

MINUTES

JUNE 1ST, 2004

Reeve Jack Wilson welcomed all present by inviting them to join in the Lord's Prayer.

The Reeve called the meeting to order with Council present: Steve Bennett, Dennis Gauthier, George Hodgkinson and Rick O'Brien. Absent: Allan Wren and Jim Sheedy.

Also present was Darrel Ryan, C.A.O. and Bruce Lloyd, Treasurer.

MOVED BY: George Hodgkinson
SECONDED BY: Steve Bennett

To open the General Meeting of Council.
CARRIED.

There was no disclosure of pecuniary interest.

MOVED BY: Rick O'Brien
SECONDED BY: Dennis Gauthier

That the agenda be adopted as circulated.
CARRIED.

MINUTES:

MOVED BY: Dennis Gauthier
SECONDED BY: George Hodgkinson

That Council approve minutes dated:

May 4th, 2004

May 18th, 2004

May 20th, 2004

CARRIED.

ACCOUNTS:

MOVED BY: Rick O'Brien
SECONDED BY: Dennis Gauthier

THAT the General and Roads Accounts be paid in the amount of \$248,207.70.

CARRIED.

DELEGATIONS:

- * John Davis/Norman Lariviere - Proposed Severance
- * Steve McNamara/Ralph Cowan/Frank Wolanski - Bruce Jones

NEW BUSINESS:

- * 2003 Financial Statements
- * 2004 Budget
- * 2004 Budget Meeting June 15th
- * Mr. Bruce Jones

MOTIONS:

MOVED BY: Rick O'Brien
SECONDED BY: Steve Bennett

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Laurentian Valley has identified two key areas in which action by the Provincial Government is needed. Firstly, support is needed to encourage the implementation of diversion programs and secondly, a review is needed of the Environmental Assessment (EA) process to facilitate responsible planning by municipalities to manage the waste remaining after diversion.

CARRIED.

MOVED BY: Rick O'Brien
SECONDED BY: Steve Bennett

That Council approve Land Severance File No. B22/04, File No. B23/04 and File No. 84/04.

CARRIED.

MOVED BY: Rick O'Brien
SECONDED BY: George Hodgkinson

WHEREAS Section 19 of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* provides that the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) must prepare and deliver a preliminary list of electors to each local municipality in the year of an election;

AND WHEREAS the municipality must correct hundreds of errors in the preliminary list prepared by MPAC in every election year;

AND WHEREAS numerous errors are repeated election after election, even though MPAC receives a copy of all corrections made by the municipality;

AND WHEREAS taxpayers have demonstrated their dissatisfaction with regards to this situation which reoccurs every three years and forces them to fill out the same forms over and over again;

AND WHEREAS it is very difficult for municipalities to work with a preliminary list of this quality;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Laurentian Valley petition the Minister of Municipal Affairs to examine this problem which affects all municipalities and numerous taxpayers;

AND BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Laurentian Valley suggests the possibility of proceeding with an enumeration in every municipal election year by MPAC in order to improve the accuracy of the preliminary list. In the event of this first option being too costly, the government could establish an efficient mechanism in the preparation of the preliminary list of electors in order to avoid frustration from taxpayers and municipalities and the waste of human and financial resources.

CARRIED.

MOVED BY: Steve Bennett
SECONDED BY: Dennis Gauthier

WHEREAS the Township of Laurentian Valley is a mixed urban and rural municipality where approximately 511 residential units (approximately 1300 residents) receive municipal water and sewer services;

AND WHEREAS the Township of Laurentian Valley operates a water distribution facility and a wastewater collection facility that require separate and ever-increasing reporting;

AND WHEREAS post-Walkerton regulations have caused the cost of water production to skyrocket along with capital costs for improvements to infrastructure;

AND RECOGNIZING that while the Ministry's evolving regulations are intended to improve both the quality of water and the processes to assess the quality of water, they also cause a dramatic increase in the administrative and auditing resources required;

AND WHEREAS in the Township of Laurentian Valley at least, the extra costs incurred have not improved the already excellent quality of drinking water produced and provided to water customers;

AND WHEREAS full cost recovery is forcing municipalities to impose huge increases in water and sewer service rates for a product that is essential to life;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Laurentian Valley hereby requests the Ministry of the Environment and the Province of Ontario to provide financial and/or legislated relief to smaller service areas that face increasing costs;

AND FURTHER, Council requests the Minister of the Environment to accept an invitation to meet with the Township of Laurentian Valley representatives with the intent that opportunities to address this resource shortfall can be explored in a cooperative and open matter;

AND FURTHER, that this resolution be forwarded to the Premier's Office, the office of the Minister of the Environment, the office of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and all Renfrew County Municipalities.

CARRIED.

MOVED BY: Dennis Gauthier

SECONDED BY: George Hodgkinson

WHEREAS the Ministry of Environment has set new rules and regulations for drinking water standards on all public facilities;

AND WHEREAS these rules apply to churches, community halls, campgrounds, restaurants and other small businesses;

AND WHEREAS the rules are excessive and require engineers, water purification systems and testing (this testing being weekly, monthly and every three months as directed);

AND WHEREAS these excessive rules and regulations could seriously jeopardize rural churches, rural community halls and local businesses due to the excessive initial and ongoing costs that these facilities cannot afford;

AND WHEREAS these excessive rules and regulations could force churches, halls, campgrounds and businesses to close;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Laurentian Valley petition the Ministry of the Environment and Premier Dalton McGuinty to reassess this issue and look for solutions that are feasible for rural Ontario.

CARRIED.

BY-LAWS:

By-Law Number 04-05-214 being a By-law to amend By-law Number 92-19, as amended, of the (former) Township of Alice and Fraser be given three readings and passed on a motion by George Hodgkinson and Steve Bennett.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED BY: Rick O'Brien

SECONDED BY: Steve Bennett

That the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED.

REEVE

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER