Minutes of a Regular Meeting of Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee held at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall on October 6, 2014

Present:
Mayor: Richard Masse
Councillors: Darlene Wiper
Ray Durocher
Dayne Malloch
Peter Letkeman

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

Public: Geraldine Marentette
Bruno and Lucy Grossi

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

The Mayor presented the agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council of October 6, 2014.

Moved by: Ray Durocher
Seconded by: Darlene Wiper
Carried.

2.) Minutes
a.) The minutes for the Regular Meeting of Council held on September 22, 2014 were presented and adopted.

Moved by: Dayne Malloch
Seconded by: Peter Letkeman
Carried.

3.) Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest
None were declared at this time.
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4.) Petitions and Delegations

   a) North Shore residents; AGCO appeal for Scudder Beach Bar & Grill

   Mayor Masse asked Mrs. Marentette to proceed with her concerns regarding the Township removing its letter of objection from the AGCO regarding Scudder Beach Bar & Grill.

   Mrs. Marentette began by stating that 9 residents from North Shore Road attended the AGCO hearing on October 1, they were informed that Mr. Hamm wanted modifications made to his liquor license conditions, including amplified music from when the bar opened until 10:00 p.m. with the use of 5 amplifiers.

   Mrs. Marentette went on to state that these North Shore residents were opposed to modifying or lifting the conditions from the beginning and they felt let down by Council with the removal of the Township’s objection.

   Mrs. Marentette asked that Council re-examine the removal of the objection letter due to Mr. Hamm not making Council aware of the amplified music, further stating that this would be detrimental to the neighbor’s quiet, peaceful environment.

   Mayor Masse went over the proposal previously made by Mr. Hamm and stated that it was evident that residents were strongly against modifying any conditions of the liquor license.

   Councillor Malloch addressed Mr. Hamm, asking him to comment on his presentation to Council and what restrictions were discussed.

   Councillor Wiper first commented and wanted to clarify that music outdoors was presented during his delegation and that she had stated she would only agree to remove the letter if there was no amplified music outside.

   Mr. Hamm stated that he would consult with the neighbors once the amplifiers were installed to ensure the volume was at a reasonable level. He further stated that he was not looking for removal of restrictions, just modifications so he can better run his business. Mr. Hamm went on to state that the music outdoors would be background music.

   Mr. Grossi commented that he did not believe that a happy medium could be found with this outdoor music and further stated that he was concerned that once residents agreed on these amplifiers that Mr. Hamm would not follow the rules set out. Mr. Grossi went on to state that he believed resubmitting the letter should be considered as well as the municipal noise by-laws.

   Councillor Malloch stated that if no neighbors were in favor of having the conditions modified
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that he would move to support the neighbors and reinstate the letter.

Mayor Masse asked the CAO to make contact with the AGCO and see if the letter could be resubmitted.

Councillor Malloch stated that there were a few members of the public present but that a signed letter from all those involved should be submitted to have a formal statement of opposition.

Mrs. Marentette agreed to ask the rest of the residents to sign a statement and send it to the Township.

Mayor Masse went on to further clarify the happening of Mr. Hamm’s previous delegation and suggested that Council had the option to do nothing, reinstate the letter or submit a new letter.

Councillor Letkeman stated that he believed a new letter should be submitted by the Township regarding residents concerns about music and alcohol.

The following resolution was made:

Resolution 2014-112:

Moved by: Peter Letkeman
Seconded by: Dayne Malloch

“Resolved that the Corporation of the Township of Pelee hereby agrees to accept the concerns from North Shore residents in regards to removing the Township’s objection from the AGCO regarding Scudder Beach Bar & Grill and further that a letter be written to AGCO stating concerns upon receipt of written opposition from residents”.

Carried.

5.) Old Business

None.
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6.) New Business

a) Waterfront Trail Proposal

Mayor Masse introduced the Waterfront Trail proposal and stated that it was a good opportunity to become part of this trail system from Quebec to Lake Erie and that the group was seeking relationship to add Pelee as a stop on the map, making Pelee the first Island to be added to the trail system. Mayor Masse went on to state that this would help to increase tourism and that to take part we would have to put signage up. Mayor Masse stated that the cost of the signage would be covered by the Southwest Tourism Organization and that the Township would only be responsible for installation. Mayor Masse also stated that the contribution from the Township to support partnership with the trail system would be $500/year.

Councillor Letkeman stated that he would move to support this relationship.

The following resolution was passed:

Resolution 2014-113:

Moved By: Peter Letkeman

Seconded By: Darlene Wiper

"Resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee hereby supports joining the Waterfront Regeneration Trust Partnerships waterfront trail and agrees to the annual contribution of $500.00 to support the trail system".

Carried.

7.) Correspondence

a) Request for amendments to Off Road Vehicle By-Law

Mayor Masse introduced the request to amend By-Law #1664 for off-road vehicles and provided some history on the subject. Mayor Masse also stated that he researched the Highway Traffic Act and looked on the Ministry of Transportation website. He also stated that the MTO website considered UTV’s as off-road vehicles.

Mayor Masse suggested that the CAO get a written letter from the OPP that they will not ticket people using the UTV’s if the by-law is passed.
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Councillor Letkeman suggested that the definitions of off-road vehicles be changed and the by-law passed and once passed advise the OPP of the amended by-law.

Councillor Malloch stated that the definition of off-road vehicle be clarified with MTO and suggested that the CAO look further into the situation.

Councillor Letkeman agreed and was in favor of the change and further supported the CAO looking into what MTO will allow before amending the by-law and informing the OPP.

The following resolution was passed:

Resolution 2014-114:

Moved By: Dayne Malloch
Seconded By: Ray Durocher

“Resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee hereby accepts Grant Crawford’s request to consider amending By-Law 1664 regarding the use of ATV’s on municipal roads and further that the CAO consult with MTO before moving forward with by-law amendments”.

Carried.

b) 2015 Municipal OPP Billing Statement

Mayor Masse asked the CAO to present the letter received regarding the OPP billing statement. The CAO gave an overview of the process and the significant increases in costs that would go through 2019.

Councillor Letkeman asked why the rate was so high without having full-time policing.

The CAO responded that he spoke to the OPP representative and they stated that there was no appeal process to the billing and that the Township would have to go above their heads to receive any relief.

Councillor Letkeman asked if it was possible to hire LaSalle or Windsor police to provide the service.

Mayor Masse stated that this pay scale system was designed for urban and rural communities but there is no say on increases when the model is applied to small remote communities and the costs
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can be devastating for a small community.

Mayor Masse stated that contact should be made with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the premier, Ministry of Corrections as well as our current and future MPP to receive assistance to pay these additional costs. The Mayor also stated that because there is no appeal there will have to be a request made to either receive the full-time service being paid for or request subsidies to make the payments.

The CAO stated that he would inquire with Windsor and LaSalle to see what the costs would be to use other policing services. The CAO also stated that he would write to the superintendent and lay out the township’s case and our situation. He continued to state that if the response was not favorable that he would move forward with contacting the ministries and premiers.

Further discussion continued on police services on the Island.

The following resolution was passed:

Resolution 2014-115:

Moved By: Darlene Wiper

Seconded By: Ray Durocher

“Resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee hereby accepts the OPP’s 2015 Municipal Policing Billing Statement and further that a letter be sent to the police superintendent to outline unique situation of the Island and furthermore send a letter to MMP’s, Premier and, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Ministry of Corrections”.

Carried.

8.) Disbursements

Mayor Masse presented disbursements for approval, there were no comments.

The following resolution was passed:

Resolution 2014-116:

Moved By: Dayne Malloch

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Seconded By: Peter Letkeman

“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 $83, 518.08”

Carried.

9.) Boards and Committees

There were no presentations from any boards or committees.

10.) Councillor Reports

a) School Hunt Zone

Deputy Mayor Durocher asked about moving the school hunting zone signs and the CAO responded that he was having a meeting with the Pheasant Farm Manager next week and would get his input and have the signs moved.

b) Heritage Centre

Councillor Letkeman asked if there was anything that could be done to the Heritage Centre building as the original exterior is now failing. He also suggested that renovations including an elevator, heat and washrooms, take place to allow for Council chambers upstairs.

Councillor Malloch suggested getting estimates to fix the outside of the building and look into any municipal improvement grants for the work.

The CAO stated that the building would have to be added to the asset management plan.

The Mayor commented that administration should look into pricing out the outside cladding of the building, the elevator, heating and washrooms.

11.) In Camera
No In-Camera items.

12.) By-Laws

a) Mayor Masse brought forward By-Law 2014-31 being a by-law to provide for the 2013 drain maintenance for Big Marsh and Curry Marsh.

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Resolution 2014-117:

Moved by: Ray Durocher
Seconded by: Dayne Malloch

“Resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee hereby adopts By-Law 2013-31 being a by-law to provide for the 2013 maintenance of the following drains: Big Marsh and Curry Marsh; to raise the sum of $68,633.10 to pay therefore”.

Carried.

a) Mayor Masse brought forward By-Law 2014-32 being a by-law confirm proceedings of the October 6, 2014 meeting of Council.

The following resolution was passed:

Resolution 2014-118:

Moved by: Dayne Malloch
Seconded by: Peter Letkeman

“Resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee hereby agrees to pass By-Law 2014-32 being a by-law to confirm proceedings from this October 6, 2014 meeting of council”.

Carried.

Rick Masse
Mayor

Wayne Miller
Chief Administrative Officer