

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

Reeve Rodger Donaldson, Councillor Chris Cormier, Councillor Michael DeCarlo, Councillor Fiset and Councillor Steven McIntyre attended the meeting. Reeve Donaldson chaired the meeting. Myrna Hayes and Teri-Lynn Jibb were also in attendance along with members of the public, André & Jocelyne Bilodeau, Terry Fiset, Mr. Young and 3 employees of the Elk Lake Nursing Station.

**McIntyre/Cormier:**

A motion to approve the minutes of the May 8<sup>th</sup>/24 Regular Meeting.

**Carried.**

No members of Council declared a conflict regarding agenda items.

Delegation: Adam Gibson, Public Works Foreman

- A quotation for the Playground fencing came in at approximately \$18,000.
- More signs have been posted on municipal streets regarding overnight parking.
- Spring grading of municipal gravel roads will be done in the near future.
- Playground upgrade has been stalled due to damaged pieces the crew is waiting to be replaced.

Adam was thanked for his report and stayed for the remainder of the meeting.

Delegation: Marc Leveille, ELVFD Chief

- 6 firemen have signed up for training.
- Councillor Fiset stated that the Council Meeting with the ELVFD was not correct as no clerk/deputy clerk was present and no notice of the meeting was posted.

Marc was thanked for his input and left the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Delegation: Cyndi Stockman, Librarian

- 2 reptile shows will be held this summer.
- 1-1 tutoring will be available along with homework guidance and 3D printing.
- A smart TV has been ordered.
- A cricut machine that can use 4 colours at a time is on order.
- On July 19<sup>th</sup> Science North is coming.
- The Library is available as a 'cooling station' this year.

Cyndi was thanked for the information and left the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

**McIntyre/De Carlo:**

A motion to approve the Township's May 31/24 Treasurer's Report.

General Revenue Account Balance: \$1,416,465.97.

**Carried.**

**Cormier/Fiset:**

A motion to approve the ELCF May 31/24 Treasurer's Report.

General Revenue Account Balance: \$132,541.24.

**Carried.**

**Cormier/Fiset:**

A motion to approve the payment of Township of James May/24 Accounts totaling \$11,321.28.

**Carried.**

**Cormier/Fiset:**

A motion to approve the payment of ELCF May/24 Accounts totaling \$5.00.

**Carried.**

**Cormier/Fiset:**

A motion to adopt By-Law 24-07: Sale of land namely Part 1 of RP54r-6403, part of Langevin Street.

**Carried.**

**BY-LAW 24-07:**

**Cormier/Fiset:**

That a by-law to authorize the sale of the land described as Part 1 of RP54R-6403, part of Langevin Street, Part of PIN 61300-0786 in the township of James for the sum of \$834.20, plus HST, plus the cost of all conveyance to Arnold and Diane Madigan: be received and read a first time.

**Carried.**

**Cormier/Fiset:**

That a by-law to authorize the sale of the land described as Part 1 of RP54R-6403, part of Langevin Street, Part of PIN 61300-0786 in the township of James for the sum of \$834.20, plus HST, plus the cost of all conveyance to Arnold and Diane Madigan: be read a second time and be referred to a Committee of the Whole.

**Carried.**

**Cormier/Fiset:**

That a by-law to authorize the sale of the land described as Part 1 of RP54R-6403, part of Langevin Street. Part of PIN 61300-0786 in the township of James for the sum of \$834.20, plus HST, plus the cost of all conveyance to Arnold and Diane Madigan; as reported by the Committee of the Whole be read a third time, passed and numbered 24-07 and the said by-law be signed by the Reeve and Clerk, sealed with the seal of the Corporation and be engrossed the By-Law Book.

**Carried.**

**RESOLUTION 04-24**

**Fiset/McIntyre:**

**WHEREAS** the Township of James/ Elk Lake is a community that is home to a sizeable forest-based industrial complex;

**AND WHEREAS** the Township of James/Elk Lake, as a resource-based community, faces many challenges resulting from having such a resource-based industry located and operating within Elk Lake as localized heavy truck traffic which increases demands on local road infrastructure, traffic congestion and delays, and general safety concerns for pedestrians and other forms of active transportation users;

**AND WHEREAS** the demands caused by this resource-based industry has created additional costs on the Township of James to maintain the local infrastructure required to service this industry adequately;

**AND WHEREAS** the current assessment-based taxation system does not provide significant funding for this municipality to meet these demands and needs;

**AND WHEREAS** the Township of James acknowledges that it is a recipient of the Northern Ontario Resource Development Support (NORDS) Fund, but maintains that the amount received is inadequate to support the demands on local infrastructure caused by the resource-based industry in the municipality;

**AND WHEREAS** the busiest forest access road (Pine Street) in Temiskaming will be in need of major repairs and/or complete reconstruction within ten to fifteen years' time at an estimated cost of over \$5M;

**AND WHEREAS** 100% of the cost of the major repairs and/or reconstruction of Pine Street is and continues to be the responsibility of the Township of James tax payers;

**AND WHEREAS** the forest-resource based industry located in the Township of James pays less than 40% of the municipal tax levy annually;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Council for The Corporation of the Township of James hereby petitions the Province of Ontario to create a Provincial funding model in addition to the NORDS funding that is set to expire in 2026-2027, to provide revenues to all resource-based communities in Northern Ontario that are proportionate to the revenues leaving our region in an effort to offset the additional burdens placed on the resource-based communities to provide municipal services to these industries;

**AND FURTHER** that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing, Minister of Northern Development, Minister of Mines, Temiskaming-Cochrane MPP, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM).

**Carried.**

**RESOLUTION 05-24:**

**McIntyre/Cormier:**

**WHEREAS** the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) establishes accounting standards for the public sector which must be followed by all Ontario municipalities;

**AND WHEREAS** the *Municipal Act*, 2001, Section 294.1 states that a municipality shall, for each fiscal year, prepare annual financial statements for the municipality in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for local governments as recommended from time to time, by the Public Sector Accounting Board of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada;

**AND WHEREAS** PS 3280 is a new accounting standard covering Asset Retirement Obligations (ARO) that was approved by PSAB in March 2018;

**AND WHEREAS** the standard must be applied by all public sector entities who prepare financial statements under PSAB, including all Canadian municipalities;

**AND WHEREAS** many small municipalities do not have accountants or engineers on staff to complete the ARO obligations and this major accounting change will force small municipalities to hire consultants to complete this work and cause a significant financial burden to municipalities;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Council for The Corporation of the Township of James hereby petitions the Province of Ontario to provide financial assistance to municipalities to complete the ARO;

**AND FURTHER** that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing, Association of Municipal Clerks & Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO), Temiskaming-Cochrane MPP, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) and Temiskaming Municipal Association (TMA).

**Carried.**

## **RESOLUTION 06-24**

**McIntyre/Cormier:**

**WHEREAS** all Ontario municipalities are prohibited from running budget deficits for operating purposes:

**AND WHEREAS** all Ontario municipalities have similar pressures with respect to aging infrastructure and operating costs for policing:

**AND WHEREAS** the City of Toronto has recently received provincial funding to cover a \$1.2 billion-dollar operating shortfall and approximate \$12 million in provincial and federal funding for their police operating budget:

**AND WHEREAS** the City of Toronto has the lowest tax rates in the Ontario:

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Council for The Corporation of the Township of James hereby petitions the Province of Ontario to treat all municipalities fairly and provide equivalent representative operational budget funding amount to all Ontario municipalities:

**AND FURTHER** that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing, Association of Municipal Clerks & Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO), Temiskaming-Cochrane MPP, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) and Temiskaming Municipal Association (TMA).

**Carried.**

Item 7.1: Reeve Donaldson deferred his TMA Meeting report to Teri-Lynn who stated that after much research, she recommends that the Township hire PSD City Wide as this company will provide us with a template that will twin with the AMP information.

**McIntyre/Fiset:**

A motion to accept PSD City Wide quotation of \$15,000.00 to complete the required 2024 ARO document.

**Carried.**

Item 7.2: The letter from the Englehart and District Family Health Team was discussed. The Team has expressed an interest in moving from their present location due to continuing increases in operating expenses.

Many comments were made by the observers attending the meeting.

It was decided that Council would request a meeting with Mr. Jim Huff, Chair of the Englehart & District Family Health Team to get more information before making any decision regarding the request.

Council requested that the Nursing Station provide numbers of users that use the facility...that is Elk Lake residents vs unorganized area residents.

Item 7.3: Pine Street work contained in the quotation would include grinding off the top layer of asphalt and replacing it with 100mm layer of new pavement. This would extend the life of Pine Street ten-fifteen years.

Item 7.6: The Township of James is mandated to pay for its share of the MCSWBP. The 2024 levy for the Township is \$1,317.00.

**Fiset/Cormier:**

A motion to enter into an agreement with Temiskaming Health Unit regarding the 2024-2026 MCSWBP.

**Carried.**

Item 7.8: A 2024 Budget Meeting is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on June 19<sup>th</sup>/24.

Councillor Fiset reminded fellow Councillors to review the 'Code of Conduct' that they should adhere to.

**McIntyre/Cormier:**

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

**Carried.**

