

The Corporation of the Township of Plummer Additional

RR # 2, 38 Railway Crescent

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Minutes – February 21, 2024

Regular Council Meeting

Municipal Council Chambers - 6:00 pm

Present: Mayor-Beth West (Via Microsoft Teams), Councillors-Keith Hoback, Kelly Warwick, Mike Jones, Boris Koehler (Via Microsoft Teams)

Staff: Clerk-Lars Moffatt, RWF-Chad Mullen

Attendees: Steven Beilhartz, Doug Strum

Meeting Called to order at 6: 02 p.m.

1. ADDENDUM TO THE AGENDA: N/A

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

- Kelly Warwick declared a conflict with the disbursements & financials as the owner of ANP Office Supply and Hughes Supply Co. (Item 21a)

3. Municipal Staff Report – Roads

a) Roads Working Foreperson Staff Report (C. Mullen)

i. January 9, 2024 – January 8, 2024

b) Flake Calcium Chloride - Quotes

2024-30 Mike Jones Boris Koehler

WHEREAS Staff have compiled quotes for the purchase of flake calcium;

AND WHEREAS these quotes have been reviewed by Council;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THIS COUNCIL authorizes staff to purchase up to \$55,000 in flake Calcium from Anco Chemicals inc. to be placed on the Township's gravel roads by staff during the 2024 calendar year. CARRIED

c) Sand Dome Proposals – Staff Report & Proposal Review (2024-02-21-1)

2024-31 Keith Hoback Boris Koehler

WHEREAS staff have received request for proposal submissions for the installation and related construction of a Sand Dome (RFP 24-01);

AND WHEREAS these proposals have been reviewed by staff and provided to Council in a formalized report;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council accepts Karhi Contracting's proposal for all 3 stages in the amount of \$282,900 plus HST;

AND THAT Karhi Contracting will be required to enter into an agreement with the Township. CARRIED

d) Renaming the Easterly Section of Trunk Road – Staff Report (2024-02-21-2)

2024-32 Mike Jones Boris Koehler

WHEREAS the closure and the sale of land on Trunk Road has resulted in Trunk Road being split into two sections that are no longer connected;

AND WHEREAS staff have completed a report on the issues associated with the road now being split in two;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council receives report 2024-02-21-2 for information;

AND THAT Council supports renaming the easterly section of Trunk Road and renaming it to Jeffery Road;

AND THAT this road renaming be affirmed via by-law, with a draft by-law being brought to the March 20, 2024 regular meeting;

AND THAT all residents impacted by the road renaming be sent a notice of the proposed changes. CARRIED

e) Replacing Single Axle Truck with Tandem – Discussion – Staff Report (2024-02-21-3)

2024-33 Boris Koehler Mike Jones

WHEREAS staff have provided a report (2024-02-21-3) discussing replacing the Township's single axle truck with a used tandem truck;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council receives report (2024-02-21-3) for information and moves ahead with reviewing the prospects of selling the single axle truck and replacing it with a used tandem truck that is of a value equal to or less than the sale price of the single axle. CARRIED

- Staff to provide report to Council with further information at the March 20th meeting.

f) Surface Treatment Sealant Quote – Copper Bay Road- Staff Report (2024-02-21-4)

2024-34 Kelly Warwick Keith Hoback

WHEREAS staff have provided a report (2024-02-21-4) outlining the benefits and estimated costs of placing a fog sealant on Copper Bay Road's surface treatment;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council receives report (2024-02-21-4) for information and authorizes staff to compile quotes for the placement of fog seal on the Township's section of Copper Bay Road and accept the lowest bidder, pending staff have no concerns with the vendor's capabilities or overall quality of work.

CARRIED

4. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS (6:30 p.m.):a) Bruce Mines Agricultural Society (BMAS) – Tennis Courts & Potential Synergies

- Discussion with Council on who will be responsible for putting up and replacing the tennis nets at the court at the Bruce Mines Fair Grounds going forward.
- BMAS updated Council on the status of their building renovations. BMAS' goal is to bring events and meetings back to their facility (former arena).
- BMAS advised Council that they encourage people to use their grounds but be respectful (pick up after your dog, no ripping up grass with off-road vehicles, etc.)
- S.Beilhartz, D.Strum and C. Mullen (RWF) left the meeting at 6:53 p.m..

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETINGSa) January 17, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

2024-35 Kelly Warwick Beth West

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council accepts the minutes of the January 17, 2024, regular meeting as presented. CARRIED

REPORTS:MUNICIPAL STAFF REPORTS:6. Planning & By-law Enforcement (K. Morris) – N/A7. Clerk/Treasurer/Tax Collector ~ (L. Moffatt)a) Fees and Charges By-law – Draft Revisions

- Final draft reviewed by Council with no concerns. No comments from the public were received.

b) Ontario Trillium Foundation Capital Grant – Due March 6, 2024

2024-36 Kelly Warwick Keith Hoback

WHEREAS there is funding currently available and offered by the Ontario Trillium Foundation;
BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council authorizes staff to apply for a Capital Fund Grant up to the amount of \$175,000 and apply for the following:

- Renovation of the existing grounds with the construction of a Pavillion and resurfacing.
- Construction of area with the placement of a mini-golf course (including the required fencing and lighting). CARRIED

c) 2023 Property Tax Arrears – Treasurer’s Report (2024-02-21-5)

2024-37 Boris Koehler Keith Hoback

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council receives the Treasurer’s 2023 tax arrears report (2024-02-21-4) for information. CARRIED

d) K. Hoback - Resolution of Support – Reducing Delays in 911 Emergency Responses

2024-38 Keith Hoback Mike Jones

WHEREAS residents of the Township of Plummer have indicated that when they have had to call 911 that they are put on hold until they can speak with an agent;
AND WHEREAS these residents have indicated that these delays have been up to 4 minutes in wait time;
AND WHEREAS the delay in receiving a response when calling 911 can result in numerous issues, such as instances when individuals are needing to speak about a time sensitive or urgent matter;
AND WHEREAS it is unacceptable that individuals with urgent matters are put on hold at any given time when they call 911;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council calls on the Ministry of Solicitor General to address this issue immediately and ensure that the 911 hotline is staffed adequately with qualified staff that can answer all calls within less than 30 seconds;
AND THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Solicitor General of Ontario, Algoma-Manitoulin MPP Michael Mantha, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario. CARRIED

e) AMO Resolution of Support – Review of Infrastructure and Service Delivery Needs

2024-39 Keith Hoback Kelly Warwick

WHEREAS current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario’s economic prosperity and quality of life and nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;
AND WHEREAS municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation and unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;
AND WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises, while inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;
AND WHEREAS property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can’t afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;
AND WHEREAS the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;
AND WHEREAS municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of

Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Finance, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario. CARRIED

f) Letter from Enbridge RE: Ontario Energy Board decision – Request for Resln of Support
2024-40 Keith Hoback Boris Koehler

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council supports Enbridge's concerns about the Ontario Energy Boards decision on Phase 1 of the Enbridge Gas rebasing application, issued on December 21, 2023, which the decision by the OEB may negatively affect multiples communities and will affect energy affordability, economic growth, energy access and energy security;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to Enbridge Gas Inc. and the Ontario Energy Board. WITHDRAWN

g) 2023 Council Remuneration - Treasurer's Report (2024-02-21-6)
2024-41 Kelly Warwick Mike Jones

BE IT RESOLVED that this Council receives the 2023 Council Remuneration report (2024-02-21-6) as presented by the Treasurer. CARRIED

h) Impact of Planned Energy Generation in Algoma District – Letter of Concern
2024-42 Keith Hoback Boris Koehler

WHEREAS residents of the Algoma District have indicated concerns about the impact of planned generation, distribution and storage of electricity on municipalities in the District of Algoma;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council further echoes these concerns and will consider such in any of its future interim control, official plan, or zoning by-law amendments. CARRIED

i) Procurement Policy – Proposed/Draft Revisions
2024-43 Keith Hoback Mike Jones

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council accepts the amendments to the Township's Procurement By-law (2023-17) as presented and that these changes be reflected via the passing of a new by-law. DEFERRED

j) Letter to Council – Algoma Council on Domestic Violence
2024-44 Boris Koehler Kelly Warwick

WHEREAS the jury that heard the Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk, and Nathalie Warmerdam inquest (The Renfrew County Inquest) issued 86 recommendations to prevent future deaths and delivered those recommendations to the Province of Ontario on Intimate Partner Violence; and

WHEREAS recommendation# 1 of the inquest is for the Province of Ontario to formally declare intimate partner violence an epidemic; and

WHEREAS every six days in Canada a woman is killed by her intimate partner; and

WHEREAS this past year in Ontario, 52 women or one every week, were victims of femicide; and

WHEREAS gender- and sexually-diverse Indigenous individuals are particularly at risk, being five times more likely than non-Indigenous gender- and sexually- diverse individuals to experience intimate partner violence in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS according to Statistics Canada, 80 per cent of intimate partner violence goes unreported; and

Whereas violence against women costs the national justice system, health care systems, social service agencies, and municipalities nearly \$10 billion dollars per year; and municipalities are on the front lines in

addressing gender-based violence; and

WHEREAS over 60 municipalities and regions across Ontario have declared a gender-based violence and/or intimate partner violence epidemic; and

WHEREAS on August 20, 2023, Ontario Big City Mayors and Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario passed a motion declaring intimate partner violence and gender-based violence an epidemic; called on the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all municipalities and regions in Ontario and Canada to do the same; and called for changes to the Criminal Code; and

WHEREAS Plummer Additional Township Council recognizes that issues of gender-based violence and intimate partner violence are matters of local importance, including public health, EMS, community services, and community safety;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That Council of the Township of Plummer Additional declare an epidemic in intimate partner violence and gender-based violence in accordance with recommendation #1 of the Renfrew County Inquest;
2. That intimate partner violence be integrated into Township of Plummer Additional community safety and wellbeing plan in accordance with recommendation# 10 of the Renfrew County Inquest;
3. That Mayor Beth West be requested to write a letter to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, requesting that the Province of Ontario reconsider their previous decision and declare intimate partner violence and gender-based violence as an epidemic and act on all of 86 recommendations from the Renfrew County Inquest by setting up a provincial implementation committee to oversee comprehensive consideration of all of the recommendations.
4. That a copy of this motion be sent to the Honourable Arif Virani, Minister of justice; the Honourable Doug Ford, premier of Ontario; the Honourable Charmaine A Williams, associate minister of women's social and economic opportunity; the Honourable Parm Gill, minister of red tape reduction, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. CARRIED

k) Letter from FONOM – Comprehensive Social and Economic Prosperity Review

- Council passed resolution supporting item k) via item e).

8. Community Fire Safety: N/A

9. Community Emergency Management Program ~ (K. Hoback)

a) Annual request for Emergency Evacuation Centre – Lighthaven Homes

2024-45 Mike Jones Keith Hoback

WHEREAS Light Haven Home has requested the use of the Bruce Station Hall as an emergency evacuation centre;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Council approves the use of the hall, pending capacity restrictions and emergency use required by the Township at the same time. CARRIED

10. Animal Control: N/A

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

11. Health & Health Centre ~ (B. Koehler)

a) Health Centre Financial Statements as of December 31, 2023

b) Health Centre Expenditure Report (Jan 1-29, 2024)

c) Health Centre Financial Statements as of January 29, 2024

2024-46 Boris Koehler Keith Hoback

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council accepts the following Health Centre's financial reports:

- Unaudited 2023 Income Statement (ending December 31, 2023)
- Expense report dated January 24, 2024 in the amount of \$15,603.49

AND THAT this Council requests for the Central Algoma Health Centre Committee to submit their draft budget to both the Town of Bruce Mines and the Township of Plummer Additional by March 15, 2024, for consideration. CARRIED

d) Algoma & Sudbury District Health Unit – Merger Discussion

e) Air Quality Assessment Quote – Town of Bruce Mines

2024-47 Mike Jones Keith Hoback

WHEREAS there is concern with the overall performance of the Central Algoma Health Centre's HVAC system;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Bruce Mines has indicated support to undertake an air quality assessment at the Central Algoma Health Centre and has received quotes;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Plummer Additional approves an air quality assessment at the Central Algoma Health Centre by Northern Air Quality in the amount of \$1,500 plus HST. CARRIED

12. Recreation ~ (K. Warwick)

a) Great Waterfront Trail Adventure – Tour Dates

b) Recreation Equipment – Quotes (if available)

2024-48 Kelly Warwick Keith Hoback

WHEREAS Staff had provided quotes for the purchase of playground equipment funded through the Ontario Trillium Foundation;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council authorize the purchase of the following equipment from Playground Canada:

- Six-Foot single slide in the amount of \$5,900 plus HST
- Classic swing set in the amount of \$5,140.00 plus HST
- Two Park benches in the amount of \$1,295 plus HST (each). CARRIED

c) What Lies Beneath Tour (K.Hoback) – Update to Council

- K. Hoback provided an update to Council on the proposed tour for 2024. Event will be booked alongside the Township's Fish Fry/Dinner.

13. Tri-Neighbours & Waste Management ~ (B. Koehler)

a) February 14, 2024, meeting minutes

14. Cemetery ~ (Keith Hoback)

a) Next Meeting – March 12 @ 9 a.m.

15. Library, Parks & Hall ~ (B. West)

a) January Financial & Income Statement

- Reports were not available for the meeting. Will be brought to March 20th meeting.

b) January 11, 2024 Meeting Minutes

c) 2024 Library Budget

2024-49 Boris Koehler Keith Hoback

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council accepts the Bruce Mines and Plummer Additional Union Public Library's

budget for the 2024 calendar year as presented, including the Township of Plummer Additional's related levy (50%) in the amount of \$41,000.20. CARRIED

d) Partnership request – EarlyON @ Bruce Station Hall

2024-50 Mike Jones Keith Hoback

WHEREAS Childcare Algoma has requested the establishment of a partnership with the Township of Plummer Additional, to use the Bruce Station Community Hall as a host site for their EarlyON program; AND WHEREAS Council has reviewed their request;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council offers the Bruce Station Hall to the EarlyON program at a rate of \$30 for every 4-hour session booked. CARRIED

16. Health and Safety ~ (M. Jones)

a) Next Meeting – March 6th

b) FONOM Resolution of Support – OHSA Amendments

2024-51 Keith Hoback Beth West

WHEREAS many municipalities in Ontario have seen an increase to their insurance rates due to Joint and Several Liability;

WHEREAS in 2015 the City of Greater Sudbury (the "City") entered into a contract with a contractor experienced in road construction projects to complete a project on Elgin Street in the City's downtown core; AND WHEREAS the contract provided that the contractor would be the constructor for the project as that term is defined in the Occupational Health and Safety Act (the "Act");

AND WHEREAS an employee of the constructor operating a grader on the project struck and killed a pedestrian;

AND WHEREAS the City was charged with offences under the Act as the constructor and the employer;

AND WHEREAS after being acquitted at trial and on appeal, the Ontario Court of Appeal, in a decision issued on April 23, 2021, found the City to be liable for contraventions of the Construction Regulations as an employer as it employed quality control inspectors to monitor the quality of work on the project from time-to-time;

AND WHEREAS the Supreme Court of Canada, in a decision issued on November 10, 2023, was evenly divided 4-4 on the issue resulting in dismissal of the City's appeal;

AND WHEREAS the consequence of this decision is that municipalities in Ontario, as well as all other owners of property in the province, who wish to undertake construction, are subject to being charged and convicted as an employer for offences in relation to project sites for which they have no control and have, in accordance with the Act, contracted with an entity to assume plenary oversight and authority over the work on such site as the constructor;

AND WHEREAS the potential of an owner being charged as an employer as that term is defined in the Act in circumstances where it has engaged a constructor disregards and renders meaningless the owner-constructor provisions contained in the Act and presents an unacceptable level of increased risk and confusion for owners and contractors throughout the province;

AND WHEREAS the Township of Plummer Additional believes that the safety of workers is paramount however the safety of workers on construction projects in Ontario is not increased by placing liability on parties that do not have control of and are not responsible for the conduct of the work on such sites;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Township of Plummer Additional requests that the province amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "employer" to exclude owners that have contracted with a constructor for a project;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this motion be provided to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of

Ontario, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, MPP for Algoma-Manitoulin, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, the Council of Ontario Construction Associations and the Clerk of the City of Greater Sudbury. CARRIED

17. PERSONNEL:

a) Fixed Term – Labourer - Staff Report (2024-02-21-7)

b) Part-time Equipment Operator – Summer

2024-52 Mike Jones Beth West

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council supports the hiring of the following positions:

- Full-time labourer on a contract term for 6-months, starting May 1st.
- Part-time equipment operator on a contract term for 6 month, starting May 1st.

AND THAT the Township’s Human Resource Committee is authorized to recruit and hire for these positions;

AND THAT any contract extensions are subject to Council approval;

AND THAT due to financial constraints, Council does not move ahead with hiring summer students for the 2024 calendar year. CARRIED

c) 2024 Staff Vacation Schedule – Deferred to after closed session

18. Other: N/A

19. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: N/A

20. NEW BUSINESS: N/A

21. DISBURSEMENTS & Financials:

a) General & Cemetery Expenditures January 1-31, 2024

b) Monthly Financial Statements as of January 1-31, 2024 – General & Cemetery

2024-53 Boris Koehler Keith Hoback

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council authorizes payment of the following expenditures for January 1 – 31, 2024:

a) General	\$207,211.54	
b) Cemetery	\$621.50	CARRIED

22. NOTICE OF MOTIONS: N/A

23. MAYOR & COUNCILLOR COMMENTS/MEMBERS REPORT (on items other than listed above): N/A

24. CLOSED SESSION:

2024-54 Kelly Warwick Mike Jones

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council proceeds into Closed Session at 9:02 p.m. to consider the following subject matter in accordance with the Municipal Act. S.239 (2):

- Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees;
- A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land for municipal or local board purposes;
- Labour relations or employee negotiations. CARRIED

2024-55 Boris Koehler Keith Hoback

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council adjourns the closed session and returns to open meeting at 9:14 pm. CARRIED

b) January 17, 2024 Closed Minutes

2024-56 Mike Jones Kelly Warwick

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council approves the closed meeting minutes of January 17, 2024 as presented.
CARRIED

17. PERSONNEL (previously deferred to after closed session)c) Staff Vacation Schedule

2024-57 Mike Jones Beth West

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council approves staff's 2024 vacation schedule as presented. CARRIED

25. BY-LAWS/CONFIRMATION BY-LAW:

2024-58 Keith Hoback Kelly Warwick

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council gives three readings and approves the following by-laws:

- Fees and Charges By-law 2024-09 (replacing 2022-05)
- Confirmatory By-law 2024-10 CARRIED

26. ADJOURNMENT:

2024-59 Kelly Warwick Boris Koehler

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council adjourns the Meeting at 9:22 p.m. to meet again on March 20th, 2024 for the next regular meeting, or at the call of the Mayor. CARRIED

Acting Mayor: Mike Jones

Clerk: Lars Moffatt

Acronyms:

@ = at

ADSSAB – Algoma District Social Services Administration Board

AGM – Annual General Meeting

AHPS – Arthur Henderson Public School

AODA – Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act

CBO – Chief Building Official

CEMC – Community Emergency Measures Committee

CERB – Central Emergency reporting Bureau

CF- Carry Forward

CFSO- Community Fire Safety Officer

CUPE - Canadian Union of Public Employees

EARS – East Algoma Roads Superintendents

FCM – Federation of Canadian Municipalities

FYI – for your information

Fed Nor – Federal Economic Development for Northern Ontario

FONOM – Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

Frd – forwarded from prior meeting

GFL – Green For Life Environmental Inc.

HNWDRRC - Huron Northwest Doctor Recruitment & Retention Committee

ICIP Investing In Canada Infrastructure Program

OCIF – Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund

OGRA – Ontario Good Roads Association

OMB – Ontario Municipal Board

OMAFRA – Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs

OPP – Ontario Provincial Police

Orig. - Original

OTF – Ontario Trillium Foundation

POA – Provincial Offences Act

Min. – Ministry

MMP – Municipal Modernization Program

MNR – Ministry of Natural Resources

MAH – Ministry of Municipal Affairs

MOU – Memorandum of Understanding

MPAC – Municipal Property Assessment Corporation

Mtg - Meeting

MTO – Ministry of Transportation

MV – Minor Variance

N/A – not applicable

NOSM – Northern Ontario School of Medicine

NOHFC – Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation

POA – Provincial Offences Act

RBC – Royal Bank of Canada-

RED – Rural Economic Development

Reg. - registration

Rep – Representative

Resln – Resolution

RFQ – Request for Quote

ROMA – Rural Ontario Municipal Association

RWF – Road Working Foreperson

SSM – Sault Ste. Marie

TMM – The Managed Municipality

TSSA – Technical Standards and Safety Authority

TWSP – Township

ZBA- Zoning By-law Amendment