

# THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAR FALLS

**MINUTES** of the Regular Meeting of Ear Falls Council #1  
Ear Falls Municipal Council Chambers  
January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 @ 7:00 p.m.

## **1 CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Kevin Kahoot called the Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

## **2 ROLL CALL**

Mayor Kevin Kahoot, Councillor David Carroll, Councillor Rob Eady, Councillor Wendy Pearson, Councillor Daniel Sutton, Clerk Treasurer Administrator Kimberly Ballance, and two (2) members of the public (electronically).

## **3 DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**

None Declared.

## **4 DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

### **4.1 John Polkinghorne and Norman Roy**

- Would like the Township to take credit cards over the phone due to bank closed, many seniors cannot do online banking or bill paying.

John Polkinghorne identified that Norman Roy was unable to attend the Meeting tonight but will be emailing his comments to the Township. Mr. Polkinghorne requested that the Township reinstate credit card payments by phone for people who are not computer savvy, such as seniors, and now without a bank it would be increasingly useful. This payment method also reduces contact between members of the public and staff at the Township which is a positive thing during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Council thanked Mr. Polkinghorne for his comments and advised they would discuss and get back to him with a written response.

Mr. Polkinghorne left the Meeting at this point.

Council discussed the request, and determined that the Township would not return to taking credit card payments over the phone at this time due to the significant cost savings to taxpayers through the removal of the service charges associated with this payment method, and new payment options that have been provided in lieu of it.

**PART I – CONSENT AGENDA**

(For the purpose of convenience and for expediting Meetings, matters of business of repetitive or routine nature are included in the Consent Agenda, and all such matters of business contained in the Consent Agenda are voted on collectively.

A particular matter of business may be singled out from the Consent Agenda for debate or for a separate vote upon the request of any Member of Council. In the case of a separate vote, the excluded matter of business is severed from the Consent Agenda, and only the remaining matters of business contained in the Consent Agenda are voted on collectively.

Each and every matter of business contained in the Consent Agenda is recorded separately in the Minutes of the Meeting.)

Council requested clarification in Item Nos. 6.1, 7.8, and 7.12.

RESOLUTION NO. 001

Moved by Rob Eady. Seconded by Wendy Pearson.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls hereby adopts the Items in Sections 5 – 7 of Part 1 – Consent Agenda.

Carried.

**5 MINUTES**

5.1 The review and passing of the Minutes of the previous Meeting.

5.1.1 December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – Regular Meeting of Council Minutes.

RESOLUTION NO. 002

Moved by David Carroll. Seconded by Wendy Pearson.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls accepts the Minutes of the previous Meeting of Council numbered 5.1.1 at the January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried.

C.O.

5.2 Minutes of Committees.

None.

C.O.

5.3 Minutes from other Agencies / Organizations.

5.3.1 October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – Kenora District Services Board Regular Meeting of the Board Meeting Minutes.

5.3.2 November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – Kenora District Services Board Special

Meeting of the Board Meeting Minutes.

5.3.3 November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – District of Kenora Home for the Aged  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Management Minutes.

RESOLUTION NO. 003

Moved by Daniel Sutton. Seconded by David Carroll.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls receives and files the Minutes from other Agencies / Organizations numbered 5.3.1 to 5.3.2 at the January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried.

## **6 TENDERS / PROPOSALS / QUOTES**

\*F18-BA

6.1 Request for Proposals – Banking Services, Ear Falls, Ontario.

Council discussed the proposal review process and requested clarification on the variance in the services presented by the proponents.

RESOLUTION NO. 004

Moved by Daniel Sutton. Seconded by David Carroll.

WHEREAS the Township of Ear Falls received six proposals which were reviewed and ranked by Administration based on the Township of Ear Falls' Request for Proposal;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Ear Falls hereby accepts the proposal from CIBC for the provision of banking services in accordance with their proposal, received on December 8, 2021; and

FURTHER THAT the Clerk Treasurer Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to take all steps necessary to transition the Townships' banking services to CIBC.

Carried.

## **7 MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS**

7.1 Correspondence.

D05-TI

7.1.1 Letter dated November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021 from the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry

re: Approval of the Forest Management Plan Inspection of the  
Kenora Forest 2022 - 2032 Forest Management Plan.

D05-TI

7.1.2 Letter dated November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 from the Ministry of  
Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry  
re: the proposed long-term 2022 - 2024 Forest Management  
Plan Extension for the Whiskey Jack 2012 - 2022 Forest  
Management Plan.

S08-NO

7.1.3 Letter dated December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 from the Northwestern Health  
Unit re: Provision of the 2020 Public Health Report Card.

P03-CO

7.1.4 News Release dated December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 from Ontario News  
re: Taking action to protect against the Omicron Variant.

P03-CO

7.1.5 News Release dated December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 from Ontario News  
re: All individuals eighteen (18) and over are eligible for the  
COVID-19 Booster.

P03-CO

7.1.6 News Release dated December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021 from Ontario News  
re: Ontario is taking additional measures to slow the Omicron  
variant by accelerating the booster dose rollout.

P03-CO

7.1.7 News Release dated January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 from Ontario News re:  
Ontario is temporarily moving to a modified Step Two of the  
Roadmap to Reopen.

RESOLUTION NO. 005

Moved by Rob Eady. Seconded by Wendy Pearson.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township  
of Ear Falls receives and files the documents numbered 7.1.1 to 7.1.7  
at the January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried.

C.O.

7.2. Reports from Departments / Boards / Committees.

7.2.1 Monthly Report from Economic Development Officer Michelle  
Hiscox – December.

RESOLUTION NO. 006

Moved by David Carroll. Seconded by Rob Eady.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls receives and files the Report from Departments numbered 7.2.1 at the January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried.

- 7.3 Statement of Revenue and Expenditures – year to date (dated January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022) for 2021.

Council reviewed the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures – year to date (dated January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022) for 2021 in accordance with By-Law No. 2283-20.

S08-NO

- 7.4 Letter dated December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 from the Northwestern Health Unit re: the Northwestern Health Unit Levy – 2022.

RESOLUTION NO. 007

Moved by Wendy Pearson. Seconded by Daniel Sutton.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls receives and files the letter dated December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 from the Northwestern Health Unit re: the Northwestern Health Unit Levy – 2022.

Carried.

F00-SC

- 7.5 Amendment to the Schedule of Fees.

RESOLUTION NO. 008

Moved by Daniel Sutton. Seconded by David Carroll.

RESOLVED THAT Council approves the amendment to Schedule “F-02” Fire Department Fee Schedule of the 2022 Schedule of Fees in accordance with the attached, effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

Carried.

F11-NO

- 7.6 Submission of an application to the Northern Ontario Resource Development Support (NORDS) Fund re: the Ear Falls Safe Play Space.

RESOLUTION NO. 009

Moved by Wendy Pearson. Seconded by Rob Eady.

RESOLVED THAT Clerk Treasurer Administrator Kimberly Ballance is hereby authorized and directed to submit an Application for funding to the Northern Ontario Resource Development Support (NORDS) Fund for the Ear Falls Safe Play Space.

Carried.

\*F11-SU

7.7 Submit an Application to Canada Summer Jobs for funding to hire summer students.

RESOLUTION NO. 010

Moved by Rob Eady. Seconded by Daniel Sutton.

WHEREAS Canada Summer Jobs is a Government of Canada initiative that provides funding for not-for-profit organizations, public sector employers and small businesses with fifty (50) or fewer full-time employees to create summer jobs for young people between the ages of fifteen (15) and thirty (30);

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Clerk Treasurer Administrator be authorized and directed to submit an Application to the Canada Summer Jobs for 2022 for the following positions:

- Parks Maintenance Attendant (3)
- Golf Course Maintenance Attendant (2)
- Municipal Office / Fire Department Assistant (1)

Carried.

F11-NO

7.8 Provision of additional verification to the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) re: Recreation Centre Ice Plant Restoration Project.

Council requested clarification on the requirement for this Resolution.

RESOLUTION NO. 011

Moved by David Carroll. Seconded by Wendy Pearson.

WHEREAS the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) has requested additional verification in the form of a Resolution to ensure that Council is aware of, and has committed to, the financial contribution which has been previously reviewed and approved for submission by Council for the Recreation Centre Ice Plant Restoration project in Resolution Nos. 260-21 and 274-21;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Ear Falls:

- Re-affirms its review and approval of the submission of an application to the NOHFC and Information Request List for the Recreation Centre Ice Plant Restoration project; and
- Re-affirms its commitment of \$20,000 for the Recreation Centre Ice Plant Restoration project; and
- Re-affirms its understanding of the \$180,000 request for support to the NOHFC for the Recreation Centre Ice Plant Restoration project; and
- Re-affirms its understanding that the total budget cost is \$200,000 and that all cost overruns will be the responsibility of the Township of Ear Falls.

Carried.

S.D.

- 7.9 Report to Council dated January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from Clerk Treasurer Administrator Kimberly Ballance re: Registration of Properties for Tax Arrears.

RESOLUTION NO. 012

Moved by Daniel Sutton. Seconded by David Carroll.

WHEREAS there are thirteen (13) properties that should be registered for tax arrears in accordance with Section 373 (1) of the Municipal Act;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Clerk Treasurer Administrator Kimberly Ballance, is authorized and directed to register thirteen (13) properties for arrears of taxes; and

FURTHER THAT the fee for this service be borne by the property owner.

Carried.

M01-NO

- 7.10 Closure of Municipal Office for Christmas Holidays – 2022.

RESOLUTION NO. 013

Moved by Rob Eady. Seconded by Wendy Pearson.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls approves the closure of the Municipal Office from December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. to January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 and that the staff will return to work on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023.

Carried.

P03-CO

- 7.11 Waiving of the Rental Fee for Cross-Country Skis for Ear Falls residents in 2022.

RESOLUTION NO. 014

Moved by Daniel Sutton. Seconded by Rob Eady.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Ear Falls hereby waives the costs associated with Ear Falls residents renting cross-country skis in 2022 as a means of promoting outdoor recreation during the COVID-19 Pandemic; and

FURTHER THAT this expense will be funded through the COVID funds received from the Government of Ontario.

Carried.

A01-MU

- 7.12 Report to Council dated January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from Clerk Treasurer Administrator re: AMO Joint and Several Liability – Provincial Call to Action.

Council requested clarification on this item.

RESOLUTION NO. 015

Moved by David Carroll. Seconded by Wendy Pearson.

WHEREAS Council has reviewed the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's (AMO) Report Titled Towards a Reasonable Balance – Addressing Growing Municipal Liability and Insurance Costs dated October 2019; and

WHEREAS the seven (7) recommendations in the Report remain valid and important to the review of Municipal Joint and Several Liability;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Ear Falls hereby urges the Government of Ontario to complete its review of the matter of Municipal Joint and Several Liability and recognize the need to prioritize action on this issue in line with the seven (7) recommendations made in AMO's Report Titled Towards a Reasonable Balance – Addressing Growing Municipal Liability and Insurance Costs dated October 2019; and

FURTHER THAT this Resolution be sent to:

- the Attorney General, the Honourable Doug Downey;
- the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Steve Clark; and



- the AMO President, Jamie McGarvey.

Carried.

## **8 BY-LAWS**

8.1 By-Law No. 2396-22, a By-Law to Affirm Minor Decisions by Council.

S.D.

8.2 By-Law No. 2397-22, a By-Law to Authorize the Borrowing of \$750,000.00 Pursuant to the *Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, Section 407 (1)*, as Amended.

S.D.

8.3 By-Law No. 2398-22, a By-Law to Provide an Interim Tax Levy and for Monthly Interest for Non-Payment by the Due Date.

S.D.

8.4 By-Law No. 2399-22, a By-Law to Enter into an Employment Agreement with Shauna Thain for the Position of Deputy Treasurer (14 Month Contract).

S.D.

8.5 By-Law No. 2400-22, a By-Law to Authorize the Execution of a Contribution Agreement with the Federal Economic Development Agency for Northern Ontario, as Represented by the Minister of Indigenous Services and Minister Responsible for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Northern Ontario.

RESOLUTION NO. 016

Moved by Daniel Sutton. Seconded by Wendy Pearson.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls hereby consider By-Law No. 2396-22, 2397-22, 2398-22, 2399-22, and 2400-22 as passed.

Carried.

## **PART II – OTHER ITEMS**

### **9 ITEMS FOR DIRECTION**

A04-KE

9.1 Resolutions for 2022 KDMA.

Council discussed concerns with the Northwestern Health Unit (NWHU) reporting of COVID-19 cases, but will be addressing that at the Kenora District Municipal Association (KDMA) Conference

during the update provided by the NWHU, not through a Resolution.

## **10 REPORTS OF MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

### **10.1 Councillor Wendy Pearson**

- Community & Economic Development Committee (CEDC) Meeting, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022
  - Working on planning a number of upcoming events, but everything is on hold pending provincial and public health restrictions.
- Apologized for absences at recent Council Meetings and will be working to ensure there are adequate provisions in place at her new business to ensure her attendance at Council Meetings.

### **10.2 Mayor Kevin Kahoot**

- Community & Economic Development Committee (CEDC) Meeting, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022
  - Concurred with Councillor Pearson's Report about the Meeting. Currently the Committee will be in a holding pattern until the province sets out new rules following the current January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022 end date.
- Teleconference Meeting with Minister Greg Rickford January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
  - He identified that he remains committed to crown land disposition work in the region.
- Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) wants to add two (2) new members to the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) Board. This hasn't been finalized but is up for discussion at the moment.

## **11 CLOSED MEETING**

### **11.1 RESOLUTION NO. 017**

Moved by David Carroll. Seconded by Rob Eady.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls hereby convenes into a Closed Session at 7:44 p.m. to discuss matters pertaining to:

- Section 239 (2) (h) – Information explicitly supplied in confidence to the municipality or local Board by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them – Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.

Carried.

Section 239 (2) (h) of the *Municipal Act 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25*, as amended.

- Information explicitly supplied in confidence to the municipality or local Board by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them;
- Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.

11.2 RESOLUTION NO. 018

Moved by Daniel Sutton. Seconded by David Carroll.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Ear Falls convened from a Closed Session at 7:47 p.m. to the Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried.

**12 CLOSED REPORT**

Council reviewed information as presented about the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.

**13 ADJOURNMENT**

13.1 RESOLUTION NO. 019

Moved by Wendy Pearson. Seconded by Rob Eady.

RESOLVED THAT this Regular Meeting of Council adjourn at the hour of 7:47 p.m.

Carried.

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Mayor

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Clerk