

Township of Wollaston Council Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2015

Meeting commenced 9:00 am

Present: Council: Reeve Graham Blair, Deputy Reeve Marilyn Brickles, Councillor Robert Ireland, Councillor Michael Fuerth, Councillor Lynn Kruger

Staff: Verna Brundage, Dylinna Brock

Delegation: Auditors Joanna Park and Rhys Carloss

Reeve Graham Blair asked if there was any conflict or pecuniary interest. None declared.

1. M. Fuerth – R. Ireland: Be it resolved that the Council of the Township of Wollaston approves the minutes of the March 24, 2015 Council Meeting and the April 7, 2015 Special Budget Meeting. Carried
2. M. Brickles – L. Kruger: Be it resolved that the Council of the Township of Wollaston adopts the agenda of the April 14, 2015 meeting. Carried
3. M. Brickles - M. Fuerth: Be it resolved that the Council of Wollaston Township approves the consolidated financial statements and authorizes the signing of the management report and post audit letter. Carried
4. R. Ireland - M. Brickles: Be it resolved that the Council of Wollaston Township accepts the Clerk's Report for April 14, 2015. Carried
5. M. Fuerth - L. Kruger: Be it resolved that the Council of Wollaston Township accepts the CBO's Report for April 14, 2015. Carried
6. M. Brickles – L. Kruger: Be it resolved that the Council of Wollaston Township receive the recommendations from the Emergency Planning Committee and direct staff to begin implementation. Carried
7. R. Ireland – M. Fuerth: Be it resolved that the Council of Wollaston Township designate Jennifer Cohen as Primary Emergency Information Officer as required by Ontario Regulation 380/04 section 14 (1). Carried
8. L. Kruger - M. Brickles:
Be it resolved that the Council of the Township of Wollaston supports the efforts of the Hastings & Prince Edward Counties Health Unit to reduce the risk of West Nile Virus illness in our area. Furthermore, Wollaston Township gives permission to the Hastings & Prince Edward Counties Health Unit to carry out larviciding activities to prevent and/or control West Nile Virus in our area, if deemed necessary. Carried
9. M. Brickles – M. Fuerth: Be it resolved that the Council of Wollaston Township receives and files the following items to be read:
 1. MMAH – Letter to Reeve re OGRA/ROMA Conference meeting
 2. Madawaska Valley Resolution – Hydro Rates
 3. Private Member's Bill 36 – Respecting Private Property Act
 4. Bill 66: Great Lakes Protection Act, 2015
 5. Lincoln M. Alexander Award 2015
 6. 14th Annual Great Place Awards
 7. Seniors' Month – June 2015
 8. Social Services News – Spring 2015
 9. HPEDSB – Board Meeting Update – March 23, 2015 Carried
10. L. Kruger – M. Brickles: Be it resolved that the Council of Wollaston Township declares June 2015 Senior's Month. Carried

11. M. Fuerth – M. Brickles:

WHEREAS the cost of hydro has doubled and in some cases more than doubled in the last five years; and
WHEREAS the costs of electricity in the Province on Ontario is forcing businesses to consider leaving the area; and
WHEREAS many families are having difficulty keeping up with their monthly payments; and
WHEREAS the Province's Long Term Energy Plan anticipates that consumers will face hydro rates that will rise by 42% over the next five (5) years; and
WHEREAS it is essential that the residents and businesses of the Township of Wollaston have access to affordable hydro to thrive and prosper; and
WHEREAS Council urges Provincial relief to Ontario Hydro One Customers to reflect the means of rural residents to reasonably access hydro through a review of Provincial policies and their agencies that set Ontario rates for electricity, distribution charges, debt retirement, global adjustments costs and carbon taxes. Council requests that this review would include consultation with rural and urban municipalities; and
WHEREAS Council reminds Rural municipalities to advocate the investigation by the Ontario Ombudsman regarding the major systemic issues identified by complaints involving overcharging of hydro, and explanation of line items on billing and resolve of related matters; and
WHEREAS it is imperative that the Province of Ontario review their energy policies and utilize The Rural and Northern Lens advocated by the Rural Ontario Municipal Association to evaluate and assess the needs of rural municipalities so that they can succeed and thrive. Many rural municipalities have a population of 50% or more seniors on fixed incomes who are struggling to keep warm in low population density communities with colder temperatures that do not benefit from the heat retention in condominium residences and who are challenged by geography and climate scales. Our core sectors of economic development in our region, lumber mills and farming, are often under-employed and are subject to rates that are higher than other provinces due to impact of high delivery charges and global sustainability of families and agro-food sectors in rural Ontario; and

WHEREAS all municipalities should be encouraged to monitor, through specific data categories, smart meter electrical fires and/or smart meter malfunctions that have resulted in explosions, and further to better assess their impact and the potential need of CSA approved meters employing codes and standards used globally by regulators and industry to facilitate safer and more sustainable products.
NOW THEREFORE BE IS RESOLVED THAT the Township of Wollaston CALL ON Premier Wynne and the Province of Ontario to take immediate action to prevent these and any other rate increase from being implemented; and
THAT Premier Wynne and the Province of Ontario be encouraged to do something to bring these rates down to a reasonable level and to do so as quickly as possible.

Carried

12. R. Ireland – L. Kruger: Be it resolved that the Council of Wollaston Township receives and files the following correspondence:

1. Municipal World – April 2015
2. OPP – Bancroft Detachment 2014 – 2016 Action Plan

Carried

13. M. Brickles – L. Kruger: Be it resolved that the Council of Wollaston Township approves the vouchers of March 2015 as follows:

Fire	\$ 2,426.43
General	245,801.39
Roads	12,561.76
Recreation	635.23
Revitalization	264.94
Utility	501.06
Waste Site	1,198.79
Council Payroll	2,425.00
General Payroll	26,446.16
Library Payroll	1,968.98

Carried

14. M. Fuerth – R. Ireland: Be it resolved that the Council of Wollaston Township receives and files the following Board, Department and Committee meeting minutes:

Wollaston Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes of February 23, 2015

Carried

15. L. Kruger – M. Brickles: Be it resolved that the Council of Wollaston Township approves that the following By-Laws be introduced, read, dealt with, signed by the Reeve and the Clerk, sealed and numbered:

1. By-Law 15-15 Community Safety Zones By-Law
2. By-Law 16-15 Confirmation By-Law

Carried

16. M. Brickles – M. Fuerth: Be it resolved that the Council of Wollaston Township adjourns the meeting of April 14, 2015 at 11:47 a.m. to meet again on Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at 9 a.m. at the Township of Wollaston Council Chambers or at the call of the Reeve or Council.

Carried

Graham Blair, Reeve

Verna Brundage, Deputy Clerk