

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY MARCH 28, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.
HELD AT THE LATCHFORD COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTRE**

1. Call to order and mayoral comments.

PRESENT:

Council: Mayor Peter Davies, Councillor Larry Anderson, Councillor Mac Hamilton, Councillor Gordon Lomax, Councillor Maxine Cannon, Councillor Mike Cole

Regrets: Councillor Jim Bennett

Staff: Betty Gibson, Clerk-Treasurer

Public: There were approximately 14 people in attendance.

Press: Sue Nielsen, Temiskaming Speaker

2. Adoption of the agenda as circulated

Resolution No.: 07/137

Moved By: Gord Lomax

Seconded By: Larry Anderson

Be it resolved that the March 28, 2007 Agenda be adopted as circulated and amended.

CARRIED

3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST/CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

Councillor Maxine Cannon later declared a conflict of interest with respect to Item 9 (2).

4. Adoption of the Minutes

Resolution No.: 07/138

Moved By: Larry Anderson

Seconded By: Mac Hamilton

Be it resolved that the minutes of the Council Meetings as follows be adopted as circulated by the Clerk:

- Special Council Meeting held March 13, 2007
- Regular Council Meeting held March 14, 2007
- Special Council Meeting held March 19, 2007
- In Camera Meetings held January 10, January 24, February 14, February 20, and March 14, 2007

CARRIED

5. DELEGATIONS:

1. Mike Baker, from Frog's Breath Foundation, conveyed his regrets as he could not attend to present the \$12,500.00 donation to the Town of Latchford; the funds are for renovations to the Loggers' Hall of Fame. Mayor Davies informed the Public of the very much appreciated donation and the Press advised they would be including a story in the Speaker.
2. Dan Cote, DTSSAB representative sent regrets as the DTSSAB meeting was scheduled for the same night.

6. COUNCIL COMMITTEE/MAYOR/CLERK REPORTS:

Councillor Larry Anderson:

Medical Centre:

- Met with Dr. Hardie and the contract expires at the end of March; Dr. Hardie expects a delay again.
- Issue of hot water is already being addressed through renovations under the grant for the Freed Keenan Centre, when approved.
- Sound proofing is a problem and will try and have this improved.
- Dr. Hardie will advise Councillor Anderson of any concerns and no scheduled meetings will be held.

Pubic Works:

- Eaves trough at the Water Treatment Plant is proving to be more complicated, as the eaves trough is built right into the edge; must decide to replace all or just the sections over entrances
- Eaves trough at the back of the Town Office is required, but will need a custom made eaves trough for the type of eave on the building.
- Council needs to discuss which streets they wish constructed this year, in order to have quotes prepared.

Centennial Committee:

- The M.T.O. finally approved the closure of the highway, with a detour, but unfortunately as the Golden Helmets are performing in New Liskeard for the bikers' Reunion on July 1st, it is not possible for them to perform in the same area in this short time-frame

Councillor Mac Hamilton:

- Greenwood Park: applications for funding of the Facilitator position have been reviewed with FedNor and Service Ontario, and are now submitted.
- Loggers Hall of Fame: The official presentation of a contribution from the Frog's Breath Foundation to upgrade the Loggers hall of Fame was scheduled for tonight.
- Fred Keenan Centre: Applications to the Ontario Trillium Foundation and the NOHFC have been submitted for the enhancement of the Fred Keenan Centre. NOHFC advised the first phase was accepted and the second phase application has been submitted
- Former MNR Bunkhouse: Through efforts of the Heritage Board and staff, an application for funding to upgrade the MNR Bunkhouse for additional museum display purposes has been submitted.
- Streetscape: The estimate to replace the existing street signs has been submitted by the Public works Department and placed in the 2007 budget file. An application will be submitted to Persona Communication for funding as part of their Community support Grant Structure.
- Centennial Plaque: The Latchford Heritage Board is preparing a design and wording for a Latchford Community Centennial Plaque the cost (if any) will be placed in the Centennial Budget for Council approval. The location will be selected at a later date. These plaques are made available through the Ontario Heritage Trust Foundation, and the Town may not receive the plaque until late this year.
- House of Memories: After a meeting with the Building Inspector, it was confirmed there may be a possibility that property landscaping and grading by the Public Works Department around the House of Memories will solve the seepage in the basement. The full condition of the basement will be analyzed for the corrective action to be taken, and this will be organized once the snow and frost have disappeared.

- Latchford Waterfront Development: A letter was forwarded to Public Works Canada to advise of the plan to upgrade the waterfront conditions, creating access by all the public, safety considerations, and further encouragement of its use; but no response to date.
- Parks Development: Costing deal of all phases of this project along with a working schedule is being revisited to fit the funding criteria schedule for each phase.
- Latchford View to the Future: The planning list of suggested approaches and infrastructure needs for positive and feasible 5 year growth and development program for Latchford is in progress. This exercise will take the future plans for Latchford beyond the usual year by year maintenance requirements. The recent census count for our community further indicates a need for this development plan.

Councillor Gord Lomax

Tourism Booklets:

- Volunteers have started selling ads; see Nonie Hamilton or Mary Lomax to place an ad. Reprinting Quotes have been received.

Latchford Integrated Parks Development:

- Received another letter of support from Peter McLean, Northern College Executive, thanking us for engaging the Kirkland Lake Graphic Arts Class in web site design, which will be uploaded to our new dedicated web site afterwards.
- Samera Alexander, Canadore College student is utilizing her Greenwood Park Inventory photos in the Marketing slide presentation she is creating for Council. She is also busy organizing the long distance canoe races for July 15th.
- March 27th was the 1st of 2 weekly meetings with John Salo. He is taking care of the MTO Park entrance sign and land use applications, and provided a park survey map, park funding advice and examples, and sample parks – municipality contracts, progress report on Park Management Plan Ontario Parks review, Ontario Parks support letter is in the works.
- Cost breakdown will be started soon.
- Ordered the Funding Directory recommended.
- Sent a letter to the Managing Director of Ontario Parks, and copied David Ramsay, Dalton McGuinty, etc., requesting they set aside a park near here to honour James Keenan and to make a plaque to be unveiled at the Greenwood Park sod turning on July 14. Many dignitaries, family and friends are planning to attend. We will need a tent, a PA system, a quiet generator, chairs, shuttle bus, parking plan, direction signs, and volunteers to manage this very important undertaking. Ontario Parks are looking into the layout of the location and supplying the Park Entrance sign.
- John Salo will let us know when the ground at Finlayson Park is hard enough for Ron Paige to go get the free 50 windfall pine logs for Noel Beaupre to debark, saw into lumber, get it graded & stamped for use in the park. Mr. Beaupre he will select the log rolling specimens for the Centennial. Town cost to be determined. A Council resolution with respect to this plan will be tabled at the April 11th Council Meeting.
- The other two parts of the Latchford Integrated Parks Development, the Dam Rapids Water Park and the Downtown Park Developments are also being worked on with the strong support of Councillors Hamilton and Cole.

Councillor Maxine Cannon:

- no reports as the Library Board nor the Recreation committee met.

Councillor Mike Cole:

Protection to Persons & Property:

- Pool Safety: Reviewed references for pool safety and noted there has been a significant increase in the number of backyard pools popping up in every municipality. The increase is due specifically to the very popular and relatively inexpensive inflatable devices. These pools are also a safety hazard and the municipalities have a responsibility to ensure the safety of their residents. Example by-laws to regulate such pools will be circulated for review.
- Fire Protection: Attended a meeting last week with the Fire Chief in Dymond, where the areas Fire Chiefs were discussing options for the possible disbandment of the Dispatch Centre in New Liskeard. There is a requirement of 6 months notice, once Temiskaming Shores announces disbandment.
- Water Park: A meeting with Lise Taylor, MTO is scheduled next week to review the dam property issues. Also received a call from Rock Berube, Civil Engineer who advised the dam is still on the table of the design team and he anticipates that the project will not start in 2007 but possibly 2008. This means there is still time to influence certain design elements; Mr. Berube provided the name of the design team lead to contact for more information.

Mayor's Report

- March 31st the Mayor represented Latchford at the Ground Breaking of the North Bay Regional Health Centre, which is a mammoth project over 20 years in the making with a projected price tag of over half a billion dollars. As well as bringing improved health care it will also bring increased economic opportunities and jobs to the region.
- Northern Ontario often complains about the out migration of our youth, which is a problem that we seem unable to solve. All the initiatives and programs are a drop in the bucket; it is all about jobs and opportunities. Until there are major manufacturing plants such as automobile plants or colossal employers like the Federal government in the Big Five; North Bay, Timmins, Sudbury, Sault Ste. Marie and Thunder Bay, our youth will continue to stream to the south. It is important for the small municipalities in the north to support initiatives in the big 5.
- On the topic of population, the results of the 2006 Census in the Temiskaming Speaker last week indicated that Latchford and Temagami are the only two municipalities in the area that did not suffer from declining population, and in fact Latchford went up. There are three main reasons for this. There is the annexation of South Gillies, the building of homes along Murphy Mill Road and finally the movement of real estate within the town. There are more families moving in and a reversal in properties for sale now there are hardly any compared to just a few years ago. This is indeed good news for Latchford. Latchford is a municipality that is on the move.
- In any municipality the satisfaction and pleasure that one gets from good news like this sometimes dampened by other issues ultimately have to be dealt with.
- It was disappointing that our DTSSAB representative could not make the meeting tonight as there was also a DTSSAB meeting, which I also wanted to attend. I am also disappointed that we have not had any word, "official" or otherwise from our representative as to what transpired at the last DTSSAB meeting or what consequences have resulted from that meeting. It is not appropriate that we have to read the Temiskaming Speaker to find out what transpires at these meetings. I am hearing that there are problems within DTSSAB and the residents of Latchford, as participants in the Board, have a right to know how these issues are to be addressed and when.
- **Today is one of those good news meetings.** The Frog's Breath Foundation presented a grant of \$12,500.00 to aid in restoration of the Loggers Hall of Fame. Without this kind contribution we would not be able to progress with these much needed and overdue renovations.

- As you probably recall we received a Federal/Provincial grant earlier this year for \$660,000.00 to replace our aging valves in the water distribution system and to pave our roads. Tonight I have even more good news. As part of the Provincial Governments investment in Rural Infrastructure we have been granted \$220,000.00 for the extension to the recreation centre. It will add about 100 feet to this building for an improved ice surface, and eventually change rooms and showers and much needed storage. This is not a 60/40 split, but an outright grant to cover the cost. It is, AGAIN, tremendous news for Latchford.
- This is not the end of the good news that Latchford will be receiving before the end of this fiscal year.
- There will be an official announcement about high speed internet by the end of May. Ontera will begin work in the summer and all should be in place by the fall.

Community Emergency Management Report:

- Every year each municipality must complete certain tasks to be compliant with the Provincially Mandated Emergency Management Program.
- Besides having a locally developed emergency management plan the municipality is also responsible for areas such as training and public education.
- Each year we are evaluated; a letter received from Emergency Management Ontario has confirmed that in 2006 Latchford completed all of the steps that are required for the maintenance of the Essential Level Emergency Management Program required by this legislation. The implementation of sound community emergency management programs, which are integrated with those of other levels of government, is a key element of shared responsibility to the residents of Ontario. Such a partnership will lead to the fulfillment of the mutual goal, which is the creation of safer and more disaster-resilient communities. Latchford was congratulated on its commitment to public safety in Ontario.
- This year May 6th to May 16th is Emergency Preparedness Week. I have obtained (at no cost to the Municipality) enough book marks to give one to each household in Latchford, and also a number of posters that will be posted in public places.
- Be prepared is a simple concept have all the basics on hand that you might need if you or your community was isolated for three days. We learn by experience, and much was developed after hurricane Katrina.
- While talking about learning by experience; after the recent blip in gasoline supply caused by shortage of gas in 75 ESSO stations each town must have at least 3 days of fuel on hand for its vehicles. All municipal fuel locations and capacity at those locations must be forwarded to EMO in case that in a worse case scenario they could be pooled or shared. Most of this is worst case scenario but it doesn't hurt to be prepared.
- For the new council I have obtained a video that we will use in a training session with council later in the spring.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Action Items

1. Street Light Policy

Resolution No. 07/139

Moved By: Gord Lomax

Seconded By: Mike Cole

Be it resolved that with respect to street light outages/malfunctions, that a minimum of four street lights must be in need of repair/replacement before requesting a service call, unless the street light outages may cause a safety hazard and therefore it be at the discretion of the Public Works Department.

CARRIED

2. Hydro One PowerSaver Business Incentive Program

Resolution No.: 07/140

Moved By: Mac Hamilton

Seconded By: Larry Anderson

Be it resolved that the letter from Hydro One re: Hydro One's PowerSaver Business Incentive Program be received and the Clerk be directed to submit an application under the "Custom Projects", with the particulars to be researched and subject to council approval.

CARRIED

3. Coleman Township Letter re: Trails

Resolution No. 07/141

Moved By: Mike Cole

Seconded By: Maxine Cannon

Be it resolved that the letter from Coleman Township regarding trails in Coleman Township be received and the Clerk be directed to contact Coleman Township and request written clarification of their letter.

CARRIED

4. Hudson Letter re: Aggregate Resources Act

Resolution No. 07/142

Moved By: Gord Lomax

Seconded By: Mike Cole

Be it resolved that the letter from the Township of Hudson re: Aggregate Resources Act and Royalty Fee paid to municipalities, but not municipalities within the District of Timiskaming, be received and Council supports Hudson township's resolution.

CARRIED

5. OAFIC Municipal Politicians Seminar

Resolution No. 07/143

Moved By: Mac Hamilton

Seconded By: Larry Anderson

Be it resolved that the letter and information from the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs re: Municipal Politicians Seminar – Firefighting 101 be received and filed.

CARRIED

6. Timiskaming Hospital Board of Director Position

Resolution No. 07/144

Moved By: Gord Lomax

Seconded By: Mike Cole

Be it resolved that the letter from Evelyn Davies sent to the Chair of the Temiskaming Hospital Board of Directors re: Temagami/Latchford Board of Director Position be received and filed.

CARRIED

7. Phone at the Fire Hall

Resolution No. 07/145

Moved By: Maxine Cannon

Seconded By: Larry Anderson

Be it resolved that email from Councillor Cole re: Land Line at the Fire Hall be received and a phone and fax be installed.

CARRIED

8. Seniors Month and Nominations

Resolution No. 07/146

Moved By: Gord Lomax

Seconded By: Mike Cole

Be it resolved that the letter from the Minister Responsible for Seniors re: Seniors' Month in June and the 2007 Senior of the Year Awards be received and Council does hereby declare June Seniors' Month in the Town of Latchford; and with respect to the nominations for the 2007 Senior of the Year Awards the information be forwarded to the Seniors Action Group.

CARRIED

9. Parks / Waterfront Facilitator

Resolution No. 07/147

Moved By: Gord Lomax

Seconded By: Mac Hamilton

Be it resolved Council approves the immediate engagement of a Parks/Waterfront Facilitator; with the wages to be paid from the \$20,000 previously allocated until funding for the position is received, to a maximum of \$17,000.00.

CARRIED

10. Accounts Feb. 12 to March 14/07

Resolution No. 07/148

Moved By: Gord Lomax

Seconded By: Mike Cole

Be it resolved the General Bills in the amount of \$288,984.95 and Payroll in the amount of \$16,330.94 for the period February 12/07 to March 12/07 be passed and paid on behalf of the Corporation of the Town of Latchford.

CARRIED

B. Information Items

Resolution No. 07/149

Moved By: Larry Anderson

Seconded By: Mac Hamilton

Be it resolved that the following Information Items be noted and filed:

1. Parks & Recreation/Community Association Meeting Minutes.
2. Peter McLean, Northern College re: WJB Greenwood Park Website.
3. Jennifer Row, James Bay Frontier re: Industry Consultation for the new Five Year Tourism Marketing Strategy for Northern Ontario.
4. Latchford Public Library minutes for February 6th meeting.
5. South Temiskaming community Futures minutes and financial statements.
6. Earlton -Timiskaming Regional Airport Municipal Services Board Minutes of March 15th meeting.
7. Community Living Temiskaming South re: 38th Annual Walkathon.
8. MNR Public Inspection Notice 2007-2008 Annual Work Schedule Temagami Management Unit.
9. MNR Public Notice 2007-2008 Annual Work Schedule Nipissing Forest.
10. Ministry of Transportation re: Parking on East Side of Hwy. 11.
11. DTSSAB Municipal Newsletter March 2007

And that a separate resolution be prepared for Items 3 and 10.

CARRIED

3. James Bay Frontier

Resolution No. 07/150

Moved By: Mac Hamilton

Seconded By: Larry Anderson

Be it resolved that the correspondence / email from James Bay Frontier re: Strategy Meetings be received and the Clerk forward a letter to J.B.F. requesting a Strategy Meeting be held in South Timiskaming Region.

CARRIED

4. Parking on East Side of Hwy. 11

Resolution No. 07/151

Moved By: Gord Lomax

Seconded By: Mike Cole

Be it resolved that the letter from the M.T.O. dated March 15, 2007 re; Parking on the east side of Hwy. 11 be received and the Clerk send a letter to M.T.O. requesting clarification.

CARRIED

8. ONGOING BUSINESS

1. Water Treatment Plant:

The project 99 percent complete and planning for the Grand Opening is in the works.

2. Recycling

Mayor Davies had circulated the draft letter and contract for review and comments. The letter is complete, with a few minor revisions to the contract.

3. Property Standards By-law

The Clerk will provide a draft copy in early April, with the intention of tabling the by-law as soon as prudently possible.

4. Procedural B-law

The Mayor provided possible additions and revisions for Council's review and comment. The Clerk will prepare an amendment draft procedural by-law for circulation to council in the first week of April, with the intention of tabling the by-law as soon as prudently possible.

5. Official Plan Amendment / Zoning By-law

The Clerk met with a Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing representative from the Planning Division who provided a Terms of Reference, etc. to begin the required stages for a new Official Plan for the Town of Latchford. Zoning by-law will follow the completion of the official plan.

6. Lot Promotion

The lots in town that are for sale are not moving; Council believes there should be more information provide to the public on the program offered by Council to promote sale of lots. The Clerk will contact Century 21, and the Press stated they were interested in writing a story on the promotional program offered by Council.

9. NEW BUSINESS

1. Dispatch Service for Fire and 911

Councillor Cole and Fire Chief Pat Underhill attended a meeting regarding the possible disbandment of Temiskaming Shores Police Service, and along with that the closure of the Temiskaming Shores Dispatch Service. Councillor Coles confirmed that pursuant to the dispatch agreement there must be a six month notice given before the service is terminated. There are a few possible alternatives to be reviewed in more depth.

2. House of Memories Signs

A notice was posted in the usual locations advertising a job involving the repainting of the House of Memories signs. One letter of interest was received and the following resolution was passed:

Resolution No. 07/152

Moved By: Gord Lomax

Seconded By Mike Cole

Be it resolved that Council accepts the submission to repaint the House of Memories signs from Karen Wareing.

CARRIED

Councillor Maxine Canon declared a conflict of interest, abstained from discussion and did not vote on the question.

3. Green Solutions

Mayor Davies spoke to a solution whereby the Town could provide kilowatts to be sold back to Hydro One. The Mayor will be researching this further and a report is forthcoming.

AMO is offering an Energy Conservation conference in Toronto and the Mayor has asked that a resolution approving his attendance at said conference be placed on the next agenda.

4. Destruction / Injuring of Woodland

The passing of a by-law regarding the above was discussed and a by-law reviewed. A few revisions were made and the by-law will have first reading at tonight's meeting.

5. Centennial Banners

Mrs. Noni Hamilton provided Council with information, including prices for banners for the Centennial Celebrations. The Clerk will request quotes for the required banners to be tabled at the next council meeting.

6. Sign at the Veterans Park

An estimate for a sign as sketched by Councillor Lomax was received. The Clerk will request quotes from other 2 other suppliers; the quotes to be placed on the April 11th Council agenda.

10. BY-LAWS

By-Law No. 783/07

Resolution No. 07/154

Moved By: Gord Lomax

Seconded By: Mike Cole

Be it resolved that By-Law No 783/07 being a by-law to prohibit the destruction of injuring of trees in woodlands within the boundaries of the Town of Latchford with the exception of the firewood cutting lots licensed by the Ministry of Natural Resources be taken as read a first time.

CARRIED

By-Law No. 784/07

Resolution No. 07/155

Moved By: Larry Anderson

Seconded By: Mac Hamilton

Be it resolved that By-Law No 784/07 being a by-law to confirm certain proceedings of Council of the Corporation of the Town of Latchford for its regular meeting held March 28, 2007 be taken as read a first, second and third time and finally passed by the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Latchford.

CARRIED

11. CLOSED MEETING

Resolution No. 07/156

Moved By: Gord Lomax

Seconded By: Mike Cole

Be it resolved that the Council for the Town of Latchford enter into a Closed Meeting at 9:27 p.m. to discuss the following matters as set out in the Municipal Act, 2001 Section 239 (2);

- 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. 07/157

Moved By: Gord Lomax

Seconded By: Larry Anderson

Be it resolved that Council now arise from Closed Meeting at 9:59 p.m., with no report.

CARRIED

12. ADJOURN

Resolution No. 07/158

Moved By: Maxine Cannon

Seconded By: Larry Anderson

Be it resolved that Council now adjourn at 10:00 p.m. until the next regular meeting or call from the Mayor.

CARRIED

Dated at Latchford this 11th day
of April, 2007.

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer