

**CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF LATCHFORD
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
THURSDAY AUGUST 15TH 2013
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 Scott Green, and Dave Willcock. Maxine Cannon Larry Anderson and Jo-Anne Cartner.

Regrets: Councilor Cull

Staff: Jaime Allen, Clerk

Public: Nil

Press: Jim Patrick CJTT.

1. Mayor Lefebvre called meeting to order.

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

Resolution No.: 13/1213

Moved By: Scott Green

Seconded By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Be it resolved that the August 15th 2013. Agenda is adopted as circulated and amended.

CARRIED

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

4. **Adoption of the Minutes**

Resolution No.: 13/1214

Moved By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Seconded By: Dave Willcock

Be it resolved that the minutes of the in camera Regular and in-camera Council meeting of July 18th 2013 be adopted as circulated and amended.

CARRIED

5. **DELEGATIONS / PRESENTATIONS: NIL**

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

Councillor Anderson: see attached

Councillor Green: see attached

Councillor Willcock: see attached

Councillor Cartner: see attached

Mayor Lefebvre: Mayors monthly report (see attached)

7. CORRESPONDENCE AND ACTION ITEMS

A. Action Items

1. Pay Decrease for Mayor and Council

Resolution No.: 13/1215

Moved By: Scott Green

Seconded By: Larry Anderson

Be it resolved that the: Corporation of the Town Of Latchford approves a 10% (percent) Pay decrease for Mayor and Council effective September 1st 2013.

COUNCILORS FOR

Larry Anderson
Scott Green

COUNCILLORS AGAINST

Jo-Anne Cartner
Maxine Cannon
Dave Willcock

DEFEATED

Resolution No. 13/1216

Moved By: Larry Anderson

Seconded By: Scott Green

Be it resolved that the following payroll in the amount of \$71,572.54 and general bills in the amount of \$191,071.22 for the period Apr 22/13 to July 25th /13 be passed on behalf of the Corporation of the Town of Latchford.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 13/1217

Moved By: Maxine Cannon

Seconded By: Scott Green

Be it resolved that the Corporation of the Town of Latchford approves payment of \$200.00(Two Hundred Dollars) to go towards purchasing prizes for the upcoming ATV event to be held Sept 21st 2013.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 13/1218

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. Timiskaming Health Unit.
2. Public Works and Government Serv. Canada
3. City of Temiskaming Shores Air Service
4. Environment and land tribunals notice of pre-hearing

CARRIED

08. ONGOING BUSINESS:

Council reviewed new proposal from OCWA for operating Latchford Water Treatment Plant.

09. NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution No. 13/1219

Moved By: Maxine Cannon

Seconded By: Jo-Anne Cartner

Be it resolved that the Corporation of the Town Of Latchford donate a one year Fitness Centre Membership to the Literacy Council of South Temiskaming for their silent Auction Spelling Bee event being held September 26th 2013.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 13/1220

Moved By: Larry Anderson

Seconded By: Scott Green

Be it resolved that the Corporation of the Town Of Latchford declares the 1986 grader surplus and it will be put for sale ASAP for its appraised value and a wing will be purchased for the town dump truck as a replacement.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 13/1221

Moved By: Scott Green

Seconded By: Larry Anderson

Be it resolved that the Corporation of the Town Of Latchford will no longer be using our accounting system as of Dec. 31st 2013 and there will be purchasing a accounting system and both the Clerk and CFO will be trained, and that it is compatible with MPAC assessment roll and provides the ability to incorporate water and sewage bills as well, it also must have the capacity to transfer the info from the current system.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 13/1222

Moved By: Dave Willcock

Seconded By: Scott Green

Be it resolved that the Corporation of the Town Of Latchford contact Hydro One to inquire how the automatic payment is managed if the funds are not available on the due date, with the intent to setup the Towns hydro bill to direct payment if Council feels it will be appropriate.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 13/1223

Moved By: Larry Anderson

Seconded By: Scott Green

Be it resolved that the Corporation of the Town Of Latchford regrets to inform that the Public Works will be reducing the staff to one employee from the present two as of August 30th 2013.

CARRIED

10. **BY-LAWS**

Resolution No 13/1224

Moved By: Dave Willcock

Seconded By: Larry Anderson

Be it resolved that By-Law No. **13/1343** being a by-law to confirm certain proceedings of Council of the Corporation of the Town of Latchford for Council meeting held August 15th 2013 Be taken as read a first, second, and third time and finally passed by Council of the Corporation of the Town of Latchford.

CARRIED

Resolution No 13/1225

Moved By: Dave Willcock

Seconded By: Larry Anderson

Be it resolved that By-Law No. **13/1344** being a bylaw to authorize the sale of lands to Blair Whyte and Marie Pierre Falardeau (part 1 Pt pin 61381-0378 being part of pcl 2628 sec nnd McLeod, plan M57nb designated as part 1 on plan 54r-5635 Coleman, Town Of Latchford district of Temiskaming) for the price of **\$55,100.00 plus hst.** 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. 13/1226

Moved By: Maxine Cannon

Seconded By: Larry Anderson

Be it resolved that Council now adjourn at 8:04pm until the next regular meeting or call from the Mayor.

CARRIED

Dated at Latchford this 15th day
Of August 2013.



Mayor



Clerk

COPY
FOR
MINUTES

AUG 15 2013

Mayor's Report, Aug 15, 2013

Latchford Control Dam Project

My follow up note to Angela Russell, Real Estate Advisor for PWGSC that I referenced last month resulted in the letter that is included in our meeting package. While there are some aspects of our land transfer requests that are not referenced, such as the land this building sits having all title released to the town, these will continue to be pursued. The successful sale of the western extension of McLeod Avenue supports the value of the acquisition of the land behind our water treatment plant and its potential value to the municipality.

Jeff Barton continues to work towards co-ordinating a meeting between the First Nations, Coleman and Latchford to discuss the separate meetings that PWGSC hosts separately with the FN's and the municipalities. He is also dialoguing with the Water Power Group so as to meet with them so as to express our concern, and opposition to, in having the proposed turbine installation occur along the north end of the new dam.

We anticipate the next key stakeholders meeting at which we will get yet another review of the proposed design will be in September.

Highway 11 issues in Latchford

MTO has agreed to attend a site meeting here in Latchford next week with Rick Wink and Dennis Matte from their New Liskeard office in attendance next Tuesday @ 3:30 p.m. It was refreshing to see that they have finally attempted to clean up some of the rock that has fallen down the face of the Two Mile Hill, dangerously close to the paved portion of the highway. Regrettably, it looks like they have just freed up more loose rock behind to fall down.

OPG Survey Request

On July 24th, I participated in a requested survey conducted by Earncliffe Strategy Group regarding municipal perception of the operation of OPG and how it contributes to municipalities. It provided me with an opportunity to express my displeasure at the information they provided during the recent flooding on the Montreal River and how to format it so it benefited those who needed the info. I suggested that they should try to deal directly with municipal concerns regarding issues such as that with the Botha Creek Bridge rather than try to appease the MNR. I further expressed my concern that OPG has embarked on a mission to deny access to both historical and recreation sites adjacent to both operational Generation Stations and abandoned sites such as the Upper Notch and Fountain Falls, both being in the Town of Latchford.

Municipal Infrastructure Funding Consultation

On July 26th, I attended this consultation in North Bay which was intended to assist to develop the criteria for the disbursement of infrastructure funding beginning this fall. What I had hoped to obtain was information on how to deal with the debt we have for infrastructure we already have. While this was not forthcoming, our table which included Mayor Tina Sartaretto, Councillor Cathy Marcella and four reps from the City of Sudbury were privileged to have Glen Murray, Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation join us for lunch.

I seized the opportunity to explain Latchford's concerns regarding the minimal amount of PIL in lieu we receive for the OPG's Hound Chute facility. The result was that he suggested I write a letter to him and Minister of Energy, Bob Chiarelli, regarding this issue. I then met with our legal counsel, Kathryn Pirie and we prepared a letter which has been forwarded to both Ministers as well Minister Jeff Leal of Rural Affairs.

You will also note in your package that Kathryn will be participating in a pre-hearing telephone conference call with the Assessment Review Board regarding our appeal of the Hound Chute assessment.

Lieutenant Governor David Onley Visit

On August 09, I attended a luncheon in Cobalt and a reception in New Liskeard for the Honourable David Onley, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario. The last visit to Temiskaming by Lieutenant Governor was by the Honourable Pauline McGibbon in 1977 when we hosted her here in Latchford, enroute to other communities.

GLL

AUG 15 2013

Report from Councillor Dave Willcock

August 15, 2013

This months report is based on my review of the last draft budget, along with the addition of my comments and thoughts on some of the factors that are of most concern to me.

We have not been without success on this term of council. There have been some big savings in important areas, and good communication among council members and staff.

Electrical power consumption in town buildings has dropped considerably over the past two years, and I'll take at least a bit of credit for this one, even though I know most of you are weary of hearing me say the words "hydro" and "power".

Something made a difference.

We began to use less power, maybe just in an effort to silence me.

We have identified and sold some surplus property, and at least a portion will be included in this budget. I think it's worth noting, that the lot at the end of McLeod was first identified by one of our residents. I wonder what other items may be brought to our attention by our residents. Perhaps a call for moneymaking ideas published in the Moose Call would bring some good thoughts forward for our consideration.

While flying over Rib Lake on Wednesday evening, I was pondering whether there may actually be cottages that were built prior to the requirement of a building permit, and that are not on our tax roll? If this is a possibility, I offer my services with the aircraft, completely at my own expense, if someone able to provide a map and mark off properties, will come along on the flight(s).

George has identified surplus property on Murphy Mill Road which can be sold as lots, and I think we should move right away on this, as "big ticket items" are what we need most.

We have picked away at the small items of the budget to the point that any further changes would have a negligible affect on the bottom line. At the budget meeting this past Monday, we identified and have a consensus to make some bigger changes, some that will not be popular, but nonetheless necessary to bring our finances toward the black.

Focusing on our biggest expense areas, we can identify them as follows:

- General Administration
- Public Works
- Fire Protection
- Policing Costs
- Community Centre (due to the long term debt we carry on it and the poor return on investment)

Of these, there is little we can do with some, which leaves others that I feel we should attack more aggressively.

Policing costs are out of our control, at least for the time being.

Public Works has already been worked on significantly, and more changes are already planned. General administration has been worked on, and I think further cuts have to be considered carefully, with more of an emphasis on cross training staff to make it more efficient as opposed to making cuts. Additionally, having staff research possible plans to save money, or possibilities of grants etc. could be helpful. For example, could our staff find out what is required to have an energy audit done on our water treatment plant? Staff, are the ones working the 40 hour week. It is not realistic to have such things researched by council members who are trying to make a difference in our town, with little remuneration, while making a living like everyone else.

This leaves fire protection and the community centre as big items to look at, and I have a few issues with both of these that I need to vent.

Fire Protection:

The fire department has routinely made purchases over the years, with little regard for the budget. Its budget has increased over the years as follows, and yet has still been known to exceed the budget by years end(s)

	Budget	Actual
2007	\$22362.00	\$29221.46
2008	\$31970.00	\$31198.28
2009	\$24426.00	\$39108.47
2010	\$27192.00	\$36758.10
2011	\$59895.00	\$40396.98
2012	\$35467.00	\$34227.00

From 2007 to 2012 inclusive, the difference between budget amounts for the fire department, and the actual spending was \$38369.00. I'll bet if we asked our CFO whether she could use an extra \$38,000 right now you would see a great deal of relief on her face.

We also have a second body within our town, The Latchford Volunteer Firefighters Fundraising Association. Our fire chief stated in a letter to me that the association is, I quote: "a totally separate and private group of dedicated people who raise money for the Latchford Volunteer Fire Department".

That does not seem to happen. In fact, we have been presented with, and paid bills to this association as recently as last fall.

When I asked such simple questions as:

- What date was the Association formed?
- What was the purpose of starting the Association?
- Who are the directors of the the Association ?
- Who is the treasurer of the Association ?

I was refused the information, and received a personal attack for my trouble.

The association apparently decides for itself what to purchase.

The association helps itself to free use of our community centre to operate fundraising events, etc, leaving the taxpayers paying for the additional utility costs, and the janitorial services.

This association managed to save enough money to make an offer to the ONTC for a 50 acre piece of property, which the town was already pursuing for the good of expanding our tax base. I doubt that there is a major city in our province that requires 50 acres for its fire department, much less our town of about 400 people.

If the town acquired and developed this property, near the railway and the highway, it could bring our boundaries closer to the natural gas pipeline making it possible to service the entire town for the good of all residents that could be connected.

I appreciate any organization raising money for the good of the town, but I do not believe that is the case of those who are leading this one.

- If this association truly had the best interests of the town at heart, it would send a representative to our meetings once or twice a year to make a delegation. It would explain its purpose, identify its current projects, and to communicate about what was needed for the good of the fire department.
- It would report its progress on these projects to our council.
- If it were working for the good of the fire department, its membership would vote on the projects and review details of the association's finances.
- It would not purchase assets that generate future expenses for our town without first getting an approval of our council.
- If it had the town's best interests in mind, it would be transparent about who its directors and treasurer are, and would share information about its financial position proudly.
- If the association had the best interest of the town in mind, it would vote for who its directors would be.

Local residents have contributed to this association over the years, and they are led to believe that they are helping the Fire Department and ultimately the town, which is only partially true. Contributing cans, bottles, scrap metal or money does not make a difference to anyone's tax bill. There is no revenue line in our budget showing income from this association's fundraising activities. Apparently, many of the funds that are raised, go to a bank that we do not know, and is saved or spent by an unknown treasurer, based on decisions of directors, which are also unknown to us.

How else could this association be in a financial position to bid against the town for such a large parcel of real estate?

I have great respect for the volunteer firefighters of our community, and I am grateful for the members of the association, who believe they are working for a good cause, but I am not convinced that those who are leading the "The Latchford Volunteer Firefighters Fundraising Association" are working in the best interests of the fire department and the town itself. I would like to know how the association chose its leadership.

Community Centre:

This building will not be paid for for a great number of years yet, and it does not earn enough in revenues to even cover its operating expenses, let alone pay for the servicing of the long term debt associated with it.

I feel that the practice of it being used free of charge for events that do not directly benefit the town or its residents should stop.

I believe that any function that is receiving free use of this facility should really be sanctioned by council in advance. It could be as simple as an e-mail poll of council members. It is a "community centre", so if someone has a community oriented event, we of course, should allow it when appropriate and feasible. Groups that are only increasing their bank accounts, or using the facility to "entertain themselves" should be paying a fee that covers all of our expenses and puts something back into our account to offset the long term debt of the facility.

I know of organizations that have for example, used the Legion building for events, and have had the good sense to offer assistance financially or otherwise, without being asked.

We are not in a financial position to be generous.

End of report

Dave Willcock

Filename Council Report 13-08

PUBLIC WORKS AUGUST 15TH, 2013.

AUG 15 2013

- Public works discussions over the last month have been primarily related to budget issues. There will be several resolutions tonight that will reveal what has been deemed necessary by council to cut public works costs for the taxpayers of Latchford.

- Public works has obtained quotes and appraisals in the last while to assist council in deciding on these actions.

- Rather than repeat myself it would be quicker to speak to the resolutions as they arise during the meeting.

Thanks Larry.

Town of Latchford Finance Report

AUG 15 2013

Next budget Meeting August 29th to pass 2013 budget

We had a budget meeting on August 12th at the town office, councilors Anderson, Cannon, Willcock, Cartner and Mayor Lefebvre all attended and we went over the budget thoroughly and have decided that a few things must take place now and between the end of the month and year end, The Grader is to be put up for sale by months end. The fire department budget had yet to be adjusted, (unless something happened since Monday) but we need to have numbers for the 29th , like I said I need 15% off the bottom line, so far they are budgeted to spend more money this year than last, everyone else has taken a pay cut or cut they're respected budget by 15%, every part must respect this. The accounting system is to be changed before Jan 1st to Quick books and Both Jamie and Lise must learn it encase of absence for any reason, if we have tax payers there ready to pay a bill, we should never have to send them away and tell them to come back later, we are to be there for them in the first place.

We are getting to point where there is very little to cut, we were lucky to have the property sales we've had this year, between our accumulated deficit and our yearly payments to the unpaid school board taxes we are paying \$150,000, once the School Board is paid off, we will be is much better standing, but this and all future councils should remember the mess we've been cleaning up the last 3 years and how hard it is to get back in the black, simply by over spending and not paying the bills... Once again our budget will be passed on August 29th at the town office at 6:30 pm. Thank you all in advance!

Scott Green

August 15th, 2013

Report from Councilor Jo-Anne Cartner

. George, Maxine and I attended the Temagami-Cobalt Corridor meeting on August 7th. The ATV Rally is now a go. There is now a new committee and the ride is scheduled for September 21st beginning at 8 a.m. and running until 8 p.m. Tickets will be \$40 per bike with an additional \$15 for anyone wishing to attend as a passenger. The event will begin with a pancake breakfast put on by the Coleman Fire Department. There will be a lunch and a catered dinner. The dinner is included in the cost of your ticket. Prizes for \$500, \$200 and \$100 in the form of gift certificates to local businesses will be drawn. There will also be a \$100 early bird prize sponsored by SMC Canada. Maps of the trails throughout the corridor as well as a guide for the planned ride are being created and advertising for the event has begun.

The Website (www.naturalopportunities.ca) is now live. The minutes from our monthly meetings, each municipality's profile and pictures of the area along with any upcoming events being held by each individual community can be viewed on the site for anyone who is interested in the group's activities.

. The Jack Hunt Tournament was held over this past weekend. Even though there were only six teams playing this year, it was still a great success. This year the dance which is held during the tournament weekend was put on by the Fireman's Fundraising Association with the help of some town volunteers. The dance was a huge success with 90 to 100 people in attendance and from what I've heard, everyone enjoyed themselves. I know I did. The D.J. has already been booked for next year's event and the Firemen have promised to put it on once again.

. The camp site was full over the weekend with tournament participants. We've also had quite a few campsites booked for the season along with various weekly bookings over the past month. The camp ground has done well this year and has surpassed our projected revenue.

. The gym has only eight members this month which has been the case over the last few years during the summer months. Numbers will improve once the summer is over.

Thank you.