

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
Wednesday, June 23rd, 2004
7:00 p.m.

Magnetawan Community Centre

Any and All Minutes are to be considered Draft until approved by Council at a Regular Meeting of Council

1. OPENING COMMENTS
by Mayor Sam Dunnett

In Attendance:

Council Members: Mayor Sam Dunnett;
Jack Crossman; Dick Smith; Sam Stewart; and Frank Tod.

Municipal Staff: Brenda J. Fraser, Clerk/Administrator

2. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS
Councillor Jack Crossman declared a Pecuniary Interest with the Ahmic Harbour / Croft Fire Brigade.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-234

Moved by: Jack Crossman

Seconded by: Sam Stewart

Be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan approves the Minutes of the Council Meeting(s) as presented and circulated:

1. Special Meeting of Council on Wednesday, June 9th, 2004;
2. Regular Meeting of Council on Wednesday, June 9th, 2004; and
3. Special Meeting of Council on Monday, June 14th, 2004.

Carried.

4. DELEGATES

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-235

Moved by: Jack Crossman

Seconded by: Dick Smith

Be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan authorizes the Treasurer to issue receipts for donations made towards the program sponsored by the Magnetawan Lions Club with regard t the purchase of two (2) defibrillators being donated to the Magnetawan Fire Department.

Carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-236

Moved by: Sam Stewart

Seconded by: Jack Crossman

Be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan authorizes the Magnetawan Lions Club to proceed with the construction of a 'Walkway' extending from the Nipissing Road Bridge to the Biddy Street boat launch, as per attached Schedule 'A'. **Carried.**

5. BY-LAWS

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-237

Moved by: Dick Smith

Seconded by: Frank Tod

Be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan introduces By-law No. 2004-24 being a By-law to authorize the execution of a 911 Central Emergency Reporting Bureau (CERB) Services Agreement, with Her Majesty the Queen in right of the Province of Ontario as represented by the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services on behalf of the Ontario Provincial Police and adopts said By-law as being read three (3) times. The Mayor and Clerk/Administrator are hereby authorized to sign same and to affix the Corporation Seal thereto. **Carried.**

6. MOTIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-238

Moved by: Jack Crossman

Seconded by: Sam Stewart

Be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan has received and reviewed the 2003 Consolidated Financial Statements for the Corporation of the Municipality of Magnetawan as prepared by our Auditor, Michael Turner and authorizes the release of this information to the public. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-239

Moved by: Frank Tod

Seconded by: Dick Smith

Be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan authorizes the Treasurer to place an 'Ad' in the Almaguin News notifying the Public that the Municipality of Magnetawan 2003 Consolidated Financial Statements are now available. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-240

Moved by: Sam Stewart

Seconded by: Jack Crossman

Be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan approves the hiring of Scott Thomas for the advertised 'Part Time Parks Caretaker' position, under a six (6) month probationary period. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-241

Moved by: Frank Tod

Seconded by: Dick Smith

WHEREAS the Assessment Review Board has recently rendered a decision classifying for-profit residential children's summer camps as "lands used for residential purposes on a seasonal basis"; **AND WHEREAS** Ontario Regulation 282/98 does not specify how for-profit residential summer camps should be classified;

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the Municipality of Magnetawan petition the Minister of Finance to review the Assessment Review Board decision released on May 5, 2004 classifying for-profit residential children's summer camps as lands used for residential purposes on a seasonal basis and enact legislation amending Ontario Regulation 282/98 to reflect the for-profit nature of these businesses. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-242

Moved by: Dick Smith

Seconded by: Sam Stewart

WHEREAS, in its present form, O. Reg. 170/03 imposes undue and extreme hardship on rural ratepayers, targeting Municipalities and small businesses with punitive legislation, threatening the survival of rural economies across the province;

AND WHEREAS as Reg. 170 requires rural Municipalities and applicable business owners to pay the cost of engineers' reports plus the costs for weekly water testing, the toll will be too great for small businesses to bear and many will have to close their doors;

AND WHEREAS Municipalities are now overburdened with the costs of previous provincial downloading, the residential/commercial property tax base cannot carry the additional load of yet another major provincial program;

AND WHEREAS our rural economy depends on tourism and the services provided by small businesses, the draconian legislation of Reg. 170 will literally close the hand that feeds us;

AND WHEREAS recognizing that the recommendations of the Walkerton Inquiry deserve close attention, the rush to legislate "Safe Water" with Reg. 170 is counterproductive and creates undue and harmful consequences for rural communities;

AND WHEREAS a healthy rural economy is the backbone of Ontario, and excessive Regulations in Reg. 170 equally deserve close attention - to preserve our rural economy;

AND WHEREAS the Walkerton incident singularly exposed gross negligence and was a wake-up call for "due diligence" calling for reasoned and affordable legislation that measures existing due diligence for "safe water" already in place;

AND WHEREAS the punitive requirements in Reg. 170 suggests that all drinking water in rural Ontario may be unsafe and that assumption is unreasonable, given the results of "safe" water tests from Health Units, every day;

AND WHEREAS as the Provincial Government has not demonstrated a need for such drastic legislation, the need for engineers' reports or weekly testing is neither justified nor logistically feasible in remote rural areas;

AND WHEREAS residents see the waste of overprotective legislation daily in the news and they object to throwing more hard-earned wages down the drain to prove to Queen's Park that their already tested "safe" water is still "safe" to drink;

AND WHEREAS drinking water tests for residents are free at Health Units but Reg. 170 does not extend the same privilege to Municipalities or businesses;

AND WHEREAS such legislation should appropriately reflect the degree of need for public

protection versus the cost consequences for all Ontarians and Reg. 170 fails to meet this criteria on both counts;

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the Municipality of Magnetawan, on behalf of rural residential/commercial ratepayers in the Province of Ontario, requests that the regulations in O. Reg. 170/03 be revised: to properly assess need with afford ability; to recognize that the property tax base cannot withstand further downloading of Provincial and Federal Government programs; and to protect the survival of rural communities. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-243

Moved by: Jack Crossman

Seconded by: Sam Stewart

WHEREAS the Ontario Government is implementing Regulation 170/03, and in doing so will affect Town Halls, Churches and private property owners including Small Businesses, Local Community Centres and Campgrounds;

AND WHEREAS meeting requirements of Regulation 170/03 has meant and will mean excessive costs and financial burdens for all Drinking Water System Owners;

AND WHEREAS there is no demonstrated proof that this New Regulation will improve drinking water that has been and continues to be safe in Rural Municipalities;

AND WHEREAS Ontario Regulation 170/03 was passed without adequate consultation with stakeholders throughout Ontario;

AND WHEREAS said stakeholders should have been consulted concerning the necessity, efficacy, environmental and health impacts on Rural Ontario;

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly of Ontario abandon the implementation of and immediately repeal, Regulation 170/03, as well as amending the pertinent, enabling Legislation. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-244

Moved by: Jack Crossman

Seconded by: Sam Stewart

Whereas the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) currently provides all assessment and relocation services to Municipalities;

And Whereas MPAC is both a monopoly and government agency;

And Whereas there is no basis for price and service comparison as there are no other service providers;

Now Therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Magnetawan encourage the Province to consider all options, including the privatization of the property tax assessment function;

And Further be it resolved that council petition the Premier of Ontario to cap residential increases at no greater than five percent and that the tax policy be reviewed in general. **Carried.**

7. CORRESPONDENCE

None

8. UNFINISHED / NEW BUSINESS

9.

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-245

Moved by: Sam Stewart

Seconded by: Jack Crossman

Be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan authorizes the Clerk/Administrator to place an 'Ad' in the Almaguin News requesting a ratepayer/resident of our Municipality to participate on the Magnetawan Community Centre Committee. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-246

Moved by: Frank Tod

Seconded by: Dick Smith

Be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan approves the conditions of the work schedule for the replacement of the Nipissing Road Bridge, as presented by Les Pataky, MNR and attached hereto as Schedule 'A'. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-247

Moved by: Jack Crossman

Seconded by: Sam Stewart

Be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan authorizes the Roads Superintendent to proceed with the purchase and placement of the sign at the Biddy Street boat launch. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-248

Moved by: Frank Tod

Seconded by: Jack Crossman

Be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan authorizes the purchase of a Business Card Size Ad to support the Almaguin Music Festival, in the amount of \$35.00. **Carried.**

9. ACCOUNTS

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-249

Moved by: Sam Stewart

Seconded by: Jack Crossman

Be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan approves the accounts as presented and circulated in the amount of: Roads (Invoices and Payroll) \$28,387.54; General Government (Invoices and Payroll) \$47,349.30; and Levies \$241,139.78; for a total of \$316,876.62. **Carried.**

10. ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-250

Moved by: Jack Crossman

Seconded by: Frank Tod

Be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan does hereby now adjourn.

Time: 8:22 p.m.

Carried.

Sam Dunnett, *Mayor*

Brenda J. Fraser, *Clerk/Administrator*