

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EMO
SPECIAL REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
APRIL 26TH, 2022

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Emo held on Tuesday, April 26th, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Harold McQuaker; Councillor Toles, Councillor Boven, Doug Brown, Crystal Gray and Mike Sheppard, property owner of NW 1/4 section 36 part of watershed for the Frank Szeder Drain. Councillor Shortreed joined 6:00 pm to 7:20 pm.

Regrets: Councillor Dunn

Publicly available virtually via Zoom.

Virtually present via Zoom: Councillor Shortreed (5:00 pm to 5:45 pm), John Kuntze of K Smart Associates Ltd, Reeve Ken McKinnon (Township of LaVallee), Councillor Elaine Hughes (Township of LaVallee), Councillor Jim Belluz (Township of LaVallee), Patti McDowall (CAO/Clerk/Treasurer of the Township of LaVallee), Daniel Adam, Kiley Shebagegit, Luke Judson, and assessed property owners: Shannon Bowcock, Stefan Szeder, Ryan Brigham, Jean-Paul Gagnon and Julian Gagnon.

- 1.0 CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor McQuaker indicated the Special Meeting of Council was being held in accordance with the Drainage Act to discuss the revised engineering report for the Frank Szeder Drain dated March 4, 2022.
- 2.0 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA-** Members of Council present confirmed the agenda
- 3.0 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST** – None
- 4.0 BUSINESS**
 - 4.1 Introduction of Engineer** - The Mayor introduced John Kuntze of K Smart Associates Ltd, author of the revised engineering report for the Frank Szeder Drain, dated March 4, 2022.
 - 4.2 Engineer’s summary of Revised Engineering Report** - John Kuntze provided an overview of the revised Engineering Report.
 - 4.3 Questions from Council Members**

John Kuntze received and responded to questions from Mayor McQuaker, Councillor Toles and Councillor Boven. Members of Council raised questions regarding the cost estimate to construct the new drain, the depth of the proposed ditch, the type of soil material at the bottom of the proposed ditch, public utilities (bell and hydro infrastructure) on the side of the road where drain was proposed, potential for OMAFRA grant funding for drain due to peat extraction operation.
 - 4.4 Questions from Assessed Property Owners**

John Kuntze explained how the costs for the construction of the proposed Frank Szeder drain were assessed to each individual property owners within the watershed, then responded to

questions from the assessed property owners on various issues about the drain such as the impact of the drain on adjacent lands, the need for an Environmental Impact Study or Environmental Assessment Study, effects on groundwater and wells, etc.

4.5 Questions from other attendees - none

4.6 Written Correspondence Received

Mayor McQuaker indicated for the record the Township had received four written emails. Two were from Jean Paul and Julian Gagnon (April 6, 2022 and April 22, 2022), one from Kiley Shebagegit, Rainy River First Nations, Lands & Natural Resources Manager (April 25, 2022), and one from Stefan Szeder (April 26, 2022).

4.7 Engineer response to written communication

John Kuntze had responded directly by email (April, 20, 2022 and April 26, 2022), to emails from Jean Paul and Julian Gagnon, and by email (April 26, 2022) to email from Kiley Shebagegit. He provided a verbal update to the email from Kiley Shebagegit and responded verbally to email dated April 26, 2022 from Stefan Szeder.

4.8 Mayor McQuaker asked if anyone wished to remove their name from the petition. No one indicated they wanted their name removed.

4.9 Mayor McQuaker asked if anyone wished to sign the petition who had not previously. No one indicated came forward to sign the petition.

4.10 Mayor McQuaker asked for confirmation from the Engineer that the original petition received for the Frank Szeder drain was a valid petition. Mr. Kuntze confirmed the petition was valid and ready to move to the next stage of the petition drain process under the Drainage Act.

4.11 Mayor McQuaker informed all in attendance that a resolution to consider the Engineering Report would be presented at the next regular Council meeting scheduled later that same evening.

5.0 The meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Attested by:

Harold McQuaker,
Mayor

Crystal Gray,
Interim CAO/Clerk/Treasurer