

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESSA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, 18 APRIL 2007**

A Regular Council meeting was held following Committee of the Whole on Wednesday, 18 April 2007 in the Council Chambers of the Administration Centre, Township of Essa.

In attendance: Mayor David Guergis
Deputy Mayor Terry Dowdall
Councillor Ron Henderson
Councillor Sandie Macdonald

Regrets: Councillor Rick Newlove

Staff in attendance: Greg Murphy, CAO/Manager of Public Works
Carol Trainor, Clerk/Deputy-Treasurer
Paul Macdonald, Fire Chief
Colleen Healey, Manager of Planning and Development
Julie Barrett, Treasurer

1. OPENING OF MEETING BY THE MAYOR

Mayor Guergis opened the Regular Council meeting at 8:00 p.m.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Deputy Mayor Dowdall and Councillor Macdonald declared a pecuniary conflict of interest with the previous minutes, in that they would benefit from the salary review which includes their spouses.

3. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MOTIONS

Resolution No: C120-2007 Moved by: Henderson, Seconded by: Guergis

Be it resolved that the motions duly passed and approved at the Committee of the Whole meeting of this date be approved; and

That the minutes of Committee of the Whole and Regular Council meetings held on the Fourth day of April, 2007 be adopted as amended to replace IGAP with "the Places to Grow Act" under Item 10 b) Other Business.

Carried as amended.

4. PRESENTING, REFERRING OR PASSING OF ACCOUNTS

Resolution No: C121-2007 Moved by: Macdonald, Seconded by: Dowdall

*Be it resolved that Payment Voucher #4B dated March 29 to April 11, 2007 in the amount of \$190,532.58 be approved; and
That Visa Accounts dated January 16 to February 15, 2007 in the amount of \$12,534.73 be approved.*

Carried

5. CORRESPONDENCE – Information Items (Available in the Clerk’s office)**

- a. Letter from the Ontario Provincial Police**
Re: Year 2006 Reconciled Contract Policing Costs
- b. Letter from Infrastructure Ontario**
Re: Rural Infrastructure Investment Initiative
- c. Central Local Health Integration Network**
Re: Overview of Current Activities
- d. Letter from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario**
Re: Road Service Vehicles Use of Tire Chains
- e. Letter from the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority**
Re: Resolution to the Province petitioning for Sustainable Funding
- f. AMO Member Communication Items**
Re: AMO Principles for Social Housing in Ontario
Endangered Species Legislation
Bill 198, *Safeguarding and Sustaining Ontario’s Water Act*

Resolution No: C122-2007 Moved by: Macdonald, Seconded by: Dowdall

Be it resolved that Information Items 5(a) to (f) be received.

Carried

6. CORRESPONDENCE - Action Items

- a. Seniors’ Month Proclamation**

Resolution No: C123-2007 Moved by: Macdonald, Seconded by: Dowdall

*Whereas Seniors’ Month is an annual nation-wide celebration; and
Whereas seniors have contributed and continue to contribute immensely to the life and vibrancy of this community; and
Whereas seniors continue to serve as leaders, mentors, volunteers and important and active members of this community; and
Whereas their contributions past and present warrant appreciation and recognition and their stories deserve to be told; and
Whereas the health and well-being of seniors is in the interest of all and further adds to the health and well-being of the community; and*

*Whereas the knowledge and experience seniors pass on to us continues to benefit all;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT WE, The Council of The Township of Essa, do hereby proclaim June 1 – 30, 2007 Seniors' Month in The Township of Essa and encourage all citizens to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of our seniors.*

Carried

b. Resolution from the Town of Innisfil

Resolution No: C124-2007 Moved by: Macdonald, Seconded by: Henderson

Be it resolved that the Resolution from the Town of Innisfil regarding compensation for emergency calls on provincial highways be received; and that The Township of Essa does support the Resolution requesting the Ministry of Transportation to review the compensation provided to municipalities for emergency calls on provincial highways.

Carried

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Essa Public Library Board

Resolution No: C125-2007 Moved by: Dowdall, Seconded by: Macdonald

Be it resolved that the minutes of the Essa Public Library Board dated January 22, 2007 be received.

Carried

8. PETITIONS

9. MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

a. Acoustical Hoods to Reduce Noise

Resolution No: C126-2007 Moved by: Macdonald, Seconded by: Henderson

*WHEREAS residents in the area of the Angus waste water plant have contacted the Township office regarding the excessive noise of the blowers on that building, and these calls are expected to increase once the weather warms and residents open windows and spend time outdoors;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT TSH Engineering be authorized to arrange for the supply and installation of acoustical hoods on the blowers for noise suppression at the Angus Waste Water Pollution Control Plant at an estimated costs of \$11,000.00 as outlined in the quote provided.*

Carried

b. Barrie-Collingwood Railway Operations

Ms. Healey noted that a revised version of the letter has been provided for Council which addresses additional concerns identified by staff for the expansion of the railway.

Resolution No: C127-2007 Moved by: Macdonald, Seconded by: Henderson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the draft letter to the City of Barrie and the Town of Collingwood regarding increased rail traffic on the Barrie-Collingwood Railway through Essa Township as a result of the proposed ethanol plant be approved for distribution.

Carried

c. Tax Ratios

Resolution No: C128-2007 Moved by: Henderson, Seconded by: Macdonald

WHEREAS Sec. 308 of the Municipal Act, 2001, c.25, provides for the establishment of tax ratios; and

WHEREAS a by-law must be passed by the upper tier municipality which will apply to its lower tier municipalities that establishes a single tax ratio for each property class; and

WHEREAS Simcoe County has not exercised Sec. 310 (1), delegation to each lower tier municipality to establish tax ratios; and

WHEREAS Section 308 of the Municipal Act states that the residential property class tax ratio is one (1); and

WHEREAS the Province assigned property class tax ratios in 1997 and established Ranges of Fairness for all property classes so that tax ratios continue to be weighted higher or lower in comparison to the residential tax ratio; and

WHEREAS the weighting of assessment, according to the established tax ratios, continues to weight taxation to the detriment of the business property tax classes and in favour of farm and managed forest property tax classes;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Township of Essa hereby requests that the County of Simcoe solicit the Province of Ontario to implement a tax ratio equal to one (1) for all property classes established in the Assessment Act, thereby equalizing the property tax burden for all properties that are assigned a market value assessment.

Carried

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Guergis asked for Council's opinion on the request of the Essa Developments to reduce parking allotment for each unit. Council concurred that one space is insufficient for each home. Parking restrictions are in place but enforcement is difficult and roads maintenance becomes a problem with street parking. History has shown that people rarely park in their garages.

11. BY-LAWS

a. By-law 2007 – 19

Resolution No: C129-2007 Moved by: Dowdall, Seconded by: Henderson

Be it resolved that leave be granted to introduce By-law 2007 – 19, being a by-law to amend the Township's Zoning By-law, By-Law No. 2003-50, with respect to Lots 11, 12 and 13 of Plan 1333, Concession 3, 160 Mill Street, Township of Essa; and that said By-law be read a first, and taken as read a second and third time and finally passed.

Carried

b. By-law 2007 – 20

Resolution No: C130-2007 Moved by: Henderson, Seconded by: Macdonald

Be it resolved that leave be granted to introduce By-law 2007 - 20, being a by-law to appoint an Alternate Community Emergency Management Coordinator (CEMC); and that said By-law be read a first, and taken as read a second and third time and finally passed.

Carried

12. QUESTIONS

13. IN CAMERA

Resolution No: C131-2007 Moved by: Seconded by:

Be it resolved that Council proceed In Camera at 8:32 p.m. in order to address matters pertaining to labour relations or employee negotiations, including matters before administrative tribunals affecting the Municipality or local board.

Carried

Council moved out of closed session at 8:45 p.m.

a. FT Planning Administrative Assistant

Resolution No: C132-2007 Moved by: Macdonald, Seconded by: Henderson

*Be it resolved that Report P07-45 from the Manager of Planning and Development be received; and further
That effective April 23rd, 2007, Stephanie Wood be considered as a full-time employee with the Municipality, serving in the capacity of Planning Administrative Assistant; and further
That the probationary period which would normally apply to full-time employees be waived, considering that Ms. Wood has been employed with the Municipality for the past 6 months; and*

As such, Ms. Wood would then be entitled to full benefits and entitlements (such as sick days) as would normally be awarded following six months of employment, in accordance with the Terms and Conditions of Employment By-law of the Municipality.

Carried

b. Proposed Contract for Planning and Development Services

Resolution No: C133-2007 Moved by: Macdonald, Seconded by: Henderson

Be it resolved that Confidential Report PW-07-27 from the CAO/Manager of Public Works be received; and further THAT Landmark Environmental Group Ltd. Be retained to provide Planning and Development services to the municipality on a seven month contract basis to commence May 28, 2007.

Carried

14. CONFIRMATION BY-LAW

By-law 2007 - 21

Resolution No: C134-2007 Moved by: Dowdall, Seconded by: Macdonald

Be it resolved that leave be granted to introduce By-law 2007 - 21, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council and Committee of the Whole meetings held on this Eighteenth Day of April 2007; and that said By-law be read a first, and taken as read a second and third time and finally passed.


Carried

15. ADJOURNMENT

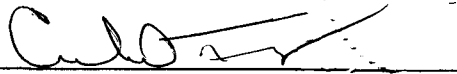
Resolution No: C135-2007 Moved by: Dowdall, Seconded by: Macdonald

Be it resolved that this meeting of the Council of the Township of Essa adjourn to meet again on the Second day of May 2007 following Committee of the Whole.

Carried



David Guergis, Mayor



Carol O. Trainor, Clerk