

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EMO
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
March 10, 2021

Minutes of the Regular meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Emo held on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Harold McQuaker, Councillors Harrold Boven, Lincoln Dunn and Lori Ann Shortreed; CAO/Clerk-Treasurer Bridget Foster.
Virtually present via Zoom: Councillor Warren Toles.

Publicly available virtually via Zoom.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof:

RESOLUTIONS:

1. **Shortreed – Boven:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby approve the Regular Council Meeting agenda for Wednesday, February 24, 2021.
CARRIED.
2. **Boven - Shortreed:** BE IT RESOLVED that the February 24, 2021 Regular Council Meeting minutes, be adopted as circulated.
CARRIED.
3. **Shortreed - Dunn:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby accept written report from Bridget Foster, CAO and Jason Smith, Public Works Superintendent (to March 10, 2021).
CARRIED.
4. **Boven - Dunn:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby accept proposal from Ontario Clean Water Agency for Emo Water Treatment Plant Upgrades and Optimization for THM & HAA Reduction, for an estimated Project Budget of \$716,703.00; and further agree to proceed with Option Two.
CARRIED.
5. **Shortreed - Dunn:** BE IT RESOLVED that the Emo Municipal Council hereby received Integrity Commissioner's Municipal Code of Conduct Inquiry – January 30, 2021, as submitted by Integrity Commissioner Darrell Mattson, for information purposes; and further to post on the Township of Emo's website.
CARRIED.
6. **Dunn – Boven:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby authorize investment in the amount of \$3,300.00 to Gas Tax reserve account 5700498-90, being 2019 interest earned on gas tax funding.
CARRIED.

March 10, 2021 Regular Council Meeting Minutes Cont'd:

March 10, 2021 Regular Council Meeting Minutes Cont'd:

7. **Shortreed – Boven:** WHEREAS the Emo Municipal Council agreed to build a temporary outdoor skating rink to determine the need for this facility within the Township of Emo;

WHEREAS it has been determined by the Emo Rec Committee the outdoor skating rink has been utilized extensively by the community;

WHEREAS the Emo Rec Committee has recommended to the Emo Municipal Council to proceed with the outdoor skating rink/multi-use facility in 2021;

WHEREAS funding provided by Northern Ontario Heritage Funding Corporation through Rural Enhancement Funding Stream has been announced and will provide 90% funding to a maximum of \$200,000.00 for communities with population under 1,500 for projects that contribute to a healthy and vibrant community;

BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby agree to proceed with making application for funding through NOHFC's Rural Enhancement Funding Stream for the construction of an outdoor skating rink/multi-use facility in 2021, to include a concrete base and boards, as per engineered drawings, along with lighting, fencing and basketball hoops.

CARRIED.

8. **Dunn – Boven:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby agree to tender for Haul and Spread Project of 5,000 cu. yds. of crushed gravel.

CARRIED.

9. **Shortreed – Dunn:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby agree to tender for Crushing Project of 5,500 cu. yds. of 5/8" granular A gravel.

CARRIED.

10. **Shortreed – Boven:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby authorize the payment of bills on file in Municipal General to March 10, 2021.

CARRIED.

11. **Shortreed – Dunn:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby approve the invoices for the following Township of Emo Boards/Committees to March 10, 2021:

- Emo-LaVallee Community Centre
- Emo Recreation
- Emo Cemetery
- Emo Parks
- Emo Toy Library/Resource Centre

CARRIED.

March 10, 2021 Regular Council Meeting Minutes Cont'd:

March 10, 2021 Regular Council Meeting Minutes Cont'd:

12. **Boven - Shortreed:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby accept 2020 Section 11 Annual Report for the Emo Drinking Water System and 2020 Schedule 22 Annual Summary Report, as submitted by Ontario Clean Water Agency.

CARRIED.

13. **Boven – Shortreed:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby accept February, 2021 Fire Report, as submitted and presented by Darren Hughes, Fire Chief in March, 2021.

CARRIED.

14. **Dunn - Boven:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby authorize payment to S. Burnett & Associates Ltd. in the amount of \$699.71, HST included, being invoices to February 11, 2021 for the following projects:

- Front St E Watermain Replacement \$ 699.71

CARRIED.

15. **Shortreed - Dunn:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby accept Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's 2021 COVID-19 Recovery Funding for Municipalities allocation in the amount of \$27,643.00.

CARRIED.

16. **Dunn - Shortreed:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby agree to accept 2020 Quarter 4 Town of Fort Frances Provincial Offences Budget to Actuals and 2020 Partner Contributions; and further, authorize payment in the amount of \$552.71, being the Township of Emo's portion of the 2020 Partner Contribution.

CARRIED.

17. **Shortreed – Boven:** BE IT RESOLVED the Township of Emo hereby received correspondence from the Norfolk County regarding the application of the carbon tax on primary agriculture producers; AND FURTHER THAT Council endorses and supports Norfolk County in their efforts to request the Federal Government consider the concerns of the agricultural community and move to exempt all primary agriculture producers from current and future carbon taxes.

CARRIED.

March 10, 2021 Regular Council Meeting Minutes Cont'd:

March 10, 2021 Regular Council Meeting Minutes Cont'd:

18. **Boven – Dunn:** BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Emo hereby received correspondence from the Regional Municipality of Halton regarding Long-Term Care Homes;
THAT Council endorses and supports the Halton Regional Council and AMO's recommendations contained in its submission to the Long-Term Care COVID-19 Commission;
THAT, Council endorses and supports efforts to strongly urge the Provincial Government to move forward with implementation of these recommendation, including instituting higher standards with increased funding to homes to implement those standards;
THAT Council endorses and supports efforts to advocate to the Federal Government to enhance federal health care funding to the Provinces and Territories, specifically dedicating funding to long-term care, and to undertake further efforts to protect, promote and restore the physical and mental well-being of long-term care residents in Canada;
AND FURTHER THAT Council supports request to FCM to develop a policy and advocacy position on enhanced federal support for long-term care.

CARRIED.

19. **Dunn – Shortreed:** BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Emo hereby received correspondence from the City of Sarnia regarding the colour coded system within the Province's COVID-19 Response Framework;
AND FURTHER THAT Council endorses and supports the Sarnia City Council as they strongly advocate to the Province of Ontario that they adjust the capacity limits for dining, restaurants, sporting and recreational facilities, places of worship, event centers, and all retail/small businesses as part of the colour coded system.

CARRIED.

20. **Shortreed – Dunn:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby accept General Financial Statement to January 31, 2021, as submitted.

CARRIED.

21. **Dunn - Boven:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby agree to go in-camera at 8:34 p.m. in order to address a matter pertaining to:
- Personal matters regarding an identifiable individual, including employees – *resignation from Emo Rec Committee member.*
 - Litigation or potential litigation, including matter before administrative tribunals affecting the municipality or local board – *Notice of Application in the Court of the Drainage Referee.*

CARRIED.

March 10, 2021 Regular Council Meeting Minutes Cont'd:

March 10, 2021 Regular Council Meeting Minutes Cont'd:

22. **Shortreed - Boven:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby agree to come out of in-camera session at 9:09 p.m.

CARRIED.

23. **Shortreed – Dunn:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby accept resignation, with regret, from Alicia Leany, Emo Recreation Committee member.

CARRIED.

24. **Boven – Dunn:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby adjourn to meet again on Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

CARRIED.

Errors or Omissions from February 24, 2021 Regular Council Meeting minutes: None.
Business arising from February 24, 2021 Regular Council Meeting minutes: None.

Jeff St. Pierre, from Ontario Clean Water Agency attended the meeting to discuss the commencement of the Water Treatment Plant Upgrades Optimization for THM and HAA reduction, along with answering questions on the 2020 Annual Drinking Water System Report and 2020 Annual Summary Report.

Darrell Matson, Integrity Commissioner for the Township of Emo, attended the meeting to present the Municipal Code of Conduct Inquiry dated January 30, 2021, along with answer questions from Council pertaining to this report.

Darren Hughes, Fire Chief for the Township of Emo, attended the meeting to present his report and answer any questions Council may have regarding his report or the Emo Fire Department.

Council discussed the proposed outdoor rink and there was a suggestion to have a roof for this facility to make it more multi-purpose. Given the time frame to get out an application for funding for the project, it was agreed to move forward with this project as is and look into the possibility of the addition of a roof in the future.

Council requested the Rainy River District Municipal Association and the area municipalities be contacted to inquire if they would be interested in combining future crushing and/or haul and spread contracts, with the intention of cost savings.

Council did not agree to proceed with the Bagvertising proposal presented by Fire Chief Darren Hughes, on behalf of the Emo Fire Department. Council did not feel this is the time to approach our businesses for money, given the financial impacts of Covid-19; however, they did agree to discuss this again next year.

The meeting adjourned 9:13 p.m.