

The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Township of Front of Yonge was held on the evening of March 2, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Roger Haley, and Councillors Fancy, Marcoux, Massey and Williams were in attendance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Gail Williams and seconded by Carson Massey that Council approve the agenda, as amended.

Carried (#03-01)

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No pecuniary interest was declared.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Carson Massey and seconded by Gail Williams that Council approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 18, 2020.

Carried (#03-02)

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS

Moved by Gail Williams and seconded by Carson Massey that Council approve the accounts payable report dated February 28, 2020 which includes cheques #11248 to 11268.

Carried (#03-03)

DELEGATES

Village of Mallorytown resident Penny Looby was in attendance to ask Council why sidewalks in the Village are no longer being cleared of snow. Mayor Haley provided some background information and explained that this has been a topic of discussion for many municipalities who are considering the maintenance of sidewalks due to liability and other matters. There are various ways the municipality could approach the winter maintenance of sidewalks; through policy development, adopting a by-law to close the sidewalks, or making the maintenance of snow clearing the responsibility of the property owner. Sidewalks are required to be cleared when there is eight centimeters of snow within 24 hours as per Minimum Maintenance Standards.

Ms. Looby asked if property owners would be liable for accidents if a by-law is passed making it the property owners responsibility. Mayor Haley responded that this is something that needs to be looked into.

The comment was made that the Township has been maintaining the sidewalks in the winter for many years and there has never been an issue until the past two years because of the way the snow is being piled. It was then asked how property owners can be expected to maintain the sidewalks when the Township's equipment has trouble getting through the snow.

The corner of Quabbin Road is a particularly bad area since vehicles often speed around the corner, making it unsafe for pedestrians when unable to use the sidewalks. Cars parking on both sides of the street at the post office complicates this further. Mayor Haley noted that if the Township decides to maintain the sidewalks, proper equipment will need to be purchased to handle all weather conditions.

The possibility of having a special area rate for Village residents if the Township were to purchase new equipment specific for this use was mentioned. The comment was made that not every property owner has a sidewalk and not every property is private, so determining a special rate could be difficult.

The Acting Public Works Superintendent was asked if a third staff member on the roads department would be able to regularly maintain the sidewalks next year. This would definitely help but it's hard to do when slushy snow freezes so ensuring the department has proper equipment would be required.

A resident asked if speed bumps would be an option to deter speeding around the corner on Quabbin Road. Mayor Haley responded that the OPP would be responsible for this.

Ms. Looby asked how shift workers would be affected if they were responsible for sidewalk maintenance. Mayor Haley was not certain, but residents in other municipalities are given 24 hours to remove the snow in front of their homes.

Ms. Looby asked why the Township's backhoe loader isn't being used. The Acting Public Works Superintendent responded that the backhoe cannot be used to clear the sidewalks because of liability issues if an accident were to happen since the road is owned by the Counties. Small equipment can be used but large equipment is not an option on the sidewalks.

Another village resident who was in attendance has offered to contact Student Transportation (STEO) to find out what arrangements can be made for student bus transportation if the sidewalks are not to be maintained by the Township. Council agreed that communication is key, and all property owners will be notified of the outcome, once decided.

The comment was made that sidewalks are in need of repair, and should be a shared responsibility between the Township and Counties. Council will have further discussions regarding this matter.

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Acting Public Works Superintendent went over his report with Council. Staff will be preparing the community garden at the Recreation Park, which will be dependent on public interest. The pond lights at the Rec Park will be turned off.

Discussion took place regarding concepts for the waste disposal site reconfiguration based on the suggestions from the Environmental Advisory Committee.

Staff was asked to remove the Winter Festival signs, and to reinstall the Township sign on the Parkway where the ground gave way last fall.

The stone quotes are being obtained.

The new gazebo will be installed in the spring at the Township Office.

Moved by Carson Massey and seconded by Gail Williams that Council accept the Public Works Superintendent's report and action plan.

Carried (#03-04)

CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk went over her report with Council. The Mayor will follow up with CN regarding track conditions on Quabbin Road and regulation standard inspections.

Moved by Gail Williams and seconded by Carson Massey that Council accept the Clerk's report and action plan.

Carried (#03-05)

CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL'S REPORT

Moved by Gail Williams and seconded by Carson Massey that Council accept the Chief Building Official's report.

Carried (#03-06)

YONGE IN BLOOM MEETING MINUTES

Moved by Carson Massey and seconded by Gail Williams that the Yonge in Bloom meeting minutes dated November 21, 2019 be received.

Carried (#03-07)

RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Moved by Gail Williams and seconded by Carson Massey that the Recreation Committee meeting minutes dated November 13 and December 11, 2019 be received.

Carried (#03-08)

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Moved by Carson Massey and seconded by Gail Williams that the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting minutes dated September 25, 2019, November 27, 2019 and January 29, 2020 be received.

Carried (#03-09)

DIGITAL SIGN POLICY

Moved by Richard Marcoux and seconded by Margaret Fancy that a By-law to establish a Digital Sign Policy for the Township of Front of Yonge be read a first and second time.

Carried (#03-10)

Moved by Margaret Fancy and seconded by Richard Marcoux that a By-law to Establish a Digital Sign Policy for the Township of Front of Yonge be read a third and final time, numbered as By-law #07-20, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the Corporate Seal and engrossed in the by-law book.

Carried (#03-11)

BY-LAW TO AUTHORIZE A SITE PLAN CONTROL AGREEMENT - SALO

Moved by Richard Marcoux and seconded by Margaret Fancy that a By-law to Authorize a Site Plan Control Agreement with Regards to Lands in Concession 2, Part of Lot 6, 38 Yonge Mills Road be read a third and final time, numbered as By-law #08-20, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the Corporate Seal and engrossed in the by-law book.

Carried (#03-12)

SIDEWALK WINTER MAINTENANCE

This was discussed under Delegates.

NEW HORIZONS SENIORS FUND AGREEMENT

Moved by Margaret Fancy and seconded by Richard Marcoux that a By-law to Authorize the Signing and Execution of an Agreement Between the Corporation of the Township of Front of Yonge and Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada as Represented by the Minister of Employment and Social Development be read a first and second time.

Carried (#03-13)

Moved by Richard Marcoux and seconded by Margaret Fancy that a By-law to Authorize the Signing and Execution of an Agreement Between the Corporation of the Township of Front of Yonge and Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada as Represented by the Minister of Employment and Social Development be read a third and final time, numbered as By-law #09-20, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the Corporate Seal and engrossed in the by-law book.

Carried (#03-14)

RED GRANT

Moved by Margaret Fancy and seconded by Richard Marcoux that a By-law to Authorize the Signing and Execution of an Agreement Between the Corporation of the Township of Front of Yonge and Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Ontario as Represented by the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs be read a first and second time.

Carried (#03-15)

Moved by Richard Marcoux and seconded by Margaret Fancy that a By-law to Authorize the Signing and Execution of an Agreement Between the Corporation of the Township of Front of Yonge and Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Ontario as Represented by the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs be read a third and final time, numbered as By-law #11-20, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the Corporate Seal and engrossed in the by-law book.

Carried (#03-16)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Fancy advised that flooding response meetings are being held in other municipalities and will provide updates to Council accordingly. Staff was directed to ensure there is enough sand and sandbags for flood prevention purposes.

The Community Development Committee announced that a joint grant application with the Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands for a pop-up farmers market has been submitted.

NOTICE OF MOTION

The following resolutions will be placed on the agenda for the next Council meeting:

- Township of Puslinch: Electronic Delegations
- Township of Springwater – Conservation Authorities

“IN CAMERA” SESSION

Moved by Margaret Fancy and seconded by Richard Marcoux that Council go “In Camera” to discuss personal matters.

Carried (#03-17)

Moved by Margaret Fancy and seconded by Richard Marcoux that Council come “Out of Camera” and resume the regular meeting of Council.

Carried (#03-18)

Staff have been given direction regarding community safety and personnel matters.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Richard Marcoux and seconded by Margaret Fancy that Council adjourn to meet again on March 16th, 2020 for a regular meeting of Council at 7:00 pm, or at the call of the Mayor.

Carried (#03-19)

Mayor, Roger Haley

Clerk, Jennifer Ault