

## TOWN OF FORT FRANCES

MINUTES

SESSION NO. 054

January 9, 2017

The meeting of Council of the Town of Fort Frances was held in the Council Chambers , Civic Centre on January 9, 2017 from 7:31 p.m. to 7:51 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor R. Avis, Chairperson; Councillors W. Brunetta, J. Caul, D. Kitowski and K. Perry.

ALSO PRESENT: D. Brown, CAO, E. Slomke, Clerk, L. Lindberg, Treasurer, T. Rob, Manager of Operations & Facilities, J. Kabel, Manager of Community Services

### **1. COUNCIL MEETING**

(Session No. 054)

1.1 Call to Order at 7:31 p.m.

1.2 Prayer

1.3 Non-agenda items identified to be considered later in this meeting - None.

1.4 Disclosure of pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof - None.

### **2. Delegations/Deputations:**

2.1 357/358 Application for Tax Adjustment (927 McKenzie Avenue)

673Kitowski - Brunetta: THAT the report dated January 5, 2017 from L. Lindberg, Treasurer re: 357/358 Application for Tax Adjustment (927 McKenzie Ave.) be approved to agree with the recommendation of the Administration & Finance Executive Committee to approve the adjustment of 2015 & 2016 taxes under Section 357/358 of the Municipal Act for property located at 927 McKenzie Avenue resulting from garage razed by fire on or about April 17, 2015.

CARRIED

2.2 357/358 Application for Tax Adjustment (1018 and 1020 First Street East)

674Brunetta - Kitowski: THAT the report dated January 5, 2017 from L. Lindberg, Treasurer re: 357/358 Applications for Tax Adjustment (1018 First St. E. and 1020 First St. E.) be approved to agree with the recommendation of the Administration & Finance Executive Committee to approve the adjustment of 2015 & 2016 taxes under section 357/358 of the Municipal Act for property located at 1018 First St. E. resulting from the demolition of the house structure and for 1020 First St. E. resulting from the demolition of the garage structure.

CARRIED

### **3. Consent Agenda:**

3.1 Items Referred from Committee of the Whole

675Kitowski - Brunetta: THAT the following Consent items be approved:

- 1) Committee of the Whole Consent items # 7.1, 7.2, 7.3 and 7.4.
- 2) Council Consent items # 3.2, 3.3, 3.4 and 3.5

CARRIED

- 3.2 Letter received December 14, 2016 from J. Greenhalgh, President, Fort Frances Chamber of Commerce: Funding Support  
- will be referred to the Administration & Finance Executive Committee for the budget process.
- 3.3 Letter received December 12, 2016 from F. Jewell, Steering Committee Chair, Heart of the Continent Partnership: Voluntary Annual Dues  
- will be referred to the Administration & Finance Executive Committee for recommendation.
- 3.4 E-mail received December 15, 2016 from A. Artman, Placement Student, National Eating Disorder Information Centre: Request Proclamation of February 1-7, 2017 as Eating Disorder Awareness Week  
- will be advised of Council's Proclamation.
- 3.5 E-mail received December 14, 2016 from E. Fagerdahl: Resignation from Economic Development Advisory Committee  
- received with appreciation for service.

**4. Approval of Council Minutes: \***

- 4.1 Session 053, December 12, 2016

676Kitowski - Perry: THAT the minutes of the Council meeting being Session No. 053 dated December 12, 2016 having been typed and distributed be approved.

CARRIED

**5. Approval of Committee of the Whole Minutes: \***

- 5.1 Session 078, December 12, 2016

677Perry - Kitowski: THAT the report of the Committee of the Whole of Council meeting being Session No. 078 dated December 12, 2016 having been typed and distributed be approved.

CARRIED

**6. Resolutions from tonight's Committee meeting**

- 6.1 Council considered the following resolutions:

678Brunetta - Kitowski: THAT the report dated January 5, 2017 from A. Petrin, Human Resources Manager re: Potential Policy Implementation be received and further that the matter proceed as directed.

CARRIED

679Kitowski - Brunetta: THAT the inquiry received December 19, 2016 regarding municipal property on Front Street be received and further that the request be forwarded to the Planning & Development Executive Committee for further review and recommendation.

CARRIED

680Brunetta - Kitowski: THAT the report dated January 4, 2017 from E. Slomke, Town Clerk re: Request to purchase town property (Lot 29 – Industrial Park) be approved to agree with the recommendation of the Planning & Development Executive Committee which agrees with declaring said land surplus and offer for direct sale at the Land Sale Policy approved price of \$3500.00 per acre, further a signed acknowledgement will be forwarded to our lawyer to prepare the Agreement of Purchase and Sale for execution.

CARRIED

681 Kitowski - Brunetta: THAT the report dated January 9, 2017 from A. Petrin, Human Resources Manager re: Information Technology Services be approved to amend the existing contract with Wepruk Enterprises extending the end date to March 31, 2017 by way of a letter of understanding.

CARRIED

682 Brunetta - Perry: WHEREAS it has been identified that Railway Companies in the province of Ontario, do not pay a proportionate share of municipal property tax as compared to other properties in their class, or compared to any other municipal tax class; and  
WHEREAS in other provinces and jurisdictions the railway companies do remit a more equitable share of taxes to the local tax base; and  
WHEREAS taxes in other jurisdictions for railway properties are calculated using a ton-mile concept; and  
WHEREAS said fees are reviewed and adjusted on a regular basis according to inflation and ongoing current conditions; and  
WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has continued to fall further and further behind in their approach to railroad property taxation over the past 112 plus years;  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Fort Frances call upon the Minister of Finance for the Province of Ontario to implement a new system of municipal property taxation for railroad right-of-way properties based on utilizing a per ton-mile concept; and  
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the new tax system when implemented, be reviewed on a regular basis, similar to the MPAC four-year assessment cycle; and  
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT this resolution be sent to every Municipal Council within the Province of Ontario seeking their support, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Finance of Ontario, Ontario MPPs, Local MPs, RRDMA and NOMA and AMO and FONOM.

CARRIED

## **7. By-Laws:**

- 7.1 Being a by-law to provide for an interim tax levy in the year 2017 and to provide for penalty and interest to be charged on the unpaid balance for late payment of said interim taxes.

683 Kitowski - Perry: THAT the following by-laws be introduced and read a first, second and third time, be finally passed, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the Corporate Seal and become law forthwith:

- A by-law to provide for an interim tax levy in the year 2017 and to provide for penalty and interest to be charged on the unpaid balance for late payment of said interim taxes
- A by-law authorizing the borrowing of money to meet current expenditures of the Council of the Town of Fort Frances
- A by-law to approve an agreement with Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Ontario as represented by the Minister of Transportation for financing under the Dedicated Gas Tax Funds for Public Transportation Program

CARRIED

- 7.2 Being a by-law authorizing the borrowing of money to meet current expenditures of the Council of the Town of Fort Frances.
- 7.3 Being a by-law to approve an agreement with Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Ontario as represented by the Minister of Transportation for financing under the Dedicated Gas Tax Funds for Public Transportation Program.

## **8. Information Correspondence:**

- 8.1 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
- Office of the President (2017-2018 Strategic Objectives)  
- AMO's Municipal Forum on Bill 151, Waste-Free Ontario Act

- 8.2 Letter dated December 14, 2016 from G. Jaremy, CAO/Clerk, Township of Hornepayne re: Request Support of Resolution  
Received.
- 8.3 Letter dated December 12, 2016 from D. Mathieson, Chair, MPAC Board of Directors re: 2017 Budget and Municipal Levy  
Received.
- 8.4 Resolution from December 12, 2016 meeting from Town of Atikokan: Request Support of Resolution  
Councillor Perry requested that this matter be considered further at the Administration & Finance Executive Committee. Council agreed.
- 8.5 Letter dated December 7, 2016 from G. Chapman, District Manager, MNR re: Contingency Plan Inspection Crossroute Forest 2017-2020  
Received.
- 8.6 Letter dated December 5, 2016 from K. Young Hoon, Medical Officer of Health, Northwestern Health Unit re: Tobacco Industry's Anti-Contraband Campaign  
Received.

**9. Minutes:**

- 9.1 Administration & Finance Executive Committee - December 6, 2016  
Received.
- 9.2 Planning & Development Executive Committee - December 5, 2016  
Received.
- 9.3 Community Services Executive Committee - December 5, 2016  
Received.
- 9.4 BIA Board of Management - November 9, 2016  
Received.

**10. Non-agenda Items - None.**

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

- 11.1 The meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

684 Kitowski - Brunetta: THAT this meeting of the Council of the Town of Fort Frances be now closed.

CARRIED

R. Avis, Mayor

E. Slomke, Clerk