

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Reeve Rodger Donaldson, Councillor Chris Cormier, Councillor Michelle Fiset, Councillor Michael De Carlo and Councillor Steven McIntyre attended the meeting. Reeve Donaldson chaired the meeting. Myrna Hayes was also in attendance. Jocelyne & Andre Bilodeau, & Fred Pritchard also attended the meeting.

De Carlo/Cormier:

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 19th/23 Regular Meeting.

Carried.

No members of Council declared a conflict regarding agenda items.

Delegation: Adam Gibson, Public Works Foreman

- Tent & Trailer Park is ready for the 2023 camping season.
- Street sweeper arrangements are in place for 2023.
- Quotes for road work have been requested from contractors.
- Municipal docks will be put into the water in approximately 2 weeks.
- A quotation of \$10,000.00 for grass cutting was received from Grass King.
- Sean has completed his probationary period and is now on permanent staff.

McIntyre/Cormier:

A motion to approve the Township's April 30th/23 Treasurer's Report.

General Revenue Account Balance: \$1,463,094.16.

Carried.

McIntyre/Cormier:

A motion to approve the ELCF April 30th/23 Treasurer's Report.

General Revenue Account Balance: \$127,018.24.

Carried.

Fiset/McIntyre:

A motion to approve the payment of Township of James April/23 Accounts totalling \$86,255.75.

Carried.

Cormier/McIntyre:

A motion to approve the payment of ELCF April/23 Accounts totaling \$104.04.

Carried.

Cormier/Fiset:

A motion to adopt By-Law 23-06: sale of 82 Ontario Street to Jeffrey & Lorie Carmount.

Carried.

RESOLUTION 03-23

McIntyre/Cormier:

WHEREAS the Township of James supports the grant application submission to Northern Ontario Heritage Fund for the Elk Lake Heritage Museum Enhancements under the Community Enhancement Program – Rural Enhancement Funding;

AND WHEREAS the amount of funding being requested from NOHFC is \$115,000;

AND WHEREAS the Township of James recognizes the 10% commitment and has agreed to contribute \$15,000 of the total project costs;

AND WHEREAS the funding will be used for repairs and renovations to extend the useful life of the Elk Lake Heritage Museum and its artifacts contained within;

AND WHEREAS the repairs and renovations will also allow for extended programming offered by the Elk Lake Heritage Museum.

AND FURTHER THAT Council for the Township of James unanimously approves the submission of Stage 2 of the Community Enhancement Program – Rural Enhancement Funding for the Elk Lake Heritage Museum.

Carried.

RESOLUTION 04-23

McIntyre/Cormier:

WHEREAS prior to being repealed by the *Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act, 2017, Section 380(6) of the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended*, allowed for the municipality to retain surplus proceeds from tax sales within their jurisdiction;

AND WHEREAS the Public Tax Sale process is burdensome to municipalities who invest a considerable amount of time and money recovering these proceeds for the potential sole benefit of the Crown in Right of Ontario;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for The Corporation of the Township of James urges all relevant provincial taxation bodies to reinstate previous legislation that permitted a municipality to apply for and retain the surplus proceeds from a tax sale within its jurisdiction;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, MPP Cochrane-Temiskaming, FONOM and AMO for support.

Carried.

RESOLUTION 05-23

De Carlo/Fiset:

WHEREAS escalating insurance costs are one of the Township of James' priorities;

AND WHEREAS the Township of James' annual insurance premiums have increased from \$43,904.28 to \$78,760.28 from 2017 to 2022, representing an accumulated increase of 79.39% over this period;

AND WHEREAS the annual increases to the Township of James' insurance premiums have been one of the most significant constraints in calculating the annual budget;

AND WHEREAS Ontario municipalities are experiencing higher insurance rates at each renewal with limited access to insurance companies willing to quote on municipal insurance needs;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for The Corporation of the Township of James urges the Ontario Government to take action to reduce municipal insurance costs;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, MPP Cochrane-Temiskaming, FONOM and AMO for support.

Carried.

McIntyre/Cormier:

A motion to accept the 'draft' Fire Department's 2023 Budget.

Carried.

Item 7.2: Councillor De Carlo requested that Councillors attending special meetings and committee meetings provide a report to Council at the following Regular Council Meeting.

Councillor De Carlo also expressed the need for activities for the youth of Elk Lake.

Councillor McIntyre provided information to Council regarding 'household food insecurity'.

Reeve Donaldson reported a new initiative that provides paramedic personnel visits to the homes of people who are in need of the service.

Item 7.6: Councillor De Carlo would like the community to do something for the area youth. He is willing to volunteer his time, but the parents must participate. A Parent Committee should be formed at the meeting to be held at the Library. The notice of the meeting will be posted on the Township's website/community page.

Item 7.8: Councillors were provided with a copy of the Township's 'Fees & Rates Schedule' for review and changes. Copies are to be forwarded to Reeve Donaldson.

Item 7.10: Council approved the sale of Lot 170 Rosedale Avenue to the abutting property owner.

McIntyre/De Carlo:

A motion to move 'in camera' at 8:10 p.m. to discuss the future development project.

Carried.

De Carlo/Fiset:

A motion to move from 'in camera' at 9:00 p.m.

Carried.

De Carlo/Fiset:

A motion to proceed with further discussions regarding the development project.

Carried.

De Carlo/Fiset:

A motion to move 'in camera' at 9:01 p.m. to discuss the Ball Park Road matter.

Carried.

Cormier/De Carlo:

A motion to move from 'in camera' at 9:45 p.m.

Carried.

Cormier/De Carlo:

A motion to remain status quo regarding the Ball Park Road matter.

Carried.

Cormier/De Carlo:

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:46 p.m.

Carried.