

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EMO
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
December 8, 2020

Minutes of the Regular meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Emo held on Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Harold McQuaker, Councillors Harrold Boven, Lincoln Dunn and Lori Ann Shortreed; CAO/Clerk-Treasurer Bridget Foster.
Virtually present via Zoom: Warren Toles.
Publicly available virtually via Zoom.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof:

Darrell Mattson, Integrity Commissioner, attended the meeting via Zoom.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. **Shortreed - Boven:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby approve the Regular Council Meeting agenda for Tuesday, December 8, 2020.

CARRIED.

2. **Dunn – Boven:** BE IT RESOLVED that the November 24, 2020 Regular Council Meeting and December 2, 2020 Special Council Meeting minutes, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED.

3. **Shortreed – Boven:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby accept written report from Jason Smith, Public Works Superintendent and Bridget Foster, CAO (to December 8, 2020).

CARRIED.

4. **Dunn – Shortreed:** BE IT RESOLVED That we hereby agree to set the following extra holiday hours at the Emo Municipal Office:

- December 29 & 30, 2020.

CARRIED.

5. **Shortreed – Dunn:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby agree to set the following annual meeting schedule:

- January –March, 2020 and July–September, 2020 to meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesday
- April-June, 2020 and October-December, 2020 to meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday.

CARRIED.

December 8, 2020 Regular Council Meeting Minutes Cont'd:

December 8, 2020 Regular Council Meeting Minutes Cont'd:

6. **Boven – Dunn:** That we hereby authorize the Emo Curling Rink ice surface be used for storage of deceased bodies, if needed during the pandemic, until burials can occur in the spring.

CARRIED.

7. **Shortreed – Boven:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby authorize the payment of bills on file in Municipal General to December 31, 2020.

CARRIED.

8. **Boven - Dunn:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby approve the invoices for the following Township of Emo Boards/Committees to December 31, 2020:

- Emo-LaVallee Community Centre
- Emo Recreation Council
- Emo Cemetery
- Emo Parks
- Emo Toy Library/Resource Centre

CARRIED.

9. **Dunn – Shortreed:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby accept Municipal Code of Conduct Inquiry for the Corporation of the Township of Emo, Recommendation Report for Emo Township Council – November 18, 2020, as submitted by Darrell Matson, Appointed Integrity Commissioner;

And further make the following recommendations in the report be approved based upon Inquiry Analysis:

- That the Mayor file a written declaration as required by Section 5.1 of the *MCIA*;
- That the Mayor undertake an educational refresher on the *MCIA*, and the *MA* with a focus on the changes that have occurred since the inaugural meeting of Council;
- That all members of Council participate in the educational refresher;
- That the Township of Emo establish a registry in accordance with Section 6.1 (1) of the *MCIA*.

CARRIED.

10. **Dunn - Shortreed:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby authorize payment to S. Burnett & Associates Ltd. in the amount of \$682.76, HST included, being invoices to November 19, 2020 for the following projects:

- Emo Sewage Lift Station Upgrades \$ 682.76

CARRIED.

December 8, 2020 Regular Council Meeting Minutes Cont'd:

December 8, 2020 Regular Council Meeting Minutes Cont'd:

11. **Boven - Shortreed:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby approve Amended Property Assessment Notice received from Municipal Property Assessment Corporation, as follows:

- Assessment Roll #50400 from \$493,000 (RT) to \$394,000 (RT), effective January 1, 2020.

And further, authorize write off of penalty in the amount of \$23.77, on this account

CARRIED.

12. **Boven - Dunn:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby accept Ontario Ombudsman Report for the Investigation regarding a closed meeting held by the Township of Emo on June 23, 2020; and further, to ensure the following recommendations from this report are applied:

- all members of Council for the Township of Emo should be vigilant in adhering to their individual and collective obligation to ensure that Council complies with its responsibilities under the *Municipal Act, 2001* and its own procedure by-law; and
- the Township of Emo will ensure all resolutions to proceed in-camera provide a general description of the issue to be discussed in a way that maximizes the information available to the public while not undermining the reason for excluding the public.

CARRIED.

13. **Boven - Dunn:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby agree to go in-camera at 7:20 p.m. in order to address a matter pertaining to:

- Personal matters regarding an identifiable individual, including employees – *Deputy Treasurer salary range;*
- Advice subject to a solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose – *Human Rights complaint.*

CARRIED.

14. **Dunn – Boven:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby agree to come out of in-camera session at 7:49 p.m.

CARRIED.

15. **Shortreed - Dunn:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby adjourn to meet again on Tuesday, December 22, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

CARRIED.

Errors or Omissions from November 24, 2020 Regular Council Meeting and December 2, 2020 Special Council Meeting minutes: None.

Business arising from November 24, 2020 Regular Council Meeting and December 2, 2020 Special Council Meeting minutes: None.

December 8, 2020 Regular Council Meeting Minutes Cont'd:

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Council has requested the following items be brought forward to a future meeting:

- OPP building – requirements for the municipal office to relocate to this location;
- Colonization Street – process required for name change.

Darrell Mattson, Integrity Commissioner for the Township of Emo, attended the meeting to review the Integrity Commissioner Report dated November 18, 2020 and answer any questions Council may have regarding this report. It was noted the Integrity Commissioner Report was made available on the Township of Emo's website, once received by the Township of Emo and submitted to members of Council. Given the limitations resulting from the pandemic, this is the best means of making this document available to the public. Darrell Mattson also indicated part of the process of an investigation resulting from a complaint, is once the investigation has been completed and the report submitted, the Integrity Commissioner can proceed with bringing recommendations for improvements to the policies. These recommendations are provided to the Clerk and then brought to Council for consideration.

Council approved Councillor Lincoln Dunn's request to put his name forward for the Northwestern Health Unit Board representative through Rainy River District Municipal Association.

The meeting adjourned 7:53 p.m.