

**CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF LATCHFORD
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
THURSDAY February 20th 2020.
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, Mike Brooks, Scott Green, Perry Livingston, Sharon Gadoury East, Jo-Anne Cartner, Francine Blowe.

Regrets nil

Staff: Jaime Allen, Clerk-Treasurer. Laurel Gadoury, Deputy Tres.-Deputy Clerk.
Mike Beaupre Fire Chief.

Public: nil

Press: Jim Patrick, CJTT. Darlene Wroe Temiskaming Speaker.

1. Mayor Lefebvre called meeting to order.

2. Adoption of the agenda as circulated

Resolution No: 20/022

Moved By: Sharon Gadoury-East

Seconded By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Be it resolved that the January 16th 2020. Agenda be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

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

4. DELEGATIONS / PRESENTATIONS: John McCarthy (EMS)

Reviewed with Council the Tiered Response Agreement. All of Council agreed

With the benefits of this. Fire Chief Beaupre will work with John McCarthy (EMS)

And the agreement will be brought back to Council for approval

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE/MAYOR/CLERK REPORTS:

Councillor Livingston: Reported on Public Works Operation snow removal and Repairing aqua flows as required.

Councillor Brooks: Operation of WTP running smoothly.

Councillor Green: Fire Dept will have a pancake breakfast with Frosty Frolics on March 21st

Councillor Gadoury: Frosty Frolics on Saturday March 21 Easter egg Hunt April 12th

Councillor Blowe: Showed Council the survey of land in the process of being purchased, when the Industrial Park is developed the Town would require one anchor tenant that would help in getting Natural Gas for Latchford.

Councillor Cartner: (see attached)

Mayor Lefebvre: Mayors monthly report (see attached)

6.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ACTION ITEMS

A. Action Items

Accounts Payable and Payroll

Resolution No: 20/024

Moved By: Sharon Gadoury-East

Seconded By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Be it resolved that the Town of Latchford approves attached payroll in the amount of \$32,075.20 for the period January 10th thru February 12th 2020 and accounts payable in the amount of \$62,025.63 including online bills in the amount of \$10,973.59

CARRIED

Highway 11 Maintenance

Resolution No: 20/025

Moved By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Seconded By: Mike Brooks

Whereas the member municipalities of the Temiskaming Municipal Association have been pressing the provincial government to enforce public safety and reduce the horrendous amount of accidents on Highway 11 in this area by increasing winter maintenance on said highway,

And whereas we understand that a Level One highway maintenance program may not be attainable in Northern Ontario we have been advised that by lowering the circuit times for snow plows to 1.6 hours or level one is attainable through the addition of more snow plows,

Therefore be it resolved that the Temiskaming Municipal Association petitions the Ministry of Transportation to enhance the level of service on Highway 11 by lowering the circuit times of the snow plow routes to 1.6 hours or level one.

And further, that this resolution be forwarded to Honourable Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation Ontario and to all member municipalities for their support.

CARRIED

Doubling Gas Tax

Resolution No: 20/026

Moved By: Perry Livingston

Seconded By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Whereas the doubling of the Gas Tax Fund (GTF) for municipalities across Canada In 2019 by the Government of Canada proved especially beneficial to all recipients and specifically to those of us in the District of Temiskaming.

And whereas the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) are actively lobbying the government of Canada to make doubling of GTF permanent because of the significant and needed benefits it provides to all municipalities

And whereas the Town of Latchford is very supportive of this effort by FCM and recognizes the benefits that the increased GTF has meant to all our member municipalities

Therefore be it resolved that the Town of Latchford forwards this resolution of support to the FCM and to our member municipalities for their endorsement and support.

And furthermore hat this resolution be forwarded to MP'S Charlie Angus and Anthony Rota for their information and support in helping to realize the permanency of doubling the GFT to all municipalities.

CARRIED

Contractual Agreement

Resolution No: 20/027

Moved By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Seconded By: Mike Brooks

Be it resolved that the Town of Latchford approves contractual agreement with Public Works and Government Services. (as per attached)

CARRIED

School Tax Seniors

Resolution No: 20/028

Moved By: Perry Livingston

Seconded By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Whereas the Northern Policy Institute Northern Projections of July 2019 shows relevant data for the district Of Timiskaming and

Whereas this data shows the District of Timiskaming population has declined from 40,307 in 1986 to 32,251 with further population decline 28,902 projected for 2014 and

Whereas as the District of Timiskaming shows population aged 65 and over are the only population steady or declining at a slower pace and

Whereas the financial burden for health care services rates as one of the greatest growth area for population over 65 years of age and

Whereas it has been repeatedly stated in numerous reports that it is the most cost effective and healthier to have seniors remain in their private residence and

Whereas municipal property tax is becoming increasingly difficult for the senior population who remain in their private residence to carry.

Whereas it is assumed seniors are the population base least expected to use the education system in Ontario

Now therefore be it resolved that Council for The Town of Latchford petitions the Minister Of Finance for the province on Ontario to investigate education tax credits based on the same criteria used by the province of Manitoba under their Seniors School tax rebate and

Furthermore, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Education Stephen Lecee Minister of seniors and Accessibility, Raymond Cho, Minister of Finance, Rod Philips, Temiskaming Municipal Association, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities and Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

CARRIED

8. Information Items

Resolution No. 20/029

Moved By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Seconded By: Sharon Gadoury-East

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

B. Information Items

1. Solicitor General OPP Roundtable Community Safety
2. FONOM Conference Timmins
3. DTSSAB Community Safety
4. Latchford Annual water treatment report 2019
5. Raw Intake Well chamber inspection
6. Ministry of Infrastructure OCIF funding.
7. Ministry of Agriculture (Drainage Act)
8. TMA Meeting January 30th 2020.
9. Ministry Of Children Community and Social Services (poverty reduction)
10. TeMAG February 8th 2020.
11. Ministry Of Environment changes organization changes
12. Forest Management plan Sudbury 2020-2030
13. Latchford drinking water system management review.
14. MNRF proposed changes under the Aggregate Act

15. TMA Minutes January 30th 2020

CARRIED

10. New Business phone service Town of Latchford

Phone Service

Resolution No: 20/030

Moved By: Francine Blowe

Seconded By: Scott Green

Whereas The Town of Latchford are dependent on land line telephone service as provided by Northern/Bell Telephone

And Whereas a great number of elderly residents depend entirely on their land lines To communicate

And whereas during the recent service interruption to all of Latchford these residents were without service and no information as to the cause of and restoration was provided.

Therefore be it resolved that Northern Telephone must adopt a practice of communication directly to the Municipality the cause and duration of such outages.

CARRIED

11. BYLAWS:

By-Law 2020-006

Confirming By-Law

Resolution No 20/031

Moved By: Mike Brooks

Seconded By: Perry Livingston

Be it resolved that By-Law No. **2020-006 being** a by-law to confirm certain proceedings of Council of the Corporation of the Town of Latchford for its regular meeting held February 20th 2020. Be taken as read a first, second, and third time and finally passed by Council of the Corporation of the Town of Latchford

CARRIED

12. ADJOURN

Resolution No. 20/032

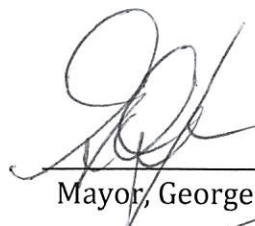
Moved By: Mike Brooks

Seconded By: Perry Livingston

Be it resolved that Council now adjourn at 8:03 pm. Until the next regular meeting or call from the Mayor.

CARRIED

Dated at Latchford this 20th
Of February 2020.



Mayor, George Lefebvre



Clerk-Treasurer, Jaime Allen

February 20th, 2020

Report from Councilor Jo-Anne Cartner

TMA Meeting

George and I attended the TMA meeting on January 30th. You have a copy of the minutes from that meeting in your council package. I'd encourage you to read the report that Michael Matheson wrote on Landfill in Northern Ontario-Recycling vs Waste. It's a long report but has some very interesting reading. He spoke about his ideas on addressing the growing environmental issue the collection of recycled materials is causing and some of his ideas for addressing the issue. He produced a listing of resin codes that he had put together along with their Recycling number and went on to explain what each of them are used for as well as his comments on each.

Jeff Barton gave his thoughts on the draft Forestry Sector Strategy and the four pillars of action this strategy is hoping to address. Members were asked to give their feedback on the draft which is available on the Ontario.ca website via the Environmental Registry before the February 5th deadline. The TMA had already submitted its comments.

Finance

Our final 2019 numbers weren't completed until just recently, so I felt it best to postpone the February 11th meeting to give Laurel and I a chance to sit down and review the budget line for line. Roger, Rico, and Mike will be attending our next budget meeting and should be able to finalize the numbers in their areas of responsibility. We are still waiting for the final DSSAB budget requirements and should receive them shortly. We're keeping our fingers crossed that we will be able to reach a balanced budget and finalize the budget process in time for our April council meeting.

Medical Clinic

Dr. Roedde has Dr. Olokadana covering off for her while she is away during the last two weeks of February and is waiting for confirmation on two other locums for the rest of the period she is scheduled to be away. She received high evaluations, a 5 out of 5 score, from the medical students that she instructed at the clinic during 2019 and has once again received a letter of commendation from the Northern Ontario School of Medicine.

Dr. Roedde has been asked by the government of Canada via our High Commissioner in New Delhi India to go to the Royal Government of Bhutan to help develop a health policy. She has been there several times before to help in the development of 2 five-year health plans, to evaluate the Royal Institute of Health Sciences that trains most of their health workers, and to present a paper on maternal and child health back in 2016. Our doctor is a very busy lady.

Jo-Anne

Mayor's Report, February 20, 2020

Natural Gas

There has been considerable activity on a number of fronts with respect to natural gas over the last month. While I was unsuccessful in arranging a meeting with Vic Fedeli at his office, his staff did reach out to Minister Bill Walker's office and I did receive a call from Andrew Evans in Bill Walker's office. That call came in after I had received one earlier that day (January 22) from Wendy Landry so I could balance what he was telling me with what Wendy had stated earlier. Both assured me that Latchford is on the list of municipalities under consideration for natural gas services in this round of funding.

Both messages were basically the same and Dan Whelan, the President of FONOM has been doing a little digging for me as well, as his counterpart in the Northwest Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) is Wendy Landry. I have been led to believe that we are the only applicant in this round of funding from the Northeast which I believe bodes well for us.

Following this communication, I was able to speak directly with an Enbridge Gas employee that Perry and I met with on a number of occasions in 2016 & 17. He shared some very solid suggestions with me and I have attached the notes from his phone call to my report to you but don't feel comfortable sharing them publicly. One of his suggestions I shared with John Vanthof who sat with Francine, Scott and I at the Broadband session in New Liskeard. The suggestion was to make a "You Tube video" outlining Latchford's need for natural gas and our historical rationale. John will assist us in achieving this. With regard to a "You Tube" video, I believe I can, with Council's blessing, put together a script that fairly well supports and explains our need for natural gas and the history behind why it isn't here now.

Forest Strategy Engagement Session

I attended the North Bay on January 21 for a morning Forest Strategy Engagement Session hosted by the MNRF. The greatest benefit that I derived from this meeting is a better understanding of how groups such as the Suzuki Foundation extend a great effort into delaying or stopping any improvements to forest management planning that they can. On that same note, the Advisory Council for the proposed Local Forest Management Corporation, on which I participate, is making a concerted effort to get LFMC formalized by the MNRF as soon as possible.

Water Management Plan for the Montreal River

On February 07, I received a call from Mike Clark, Kate Cantin and Tyler Venne of OPG. They advised me that, finally, the Water Management Plan (WMP) for the Montreal River would be implemented before the end of this year. We have been strongly lobbying for this since 2010 and it will finally be a reality. The WMP was completed before 2005 but has never been implemented. In my humble opinion it is critical to have this level of communication established between all the dam operators, the municipalities that border the river and other users.

They were asking my opinion on the make-up of the Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) which will be formed along with the implementation of the WMP. It would appear that the SAC will be comprised of representatives of the four municipalities (Matachewan, Elk Lake, Latchford and Coleman), the three First Nations (Matachewan, Temiskaming and Temagami) as well as three from users groups such as tourist operators and trappers. They told me that they were making a presentation to Matachewan Council and are going to attempt to get to all of us.

Committees of Council

As we had discussed new committees at the last meeting, I thought it relevant to circulate this resolution that we had passed in October of 2012. I believe the intent was, and still is, that even if you didn't have a committee meeting during the prior month, you still have reason to report.

"Committee Chair Reports to Council:

- Report on committee meeting(s)/activities in past month
- Provide overview of expenses/revenues in that period
- Outline budget status of committee (over/under) with explanation
- Indicate any upcoming committee meetings or activities"

GLL

February 07 phone call with: Mike Clark, Kate Cantin and Tyler Venne, OPG., Timmins.

2:00 pm

- They called to advise that the Montreal River Water Management Plan (WMP) would be implemented before the end of 2020.
- The WMP established operating parameters for the entire river in areas upstream of any control or power generating dam on the Montreal River.
- These parameters are seasonally adjusted and recorded for review by the operators and interested parties representatives.
- Implementation of the WMP will result in the creation of a Standing Advisory Committee (SAC).
- The SAC is comprised of appointed members from communities, first nations and other users affected by water levels on the Montreal River.
- They are presently conducting a plan review (the plan was created in the early 2000's).
- They are reviewing and (I presume) refreshing the terms of reference that were established at that same time.
- They asked for my opinion on the make-up of representatives on the Standing Advisory Committee (SAC).
- We concluded that municipal representatives from Matachewan, Elk Lake, Latchford and Coleman Township, together with First Nation representatives from Matachewan, Temiskaming and Temagami and three at large representatives from other users groups along the Montreal such as tourism and trapping should be suffice and be a workable number.
- Latchford will be kept apprised as OPG moves forward with this and at some point we will have meetings and probably a presentation to Council by the OPG.
- Point of interest – I have been actively lobbying for the implementation of the WMP for 10 years hence I believe that to be the reason they called me for input.

Phone Call with Glen Huard, February 06/20

Glen answered my email of February 03. Asked for my phone number as he preferred to converse rather than write.

- He went through how they don't really know where Latchford sits in this round. (I did tell him that we have been advised we are the only one in the northeast and the closest to us is in the Parry Sound area.)
- He recommended getting direction as to what others have done that resulted in their being successful.
- Determine how to best move our project forward.
- He encouraged using social media as that appears to be the preferred choice to getting attention currently. To that end he forwarded me a U tube video that Red Lake had done relative to their successful acquisition of natural gas.
- He stated he feels that it is beneficial to bombard both Ministers Fedeli and Walker, meeting with them is even better if that can be arranged.
- We discussed how Latchford were forced to transition from very low hydro rates when we had our own utility to what we have to deal with now and how the vast majority of the municipality was fitted with electric heat and can no longer afford to turn it on so resort to wood heat as an option.
- I spoke of the fact that many of the older homes had added wood heat as their primary source and Glen stated to promote the carbon aspect of wood heat.
- I referenced that most of the municipal buildings are electrically heated.
- He suggested promoting using the opportunity to "right the wrong" that was caused to Latchford by deregulating Ontario Hydro which forced us to sell our utility.
- He enquired as to the status of the land we were acquiring for a future industrial park and I informed him that we had just finally received the surveyed plan.

I then briefed **John Vanthof** who sat with Francine, Scott and I at the wireless broadband conference in New Liskeard. He was in agreement with doing a U Tube promo and offered the services of someone who does this type of work for him. I let John know that we had been told that we are the only applicant from the northeast in this round which he thinks is very positive.