Minutes of a Regular Meeting of Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee held at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall on March 11, 2015

Present:
Mayor: Richard Masse
Deputy Mayor: Dave DeLellis
Councillors:
  Darlene Wiper
  Dayne Malloch
Absent: Peter Letkeman

Staff:
  Wayne Miller – CAO/Clerk/Treasurer
  Katrina DiGiovanni-Deputy Clerk

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Mayor presented the agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council for February 19, 2015 for adoption

Moved by: Dayne Malloch
Seconded by: Dave DeLellis
Carried.

2.) Minutes

a.) The minutes for the Regular Meeting of Council held on February 19, 2015 were presented and adopted.

Moved by: Darlene Wiper
Seconded by: Dayne Malloch
Carried.

3.) Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

There were three declarations of pecuniary interest under disbursements as follows:
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8. c) Mayor Masse with cheque number 11633; a cheque for personal expenses.
8. a) Darlene Wiper with cheque number 11620; a cheque for personal expenses.
8. b) Dave DeLellis with cheque number 11621; a cheque for election nomination refund and apartment rental.

4.) Petitions and Delegations

None.

5.) Old Business

a.) Committee Appointments

Mayor Masse presented a Committee Application for the policing committee that was not considered at the January 15, 2015 meeting of Council for Bruno Friesen.

The following resolution was passed:

Resolution 2015-24:

Moved by: Dayne Malloch
Seconded by: Dave DeLellis

"Be it Resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee hereby appoints Bruno Friesen to the Pelee Island Policing Committee for the term of Council from 2014-2018".

Carried.

6.) New Business

a.) Preliminary 2014 Budget Results

The CAO presented the 2014 preliminary budget results and outlined where the township was with the review and audit. The CAO commented that originally there was a deficit budgeted for, but there is currently a small surplus showing. The CAO went on to highlight some variances in departments and stated that manager’s budget from historical numbers and with estimates where they work across departments. The CAO highlighted that staff department totals for wages came in under budget for 2014.
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The CAO went on to state further variances and highlighted areas of importance. The CAO then went on to explain the surplus, what contributed to it and that the auditors still have to review figures to come to the final total. The CAO also stated that previously education costs had been overpaid and this overpayment would reduce 2015 costs. Deputy Mayor DeLellis asked if this overpayment would be spread out over a few years or if it would be a lump sum. The CAO responded that it would be a lump sum to reduce the total. Councillor Wiper asked if the township had to pay interest on past due amounts and the CAO responded that no interest had been charged.

Discussion continued on the improved financial state and how best to manage funds for 2015 as well as past education payment and credits.

The following resolution was passed:

Resolution 2015-25:

Moved by: Dave DeLellis
Seconded by: Darlene Wiper

"Be it Resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee hereby accepts the report from the CAO on Preliminary Budget Results for 2014".

Carried.

b.) Preliminary 2015 Budget Projections

The CAO introduced the 2015 budget projections and stated that this was a discussion on the budget to answer any questions and to give information to Council to consider budget suggestions and make decisions on at the next budget meeting.

The CAO outlined capital projects for 2015 and related costs for each department. The CAO highlighted drainage works that have to be completed on fuel and exhaust lines to meet new regulations. Councillor Wiper asked if there would be any grant money available for this project and the CAO responded that some funding would be required. The CAO further commented that all of the work for the pump houses may not have to be completed in 2015 and that he would look further into it.

The CAO went on to discuss building permits that were not closed for the pump houses and water plant and that there were some deficiencies. He stated that some repairs have been made but
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there may be some further engineering costs to close these permits.

Then CAO stated that there was a deficit created by all the capital projects but that this would be worked out and scaled down for the next budget meeting.

The CAO commented on the Transfer Station costs and Councillor Malloch asked about the revenue variance from 2013-2014. The CAO commented that the gas tax refund that is received yearly was applied to the Transfer Station in 2013 for gravel.

The CAO discussed Marina costs and revenue. Deputy Mayor DeLellis suggested that the water at the Bonnett Building be looked into because he thought it may be better water and filtration than what the Marina currently has. The CAO responded that he would look into this and see if it was a possibility. Councillor Malloch asked if maintenance works should be done to the Bonnett Building this year or next. The CAO said that an inspection would be done this spring.

The CAO went on to highlight the Road’s budget and Deputy Mayor DeLellis asked what the miscellaneous revenue amount was. The CAO responded that it was grant money from the Ontario Community Improvement Fund and the money would be used first for bridge inspections. Discussion ensued about fuel costs. Deputy Mayor DeLellis questioned the increased expenditure for dust suppressant. The CAO responded that the full amount requested in 2014 was not granted and that with increased laying of gravel this year, more suppressant would be needed. Further discussion continued on the Road’s budget.

The CAO suggested that each manager come to Council to discuss their budget at the first meeting in April. The CAO also suggested that all Councillors take the budget information home to review further and come back with suggestions and questions.

The following resolution was passed:

Resolution 2015-26:

Moved by: Darlene Wiper
Seconded by: Dave DeLellis

"Be it Resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee hereby accepts the report form the CAO on Preliminary Budget Projections for 2015".

Carried.
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7.) Correspondence

a.) Thorold Wild Game Dinner Pheasant License Request for 4 Licenses

Mayor Masse presented the request for pheasant hunt licenses for the Thorold Wild Game Dinner. Councillor Malloch suggested that when requests for licenses come in that we should find out how they know about the Island and if they have hunted on the Island before.

Councillor Malloch suggested that two licenses be donated, instead of the requested four and Mayor Masse further commented that one should be donated for the first hunt and one for the second.

The following resolution was passed:

Resolution 2015-27:

Moved by: Dayne Malloch
Seconded by: Darlene Wiper

“Be it Resolved that the Corporation of the Township of Pelee hereby agrees to donate 2 complimentary pheasant hunt licenses for 2015 to St. Catharines and Thorold Community Care Centre for their annual wild game dinner, one for the first hunt and one for the second hunt”.

Carried.

b.) Zane Hooper Improvement Suggestions

Mayor Masse suggested that the CAO send a letter to Zane thanking him for his suggestions. The CAO responded that a letter had been sent and that Zane’s suggestions would now be passed on to the Tourism Committee.

8.) Disbursements

The Mayor presented disbursements to Council.

The following resolution was passed:

Resolution 2015-28:
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Moved By: Dayne Malloch
Seconded By: Darlene Wiper/Dave DeLellis

"Resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee hereby resolves to pay disbursements as presented and attached in the amount of $89,378.62, taking into account stated pecuniary interests".

Carried.

9.) Boards and Committees

There were no presentations from any boards or committees.

10.) Councillor and Miscellaneous Reports

a.) Load Limits

Councillor Wiper asked if there could be notices posted on the roads with load limits as roads are thawing. The CAO stated that he would look for the by-law.

b.) Internet

Deputy Mayor DeLellis stated that he had been looking into new internet options for the Island and that fiber optic cables could be a solution and it may be an incentive for Hydro One to run a new cable at the same time. The Deputy Mayor stated that he would continue to look into this.

c.) Mayor’s Meeting

Mayor Masse stated that he had attended a Mayor’s meeting and one point of discussion was neighbouring municipalities uniting together to get grant money and the attendees made a commitment to work together for grant applications.

d.) Petition

Mayor Masse commented that he had received a petition regarding the maintenance of trees along West Shore Road and Centre Dyke Road. He further stated that he had not yet responded but the purpose was to find a better way to maintain the trees.

e.) Airport Re-certification
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Councillor Malloch inquired about re-certifying the airport and asked if it would improve the chances of funding. The CAO stated that he had discussions with a Windsor Airport representative about re-certifying and that he would assist the township with the process. Mayor Masse stated that being certified did not guarantee funding and there is an annual fee for being certified. The CAO commented that capital works would have to be completed before the township could be re-certified.

f.) In-Camera

Councillor Malloch asked to go in-camera to discuss a personnel matter.

g.) UTV By-Law

Mayor Masse addressed the CAO and stated that he and Councillor Letkeman were interested in what progress had been made on the UTV by-law. The CAO stated that he was looking into the legislation.

11.) In Camera

Councillor Malloch requested to go in-camera to discuss Personnel Matters. Mayor Masse suggested that the by-laws be passed prior to moving into a closed meeting.

The following resolution was passed:

Resolution 2015-30:

Moved by: Dayne Malloch

Seconded by: Darlene Wiper

“Be it Resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee hereby agrees to move into a closed meeting to discuss personnel matters”.

Carried.

Council moved out of the closed meeting.

The following resolution was passed:

Resolution 2015-31:
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Moved by: Darlene Wiper
Seconded by: Dayne Malloch

“Be it Resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee hereby moves out of in-camera and adjourns the meeting at 9:00 p.m.”.

Carried.

12.) By-Laws

a.) Mayor Masse brought forward By-Law 2015-05 being a by-law to Enter into Agreement with Department of Fisheries and Oceans”.

Deputy Mayor DeLellis inquired about what the 20% addendum amount represented. The CAO responded that this fee represented slip fees. Further discussion continued on the agreement terms and payment rates.

Discussion began on the divestiture of the Marina from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the history of discussions with Ministries. Discussion continued on blocking off the federal dock from vehicles and making arrangements for water haulers as well as possible safety requirements. Deputy Mayor DeLellis asked if there could be a letter sent stating that the Township would not be held liable if there were not proper safety devices installed at the federal dock.

The following resolution was passed:

Resolution 2015-29:

Moved by: Dave DeLellis
Seconded by: Darlene Wiper

“Be it Resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee hereby agrees to pass By-Law 2015-05 being a by-law for the CAO and Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans for the Small Craft Harbour on Pelee Island”.

Carried.
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b.) Mayor Masse presented by-law 2015-06 being a by-law to confirm proceedings.

The following resolution was passed:

Resolution 2015-30:

Moved by: Darlene Wiper

Seconded by: Dave DeLellis

“Be it Resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee hereby supports passing By-Law 2015-06 being a by-law to confirm proceedings for this March 11, 2015 meeting of council”.

Carried.

[Signatures]

Rick Masse
Mayor

Wayne Miller
Chief Administrative Officer