

TOWNSHIP OF WHITEWATER REGION
Council Meeting

Meeting Title: Regular Council Meeting **Date: Wed., December 1, 2010**

Place: Municipal Council Chambers **Start Time: 1:00 p.m.**

INAUGURAL MEETING MINUTES

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Prayer**
3. **Members Oath of Office**
4. **Roll Call**
5. **Prayer of Blessing – Father Tom Fitzpatrick**
6. **Mayor’s Address**
7. **Committee Appointments**
8. **By-laws**
 - a) 10-12-454 2011 Temporary Borrowing Bylaw
 - b) 10-12-455 2011 Municipal Signing Officials
 - c) 10-12-456 Municipal Council Code of Conduct
9. **Departmental Reports**
10. **Other Business**
 - a) Adoption of the Accounts
 - b) Adoption of Previous Minutes
 - c) Livestock Claim – McEwan & Nieuwenhuis
 - d) Christmas Office Schedule
11. **Adjournment**

Present : Councillors: Mayor Jim Labow, Deputy Mayor Izett McBride, Reeve Donald Rathwell, Cathy Regier, Joseph Trimm, Daryl McLaughlin and Allen Dick.

Staff Present: Dean Sauriol

Clerk administered the Declaration of Elected Office and Oath of Affirmation of allegiance to all incoming council members.

Prayer was recited

Clerk conducted Roll Call

Father Tom Fitzpatrick was present and blessed the new term of Council

Mayor’s Address

Mayor Labow made the following address:

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. It is with great pleasure and great honour that I stand before you today as Mayor of the Township of Whitewater Region. I would like to thank everyone who has supported and encouraged me, especially my wife, Marilyn, who puts up with my absences on council business and often times a meal so we can eat together between work and running out the door to a council function. It was not by original design that I ran for mayor for this term. My friend and mentor the late Deputy-Mayor Ron Lowe wanted and deserved a chance to be your mayor, but it was not to be.

I wish instead to dedicate this term of council to his memory.

We live in a marvelous and beautiful part of the world. Almost anything you could wish for is available here with the exception of enough jobs to keep our young members employed near home. The previous councils have been very pro-development and we must continue this trend if we wish to one day achieve total self-sustainment. One of the key areas that has been and will continue to be important is tourism. Toward that end, I would ask that each councilor and staff member be a tourism ambassador not only for visitors but for our own ratepayers. We must make newcomers and long time residents feel that they belong, are welcome and are important to the well-being of the Township. Treat all as you would like to be treated.

An idea presented to me at the all candidates meeting in Westmeath was directional signage to the businesses in our township. Perhaps the Culture committee, responsible for parks, recreation and tourism, could work with the business communities to develop this signage as an attempt to support these businesses and aid in their growth. Small business growth is probably the next most important area in our township development.

After ten years together, all corners of our township need to be united by one official plan. The approval of our official plan and its associated zoning by-law must be brought to the forefront again. This will let builders proceed without wondering if they have the proper zoning for the area they are in, as the zoning requirements will be applied on an equal basis throughout the township. A proper official plan is a key to orderly development and growth.

Fiscal responsibility has always been important, but will be more so in the future. The residents of the villages of Beachburg and Cobden and the Haley Townsite must now pay for the provincially mandated improvements to their water systems. Upgrades to the sewage treatment plant in Cobden are probably not far off the radar screen of the provincial and federal governments. We must be careful not to add too much to this burden with other projects. Provincial and or federal funding, or lack thereof, will be an important factor in anything we do and may well define the scope of many projects. I expect the Growth and Development committee to work with the Finance Committee to research the

possibilities of grants. Perhaps an economic development staff person dedicated to this purpose will be the way to go. That will be a topic for much discussion.

During the election period another topic of interest was the make-up of council and the continued use of the ward system. The pro-ward supporters insist that the ward system is necessary to ensure equal representation for all areas. Detractors say that after 10 years of amalgamation, equal representation can be achieved by trusting the electorate to choose among all candidates. We must give the current make-up time to adjust, but discussions must be held at some point during the tenure of this council to allow for any changes to be made in advance of the next election.

Our most visible asset, which is also our most expensive liability, is our 700 plus lane-kilometer road system, along with the equipment necessary for maintenance. Because it is our most visible asset, it is under intense and constant scrutiny, and many people have opinions on the best way to operate. During the election period, there was much criticism of the road system, much of it directed to the previous council and to the Public Works Superintendent, some of it justified. Going forward this council must accept responsibility for the conditions of the roads and attempt to keep them in repair and upgrade them with the financial resources available. There probably will be fewer infrastructure grants available in the near future, and we may have to be creative with maintenance measures to stretch the dollars as far as possible.

I would encourage all of council and staff to be as green as possible. History tells us that although our current landfill site will last for many years with good management, it will not last forever and we will never have another. We must continue

to search for alternatives to landfill. The recently announced electronic waste recycling diversion is much welcomed and a good start. Residents must be encouraged to recycle other items at higher than current levels. We must have meetings with all tourist operators, fair boards, and other outdoor festival planners to develop economical and workable solutions to recycling and garbage at their events and locations.

Also on the green theme I would encourage council to explore paperless meetings. This will probably mean the purchase of computers for council, possibly an information technology person on staff at least part time for supervision and updating of the website. It will also result in less paper used and less money expended in delivery of council packages. This may be another project for which we will need some outside funding.

I look forward to working with council and staff for the next four years on the challenges we will face. We have our work cut out for us, and we should encourage the general public to have input in our discussions. Just because we are elected does not mean that we are wise to the point of not needing help occasionally. Many people have expressed the opinion that they don't know what council is doing or what is going on in the township yet the majority of meetings have no gallery. I encourage people to attend meetings to see for themselves. With council's indulgence, I wish to have continued public members on the Official Plan Review committee, and also possibly from time to time for special projects on the Property, Growth & Development committee and the Culture committee. When we pull together, I know we can accomplish much good for the Township and its people.

Committee Appointments

Moved by Donald Rathwell, Seconded by Allen Dick

2010-1614 "Be it Resolved that the Council of the Township of Whitewater Region agree to accept and work with the committees as presented list."

Carried by
Jim Labow
Mayor

STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

CHAIR: Joe Trimm

MEMBERS: All of Council

PUBLIC WORKS

CHAIR: Don Rathwell

MEMBERS: All of Council

WATER & SEWER

CHAIR: Daryl McLaughlin

MEMBERS: Don Rathwell, Joe Trimm, Allen Dick

FIRE

CHAIR: Cathy Regier

MEMBERS: Izett McBride, Don Rathwell, Joe Trimm

WASTE MANAGEMENT

CHAIR: Allen Dick

MEMBERS: Cathy Regier, Joe Trimm, Daryl McLaughlin

PROPERTY, GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

CHAIR: Izett McBride

MEMBERS: Don Rathwell, Daryl McLaughlin, Allen Dick

EXECUTIVE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Jim Labow

MEMBERS: Izett McBride, Joe Trimm, Don Rathwell

ADDITIONAL MUNICIPAL COMMITTEES

CULTURE (includes parks, recreation and tourism)
CHAIR: Daryl McLaughlin
MEMBERS: Izett McBride, Don Rathwell, Cathy Regier

COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT
CHAIR: Joe Trimm
MEMBERS: Izett McBride, Cathy Regier, Allen Dick

AD HOC COMMITTEE

OFFICIAL PLAN REVIEW
CHAIR : Izett McBride
MEMBERS: All of council plus 2 community volunteers

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS TO OTHER BOARDS

LIBRARY BOARD	Cathy Regier
VETERINARY ASSOCIATION	Daryl McLaughlin
BEACHBURG MEDICAL BOARD	Joe Trimm
WHITewater-BROMLEY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE BOARD	Izett McBride
OTTAWA RIVER POWER CORPORATION	Jim Labow
PEMBROKE & AREA AIRPORT COMMISSION	Jim Labow
COMMUNITY POLICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE – UPPER VALLEY	Cathy Regier
COMMUNITY POLICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE – RENFEW	Allen Dick
WHITewater HISTORICAL SOCIETY	Daryl McLaughlin
UPPER OTTAWA VALLEY MEDICAL RECRUITMENT COMMITTEE	Jim Labow
MUSKRAT LAKE COMMITTEE	Don Rathwell, Allen Dick

By-Laws

Moved by Allen Dick, Seconded by Donald Rathwell
2010-1615 “Be it Resolved that the Council of the Township of Whitewater Region enact a By-law to authorize temporary borrowing from time to time to meet current expenditures during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2011 and the said by-law be read a first, second and third time, and that the said by-law be read a first, second and third time, and that the said by-law be numbered 10-12-454 be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the seal of the Corporation, and be engrossed in the By-law Book this 1st day of December, 2010.”

Carried by
Jim Labow
Mayor

Moved by Allen Dick, Seconded by Donald Rathwell
2010-1616 “Be it Resolved that the Council of the Township of Whitewater Region enact a By-law to appoint certain officials for the year 2011 and the said by-law be read a first, second and third time, and that the said by-law be numbered 10-12-455 be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the seal of the Corporation, and be by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the seal of the Corporation, and be engrossed in the By-law Book this 1st day of December, 2010.”

Carried by
Jim Labow
Mayor

Moved by Donald Rathwell, Seconded by Allen Dick

2010-1617 “Be it Resolved that the Council of the Township of Whitewater Region enact a By-law to implement a municipal code of conduct for municipal elected officials and the said by-law be read a first, second and third time, and that the said by-law be numbered 10-12-456 be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the seal of the Corporation, and be engrossed in the By-law Book this 1st day of December, 2010.”

Carried by
Jim Labow
Mayor

Departmental Reports were reviewed and discussed.

Other Business

Moved by Izett McBride, Seconded by Cathy Regier

2010-1618 “Be it Resolved that the Council of the Township of Whitewater Region Approve the attached schedule of Accounts for the period November 1 – November 30, 2010, in the amount of \$1,023,685.93 in general purposes and \$214,836.54 for Water Purposes and the above accounts be paid.”

Carried by
Jim Labow
Mayor

Moved by Cathy Regier, Seconded by Izett McBride

2010 – 1619 “Be it resolved that the minutes of the previous Regular Council meeting dated November 17, 2010 be adopted as circulated.”

Carried by
Jim Labow
Mayor

Moved by Cathy Regier, Seconded by Izett McBride

2010 – 1620 “Be it resolved that the Council of the Township of Whitewater Region reimburse Bridget McEwen \$400.00 for two sheep killed by coyotes on November 24, 2010 and reimburse Barry Nieuwenhuis \$100.00 for one Holstein calf killed by coyotes on November 24, 2010.”

Carried by
Jim Labow
Mayor

Moved by Cathy Regier, Seconded by Daryl McLaughlin

2010 – 1621 “Be it Resolved that the Council of the Township of Whitewater Region acknowledge the Christmas Office and Landfill Site Christmas as presented.”

Carried by
Jim Labow
Mayor

Adjournment

Moved by Daryl McLaughlin, Seconded by Cathy Regier

2010 – 1622 “Be it Resolved that the Council of the Township of Whitewater Region Regular Council meeting dated December 1, 2010 be adjourned at 1:45 P.M.”

Carried by
Jim Labow
Mayor

Mayor, Jim Labow

Dean Sauriol, CAO/Clerk