

**CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF LATCHFORD
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
THURSDAY DECEMBER 15TH 2016.**

At 7:00 p.m.

HELD AT THE LATCHFORD COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTRE

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

PRESENT:

Council: Mayor George Lefebvre, Councilors, Jo-Anne Cartner, Perry Livingston,
Trudy Lepage Mike Brooks, Theo Cull
Regrets: Councilor Green

Staff: Jaime Allen, Clerk and Lise Remillard, CFO.

Public: Nil

Press: NIL

1. Mayor Lefebvre called meeting to order.
2. **Adoption of the agenda as circulated by the Clerk.
Resolution No.:16/162
Moved By: Jo-Anne Cartner Perry Livingston
Seconded By: Perry Livingston
Be it resolved that the December 15th 2016 Agenda be adopted as circulated by the Clerk**

CARRIED

3. **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST/CONFLICT OF INTEREST (NIL)**

4. **Adoption of the Minutes
Resolution No.: 16/163
Moved By: Trudy Lepage
Seconded By: Jo-Anne Cartner
Be it resolved that the minutes of Regular held on November 17th 2016 be adopted as circulated by the Clerk.**

CARRIED

5. **DELEGATIONS / PRESENTATIONS:** Michelle Anderson EDO.
Updated Council on internet access with Ontera will continue. Discussed NEO net project regarding 3G internet service, will be doing a spreadsheet for upcoming,budget projects and grants.

6. **COUNCIL COMMITTEE/MAYOR/CLERK REPORTS:**

Councillor Livingston: Electrical restored to what it was now that Tri Origin is done renting the arena pad. Buildings that have garage doors need to be recalibrated.

Councillor Cartner: met with Delores Ben to sign lease for the library, will have hallway cleared by the end of January

Councillor Lepage: Annual Christmas tree lighting was well attended and seniors bags were much appreciated.

Councillor Brooks: Fire Dept replaced foam in the fire truck, and is going forward with extension, rubber duck fundraiser going forward, going door to door to check smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors, New Years Eve Dance December 31st

Mayor Lefebvre: Mayors monthly report (see attached)

7. CORRESPONDENCE AND ACTION ITEMS

A. Action Items

1. Accounts Payable Payroll

Resolution No.: 16/164

Moved By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Seconded By: Theo Cull

Be it resolved that the Corporation of the Town of Latchford approves attached payroll in the amount of \$24,668.13 and accounts payable in the amount of \$9859.26 for the period November 8th 2016 thru December 6th 2016 and electronic bill payments in the amount of \$7472.88

CARRIED

2. Municipal Insurance quote.

Resolution No.: 16/165

Moved By: Perry Livingston

Seconded By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Be it resolved that the Corporation of the Town of Latchford approves accepts quote for Municipal Insurance form Tench-MacDiarmid in the amount of \$57,919.00 plus tax.

CARRIED

3. Offer to sell.

Resolution No.: 16/166

Moved By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Seconded By: Theo Cull

Be it resolved that The Corporation of the Town offer to sell to Public Works and Government Services property as described as attached in the amount of \$184,830.00cdn

CARRIED

4. Ontera Internet Service

Resolution No.: 16/167

Moved By: Perry Livingston

Seconded By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Whereas Council for the Corporation of the Town of Latchford have become aware of an unacceptable decline in the level of internet service to the residents of this community from out dedicated provider, **Ontera**,

And Whereas the level of service has deteriorated to the point that our municipal office staff due to slow download speed can no longer participate in webinars that are essential to their roles with the municipality and in the best interests of Latchford ratepayers and residents,

And Whereas we have been advised that **Ontera** will not be accepting any additional customers from their Latchford catchment area for this, what has become an, essential service.

Therefore Be It Resolved, that this Council respectfully requests that NEOnet, the original funder's of this service to the Latchford area, intervene in this unacceptable situation so as to improve the present level of service and ensure that additional customers can be added to the existing service until a suitable replacement provider has began this essential service for this area.

And Further that this resolution be forwarded to the Township of Coleman for their information and support

CARRIED

5. Hydro One Rates

Resolution No.: 16/168

Moved By: Theo Cull

Seconded By: Perry Livingston

Whereas Council for the Corporation of the Town of Latchford have determined that the actual electricity portion of their Hydro One bills represents only 6.56% of the total bill or less than 1/15 of the total bill,

And Whereas the balance of the bill is comprised of components identified as Global Adjustment, 39.54%; Delivery, 36.72%; Regulatory Charges, 2.72%; Debt Retirement, 2.96% and HST 11.50%,

And Whereas it is becoming increasingly difficult for this Council to manage and fund essential services to our residents and businesses while maintaining minimal increases in our tax rates with one of the primary reasons being the high energy rates we are compelled to pay for the very essential utility, electricity.

Therefore Be It Resolved, that this Council respectfully requests that the Government of Ontario through its Minister of Energy, the Honourable Glen Thibeault, exempt all municipalities in the Province of Ontario from the identified five additional charges on their environmental service facilities, community recreation and medical facilities, municipal offices and service buildings, fire department facilities and street lighting.

And Further that this resolution be forwarded for support to the Temiskaming Municipal Association, the Temiskaming Mayors Action Group, FONOM and area municipalities.

CARRIED

6. Passenger Rail Service.

Resolution No.: 16/169

Moved By: Theo Cull

Seconded By: Trudy Lepage

WHEREAS passenger rail service in Northern Ontario is an essential infrastructure for economic development of our resource based industries including agriculture, forestry and mining together with tourism and access to health care,

AND WHEREAS access to health care beyond our immediate communities is critical and dependent on bus passenger service is both unreliable during inclement weather with frequent highway 11 closures delaying vehicular traffic close to 200 times between Muskoka and Hearst during the past three years with an average delay of six and one half hours thereby rendering it an unacceptable option for travel on,

AND WHEREAS this unreliability of transportation not only impacts patients requiring appointments but also medical practitioners travelling to our area to provide needed specialty support or to operate their practices,

AND WHEREAS the Northern and Eastern Ontario Rail Network (NEORN) is endeavouring to bring the issue of rail passenger service for our and other areas to the attention of Queen's Park and Parliament Hill so as to restore it,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Temiskaming Municipal Association supports the efforts of NEORN in their quest to restore needed rail passenger service to our and other areas of the north.

AND FURTHER, that this resolution be circulated to all member municipalities of the TMA, FONOM, MPs Charlie Angus, Anthony Rota and MPP John Vanthof for their endorsement and support.

CARRIED

Hydro Rates

Resolution No.: 16/170

Moved By: Theo Cull

Seconded By: Perry Livingston

Whereas the price of electricity in Ontario has escalated to the level where the essential utility has become almost a luxury for many;

And Whereas this has resulted in hospitals, schools municipalities, businesses, farms and industry being faced with unbudgeted and unanticipated increases in costs for this essential utility and forcing many residential users to actually ration the use of electricity;

And Whereas here in Temiskaming this has further resulted in valuable farmland being covered in solar panels and denied the vital agricultural crops that it would provide because of the excessive prices paid for this "green energy" produced by these panels;

And Whereas much of the Temiskaming District has to pay the highest rate of delivery charge for this needed service because of the low density levels in many areas of the District;

And Whereas we are forced to watch as our primary highways are burdened and prematurely fatigued with heavy transports carrying mine concentrates out of Ontario into Quebec so as to benefit from the much lower hydro rates in that Province;

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Temiskaming Municipal Association implores the Province of Ontario and the Minister of Energy, the Honourable Glenn Thibeault, to reduce the rates of this very essential utility to a level that will once more be affordable and predictable for the aforementioned users;

And Furthermore that this resolution be forwarded to the member municipalities of the TMA, MPP John Vanthof, FONOM, The Speaker and Northern News for support.

CARRIED

8. Information Items

Resolution No. 16/171

Moved By: Theo Cull

Seconded By: Jo-Anne Cartner

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

B. Information Items

1. OMPF 2017
2. Minutes CCL committee meeting
3. THU Minutes October 5th 2015
4. Canton-Bonfield-Township supporting Latchford resolution(Pan Am Games)
5. Northern Policy Annual report 2015-16
6. TMA meeting November 24th 2016.
7. Ombudsman annual report
8. Township of Tarbutt supporting Latchford resolution(Pan am Games)
9. Champlain Township supporting Latchford resolution(Pan am Games)

CARRIED

09. NEW BUSINESS:

1. 1) Ontera Internet service covered under action items.
- 2) Hydro one rates covered under action items.

CARRIED

10. BY-LAWS

CONFIRMING BY-LAW:

Resolution No 16/171

Moved By: Theo Cull

Seconded By: Trudy Lepage

Be it resolved that By-Law No. 2016-27 being a by-law to confirm certain proceedings of Council of the Corporation of the Town of Latchford for Council meeting held December 15th 2016. Be taken as read a first, second, and third time and finally passed by Council of the Corporation of the Town of Latchford.

CARRIED

**** ** **** Clerk Jaime Allen and Chief Financial Officer Lise Remillard were asked to Leave the meeting for in camera session and did not return. **** ** ****

11.

in camera Session

Resolution No.: 16/172

Moved By Mike Brooks

Seconded By: Theo Cull

Be it resolved that the Council for the Town of Latchford enter into a Closed Meeting at 7:55p.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

CARRIED

Arise from closed session

Resolution No.: 16/173

Moved By: Perry Livingston

Seconded By: Theo Cull

Be it resolved that Council now arise from Closed Meeting@8:34pm

**** ****Councillor Cartner was not involved in the conversation or vote for Staff Bonuses, spouse is a staff member**** ****

Christmas Bonus

Resolution No.: 16/173

Moved By: Theo Cull

Seconded By: Perry Livingston

Be It resolved that the Corporation of the Town of Latchford approves that the following Christmas bonuses be approved for Staff and Employees ,Lise Remillard, Jaime Allen, Pat Tressider, and Roger Clark \$150.00 each. Ken Cartner and Tammy Tracey \$50.00 each.

CARRIED

12. ADJOURN

Resolution No. 16/174

Moved By: Theo Cull

Seconded By: Mike Brooks

Be it resolved that Council now adjourn at 8:35 p.m. until the next regular meeting or call from the Mayor.

CARRIED

**Dated at Latchford this 15th day
Of December 2016**



Mayor, George Lefebvre



Clerk, Jaime Allen

Mayor's Report, December 15, 2016

Latchford Control Dam Project

- Construction for the dam is complete for this year and I have been advised they will have all trailers removed by week's end. Landscaping will occur next spring as well they will be mounting the old stop log lifter on its base in the spring. We have been assured that we will be receiving the preliminary plans of the proposed installation for our review over the winter. The dam is completely operational at this point and the illumination of it at night provides quite a spectacular sight from Highway 11.
- While passage of sleds over the deck of the dam this winter has been assured, Roger advises that some protection of the surface to prevent damage from sled carbides and track cleats and to allow snow build-up over the grated areas. He mentioned that this could be accomplished with use of wood sheeting.
- Discussions with Jo'Anne Bates of PSPC on December 09 resulted in finalization of the land acquisition by them from the Town. The necessary documentation was signed and forwarded to them on that date and followed up with the hard copy being mailed out on Monday. The total payment for the land is \$184,830.00 which includes \$3,000 closing fee. The intent is to have the transfer of funds completed by December 21. We have a resolution confirming this on tonight's agenda.
- We still haven't been provided the information from the bathymetric survey of the river bed upstream of the dam. We are slated to have a wrap up conference call next week so the information should be provided at that time. We can also enquire as to the status of the 30 foot flag pole that was planned for the site.
- Discussions with ADM Kevin Radford this week is forming up plans for PSPC personnel participation in the dam's official opening next July 13th as part of our celebrations and early indications are that it may be possible for PSPC Minister Judy Foote to attend.

ONTC Land

Now that we can forget about the dam issues for the winter, we can focus on other issues of importance to Latchford and one of them is the acquisition of the ONTC land in Latchford. We have yet to hear from Corina Moore and John Thib despite their indications to do that. I feel it is an issue that we should be spending some time in resolving so as to assist in obtaining natural gas for Latchford with the ability to develop an industrial park.

Natural Gas services

Again, with time available, we should be dedicating more effort into acquiring natural gas for Latchford. EDO Michelle Anderson has been working on this but it is an endeavour that requires a concerted effort by Council to succeed.

Manhole Repair Costs for Main Street

At Lise suggestion, I emailed Natalie Dugas of MTO regarding this issue and she has responded with the following:

“The Ministry is currently reviewing information and a pending encroachment permit application for the municipal utilities within the highway right-of-way. Once the information has been gathered and confirmed, I will be able to provide you with the Encroachment Permit and all associated information. I apologize for the delay in resolving this issue and thank you for your patience”.

Fuel Wood Permit Area

Further to last month’s report and Jeff Barton’s meeting with Don Farintosh, the fuel wood area on the Roosevelt is identified and apparently permits are available.

CMR project

The CMR was able to file their FIT application prior to the deadline (November 30) and efforts are now underway to lobby Minister Gravelle to assist in the acquisition of this. It is a long and convoluted process so I am uncertain as to when we can anticipate any type of confirmation.

Core Logging Activity

Tri Origin Exploration wrapped up their use of the skating area in the Rec Centre this week and Lise has billed them for the two months of use. This has proven very beneficial to the Town and businesses and individuals within Latchford. The good news is that they are interested in coming back, possibly as early as next spring, and renting the facility again.

GLL