**

**Moved By:** Larry Anderson

**Seconded By:** Lilliemay Matton

**Be it resolved that** the letter from the Minister Responsible for Seniors re: Seniors' Month – June 2006 and 2006 Senior of the Year Awards be received and Council does hereby declare June 2006 as Seniors' Month in the Town of Latchford;

**And further that** the letter and nomination form be forwarded to the Latchford Senior Citizens Action Group.

**CARRIED**

**5. 2006 Canada Post Literacy Awards**

**Resolution No. 06/139**

**Moved By:** Larry Anderson

**Seconded By:** Mac Hamilton

**Be it resolved that** letter from Canada Post re: 2006 Canada Post Literacy Awards be received and forwarded to the Town Library Board for their nomination.

**CARRIED**

**6. Emergency Preparedness Trade Fair in Cobalt**

**Resolution No. 06/140**

**Moved By:** Gerry Remillard

**Seconded By:** Larry Anderson

**Be it resolved that** the letter of invitation from the Town of Cobalt re: Emergency Preparedness Week – May 7 – 13, 2006, inviting Mayor and Council to attend a Emergency Preparedness Trade Fair on May 10 be received and forwarded to the Latchford Volunteer Fire Department.

**CARRIED**

**7. 2006 Summer Experience Program**

**Resolution No. 06/141**

**Moved By:** Lilliemay Matton

**Seconded By:** Larry Anderson

**Be it resolved that** the letter from the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Health Promotion re: 2006 Summer Experience Program and Guidelines be received and the Clerk will apply.

**CARRIED**

**B. Correspondence – Information Items**

**Resolution No. 06/142**

**Moved By:** Larry Anderson

**Seconded By:** Gerry Remillard

**Be it resolved that** the following Information Items be noted:

1. AMO alert re: 2006 Provincial budget Offers No Real Plan for Municipalities.
2. City of Sault Ste. Marie - resolution re: Northern Physician Retention Initiative.
3. Office of the Prime Minister re: Funding to assist municipalities meet requirements of the Ontario Safe Water Drinking Act.

4. County of Brant re: Recommendations in the "Report of the Expert Panel on Water and Wastewater Strategy".
5. Ontario Provincial Police 2006 Business Plan (on file).

**And further that** Item #2 be supported.

**CARRIED**

## **8. ONGOING BUSINESS:**

1. Crusher Grant:

The Mayor called a special meeting for Tuesday April 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. to review the options regarding the Crusher Grant, and requested that the Public Works Foreman be in attendance.

2. Water Treatment Plant Upgrades:

Note the Mayor's Report.

3. Building By-law:

The Building By-law will be reviewed at the April 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

4. FONOM Conference – Mayor Davies and Councillor Remillard will attend the FONOM Conference.

5. Recycling: Council will wait for further material in order to review cost.

## **9. NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Waterfront Improvements:**

Mayor Davies circulated a preliminary drawing of improvements for consideration.

2. **Town Hall Improvements:**

A request for a quote to stain the Town Hall was requested and is forthcoming.

3. **Landscaping at the Town Hall:**

### **Resolution No. 06/143**

**Moved By:** Larry Anderson

**Seconded By:** Lilliemay Matton

**Be it resolved that** quotations for landscaping at the Town Hall were received as follows:

Lauzon Landscaping - 8 White spruce @ \$209.50 each(\$1,676); Fertilizer @ \$46.00 Stakes, tie down @ \$30.00; planting \$930.00; hydro seeding \$570.00; Spread topsoil \$135.00; landscape topsoil \$90.00; Float loader \$55.00, plus taxes  
- **TOTAL \$3,779.24**

Aidie Creek - White spruce @ \$420.00 each planted (Town backhoe etc. per quote) - **TOTAL \$3,360.00, PLUS GST**

and deferred to next meeting in order to get quotes on paving the parking lot.

**CARRIED**

**4. Animal Control**

**Resolution No. 06/144**

**Moved By:** Mac Hamilton

**Seconded By:** Lilliemay Matton

**Be it resolved that** the proposal for Animal Control from Garrett Hunting and draft agreement be received and deferred to next regular council meeting.

**CARRIED**

**5. Grant – 25 Anniversary – Advertising**

**Resolution No. 06/145**

**Moved By:** Larry Anderson

**Seconded By:** Lilliemay Matton

**Be it resolved that** the letter from Grant re: 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – advertising in the Northern News be received and Council support a ¼ page ad at \$125.00.

**CARRIED**

**6. Prism Publishing re: National Heritage Week:**

Council will not be placing an ad in the Voice.

**7. Landfill Site Hours:**

Deferred to next meeting.

**8. Quotations for Sound Proofing the Community Centre:**

Deferred to next meeting.

**9. Purchase of Backhoe:**

Information was received to purchase a backhoe at a considerable savings. The clerk will provide the package to Council for consideration, and the information will be placed in the Budget File.

**10. James Bay Frontier – Summer Student:**

The Clerk will contact James Bay Frontier to confirm the appropriate information is provided.

**11. DSSAB**

Councillor Anderson noted that reserves are being used.

**10. BY-LAWS**

***By-law No. 720-06 Confirming By-law***

**Resolution No. 06/146**

**Moved By:** Larry Anderson

**Seconded By:** Lilliemay Matton

**Be it resolved that** By-law No. 720-06 being a by-law to confirm certain proceedings of Council of the Corporation of the Town of Latchford for its regular meeting held April 12, 2006 be read a first, second and third time and finally passed by the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Latchford.

**CARRIED**

**11. In camera session.**

**Resolution No. 06/147**

**Moved By:** Larry Anderson

**Seconded By:** Lilliemay Matton

**Be it resolved that** the Council for the Town of Latchford enter into a Closed Meeting at 9:22 P.M. to discuss the following matters as set out in the Municipal Act, 2001 Section 239(2);

- A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or board;
- Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or board employees;
- Litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution No. 06/148**

**Moved By:** Mac Hamilton

**Seconded By:** Lilliemay Matton

**Be it resolved that** Council now arise from Closed Meeting at 10:06 p.m.

**CARRIED**

**12. Adjournment.**

**Resolution No. 06/149**

**Moved By:** Larry Anderson

**Second By:** Lilliemay Matton

**Be it resolved that** Council now adjourn at 10:08 p.m. until the next regular meeting or call from the Mayor.

**CARRIED**

Dated at Latchford this 12<sup>th</sup> day  
of April, 2006.

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Mayor

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Clerk-Treasurer