THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF JOCELYN MINUTES July 7, 2020

Regular meeting of Council was held at the Jocelyn Township Hall on July 7, 2020. Attendance: Reeve Mark Henderson, Councillor Janet Callahan, Albert Crowder, Brian Dukes, and Greg Gilbertson, and Clerk Janet Boucher.

20-53 Moved by Janet Callahan

Seconded by Brian Dukes

Resolved that we do call this meeting of Council to order.

Cd.

20-54 Moved by Greg Gilbertson

Seconded by Brian Dukes

Resolved that we adopt the minutes of the March 3, 2020 meeting of Council as amended (correction of a Councillor Name).

Cd.

Township Vouchers:

Reeve Henderson declared a conflict of interest and vacated his seat as Reeve for the approval and payment of *Recreation Voucher* 2020.05(B) on the basis that his spouse is an owner of Kentvale Store.

The following vouchers were presented as adopted.

20-55 Moved by Greg Gilbertson

Seconded by Brian Dukes

Resolved that we approve Township Voucher 2020.06 (A) in the amount of

\$103,181.78. Cd. Cd.

20-56 Moved by Janet Callahan

Seconded by Brian Dukes

Resolved that we do approve *Recreation Voucher 2020.06 (A)* in the amount of \$1243.00 paid out of Recreation Funds.

Cd.

Councillor Dukes took over the chair for the adoption of the *Recreation Voucher* 2020.06(B).

20-57 Moved by Greg Gilbertson

Seconded by Janet Callahan

Resolved that we approve *Recreation Voucher 2020.06(B)* in the amount of \$208.18 paid out of Recreations Funds.

Cd.

The Reeve resumed the chair as head of Council.

The Clerk's Report was adopted as presented.

20-58 Moved by Brian Dukes

Seconded by Albert Crowder

Resolved that we do adopt the Clerk's Report and accompanying reports as presented. Cd.

Various verbal committee reports were provided. Due to Covid – 19, many groups, boards and committees have not met.

Roads matters were discussed in conjunction with a budget review. The 5th Side Road from the 2nd Concession to the 4th Concession and a small portion beyond that on the 5th Side Road from Jocelyn Drive for 300 metres, are under construction and resurfaced. A time line for the resurfacing has not been confirmed but it is anticipated that it will be in August. Ratepayers are advised that in preparation, this road will be gravel for much of the summer and construction will be taking place. We apologize in advance for the inconvenience this will cause and remind motorists to drive for the conditions, be patient with the construction crews and slow down.

Two items of correspondence were received from a ratepayers on Huron Line and a ratepayer on Spooky Hollow regarding drainage matters. Funding has been obtained to do further repairs on the Huron Line damage caused by the June 2019 flooding event, however requirements and limitations for the funding have not been received. Both of these matter will be dealt with.

20-59 Moved by Janet Callahan Seconded by Albert Crowder

Resolved that we do acknowledge receipt of correspondence from the owners of 309 Spooky Hollow Drive and 3508 Huron Line, regarding drainage issues on the Huron Line as a result of the 2019 June rain event.

Cd.

Correspondence was received from the Ministry of Environment regarding Storm Water Management at the Jocelyn Township Landfill. The following resolution was passed acknowledging this correspondence.

20-60 Moved by Greg Gilbertson Seconded by Albert Crowder

Resolved that we do acknowledge receipt of correspondence from Kirk Crosson (MECP) and correspondence from Pinchin Limited, regarding the need for a storm water management plan and compaction within the Jocelyn Township Landfill.

Cd.

Council agreed to work on the compaction and to cover the landfill more frequently to address immediate concerns.

Council discussed the 2020 Municipal Budget and the impacts of COVID-19 on our community. Considerable increases were noted in the budget, including policing costs \$11,866), Algoma District Social Services (\$6108), the reduction of the municipality

operating grant of \$6500, a commitment to the St. Joseph Island Food Bank (\$2600), Algoma Health Unit (\$808) and COVID-19 expenses (undetermined). The net effect of the increases are approximately \$27,000 which would result in a 3% tax rate increase.

The budget was presented as requested, without an increase. This was done by taking \$27,000 from the Efficiency Fund Reserve, provided to municipalities in 2019.

The following information is provided through OPTA (Online Property Tax Analysis). The shift in assessment in the residential class, even with showing a .1 percent tax increase, was significant.

*373 properties would have an average increase of \$31.00

- *11 properties would have an average increase of \$135.00
- *274 properties would have an average decrease of \$28.00
- *11 properties would have an average decrease of \$123.00

Median/Typical Property Tax Impact:

Single Family Home – Tax Change: - \$34.22

Seasonal Recreational Dwelling – Tax Change: - \$5.95

Farm House – Tax Change: +\$115.41 Farmland – Tax Change: +\$14.55 Managed Forest – Tax Change: +\$6.44

A sample assessment comparison based on the current proposal would be as follows: A property valued at \$100,000 in 2019 would have raised \$1077.61 in taxes A property valued at \$100,000 in 2020 would raise \$1034.25 in taxes

Some of Council expressed concern that the full increase should not be taken from reserves as we do not know what will occur with future budgets as a result of COVID – 19 and other annual increases. There was a discussion that a modest increase in the tax rate may be a more appropriate option than a much larger increase in 2021 and in subsequent years.

The following by-law was passed to adopt the budget as presented with a .1 percent increase, and a recorded vote was requested by Councillor Dukes.

20-61 Moved by Greg Gilbertson Seconded by Albert Crowder

Resolved that we do adopt By-Law No. 2020-1454 being a by-law to provide for the adoption of the estimates for the year, and the adoption of tax rates for all property classes for 2020 and to further provide for penalty and interest in default of payment thereof for 2020.

Yay – Albert Crowder Nay – Janet Callahan Nay – Brian Dukes Yay – Greg Gilbertson

Yay – Mark Henderson

Cd.

Other items of correspondence received included the following:

- 1) Ratepayer of 5392 Wierzbicki Drive ratepayer requesting Council reconsider the temporary closure of the Jocelyn Township Share Shed
- 2) ARCH Hospice 2020 Bucket List Ride

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- Norfolk County issues regarding mapping of the Provincially Significant Wetland
- 4) Ministry of Finance announcing the deferral of Education Property Tax Remittance in June and September for 90 days
- 5) Dr. Harold Trefry request to be considered during the 2020 budget preparation.
- 6) OPP re 2020 Municipal Policing Billing Statement Property Count
- 7) OPP change in security check and revenue Distribution process
- 8) Ministry of Municipal Affairs Municipal Disaster Recovery Assistance Program to receive up to \$121,747.96 this package/terms have not been received yet
- 9) OPP- recent protest activity
- 10) Michael Mantha Congratulations on receiving MDRAP funding
- 11) Central Algoma Fresh Water Coalition "Living Sustainably in Algoma"
- 12) Emilie Currie, Economic Development Officer for HNCEA and Lori Patter, Mayor of the Town of Bruce Mines letters regarding the draft broadband strategy for the region

Henderson requested that we move into closed meeting to address a legal matter.

20-62 Moved by Janet Callahan

Seconded by Greg Gilbertson

Resolved that Council proceed into closed session at 8:15 PM in accordance to Section 239 of the Municipal Act in order to address matter pertaining to advice that is subject to solicitor client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose

Cd.

20-63 Moved by Albert Crowder

Seconded by Brian Dukes

Resolved that we do return to regular meeting of Council at 8:30 PM.

Cd.

No action was required as this was an update on an ongoing legal matter, affecting the municipality.

20-64 Moved by Janet Callahan

Seconded by Albert Crowder

Resolved that we pass By-Law No. 2020-1455, being a by-law to confirm the meeting of Council held on July 7, 2020.

Cd.

20-65 Moved by Janet Callahan

Seconded by Greg Gilbertson

Resolved that we do adjourn and meet again on August 4, 2020 or at the call of the Reeve.

Cd.

Reeve		
Clark	 	
Clerk		