

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EMO
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
February 10, 2021

Minutes of the Regular meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Emo held on Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

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

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof:

RESOLUTIONS:

1. **Toles - Boven:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby approve the Regular Council Meeting agenda for Wednesday, February 10, 2021.

CARRIED.
2. **Boven - Shortreed:** BE IT RESOLVED that the January 27, 2021 Regular Council Meeting minutes, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED.
3. **Toles - Boven:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby accept written report from Jason Smith, Public Works Superintendent (to February 10, 2021).

CARRIED.
4. **Toles - Dunn:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby agree to pass a by-law to provide for an interim tax levy, to provide for the payment of taxes and to provide for penalty and interest of 1.25 per cent.

CARRIED.
5. **Shortreed – Toles:** BE IT RESOLVED that **By-law No. 2021-05**, being a by-law to provide for an interim tax levy, to provide for the payment of taxes and to provide for penalty and interest of 1.25 per cent, be deemed to be read a first, second and third time, be finally passed, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, and become law forthwith.

CARRIED.
6. **Toles - Boven:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby agree to pass a by-law to establish and implement fees and/or charges for certain Municipal Services.

CARRIED.
7. **Dunn – Boven:** BE IT RESOLVED that **By-law No. 2021-06**, being a by-law to establish and implement fees and/or charges for certain Municipal Services, be deemed to be read a first, second and third time, be finally passed, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, and become law forthwith.

CARRIED.

February 10, 2021 Regular Council Meeting Minutes Cont'd:

February 10, 2021 Regular Council Meeting Minutes Cont'd:

8. **Toles - Boven:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby agree to proceed with obtaining quotations for the biennial bridge inspections, as required by legislation in the Highway Traffic Act (HTA), the Bridge Act (BA) and the Public Transportation and Highway Improvement Act (PTHIA).

CARRIED.

9. **Toles - Boven:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby approve the following 2021 first quarter School Board payments:

- Public School Board: \$ 57,791.87;
- Separate School Board: \$ 4,855.70.

CARRIED.

10. **Boven - Shortreed:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby authorize the payment of bills on file in Municipal General to February 10, 2021.

CARRIED.

11. **Boven - Toles:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby approve the invoices for the following Township of Emo Boards/Committees to February 10, 2021:

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

CARRIED.

12. **Boven - Toles:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby authorize payment to Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board in the amount of \$53,810.44 being January/February, 2021 levy, less the supplemental ambulance portion in the amount of \$1,556.06.

CARRIED.

February 10, 2021 Regular Council Meeting Minutes Cont'd:

13. **Boven - Toles:** BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Emo hereby received correspondence from the Township of Sioux Narrows–Nestor Falls regarding support for Small Businesses in Northwestern Ontario;
AND FURTHER THAT Council endorses and supports the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls in their plea to the Province of Ontario to:
- Increase consultations with communities and small businesses in the North to find realistic ways for supporting business throughout the lockdown;
 - Revisit blanket-provincial measures to COVID-19 response;
 - Allow small businesses to remain open to in-store sales, with limited capacity and increased safety measures;
 - Allow accommodation-based operators to function on a risk-based, regionally appropriate model, with increased safety measures;
 - Permit construction work on a risk-based, regionally appropriate model, with increased safety measures, especially in the North, where large infrastructure related to pandemic response and health care do not comprise the majority of projects; and,
 - That provincial relief funding programs be broadened to better address the needs of tourism-based, seasonally-based and sole proprietor industries.

CARRIED.

14. **Boven - Toles:** BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Emo hereby received correspondence from the Township of South Stormont regarding support for re-opening small businesses;
AND FURTHER THAT Council endorses and supports the Township of South Stormont in their efforts to request the Province of Ontario to allow for small businesses to immediately reopen with the required health guidelines and protocols in place.

CARRIED.

15. **Toles - Dunn:** BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Emo hereby received correspondence from the Town of Fort Frances regarding GreenFirst Forest Products Inc. and the Boundary Waters Forest;
AND FURTHER THAT Council endorses and supports the Town of Fort Frances as they have indicated the district is unable to support the removal of such a significant quantity of conifer (SFP) sawlogs from our district without seeing proportionate job creation and industrial development based in the Fort Frances area, with concerns being entirely consistent with historical policy governing forest management and the new stakeholder-based governance model.

CARRIED.

February 10, 2021 Regular Council Meeting Minutes Cont'd:

16. **Boven - Toles:** BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Emo hereby received correspondence from the Township of Terrace Bay regarding the Ontario Fire College; AND FURTHER THAT Council endorses and supports the Township of Terrace Bay in their initiative to request the Province of Ontario to reverse their decision to close the Ontario Fire College as the OFC is one of the best and most cost-effective methods for municipalities to train their firefighters which assists us in protecting our residents.

CARRIED.

17. **Boven - Dunn:** BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Emo hereby received correspondence from the Township of Terrace Bay regarding the tax rate for railway right-of-way; AND FURTHER THAT the Council endorses and supports the Township of Terrace Bay and the Rainy River District Municipal Association in its call to the Minister of Finance of the Province of Ontario to undertake ongoing consideration of municipal taxation for railroad rights-of-way properties, based on a per tonne-mile concept.

CARRIED.

18. **Dunn - Shortreed:** BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of hereby received correspondence from Township of Asphodel-Norwood regarding an extension request for the Community Safety & Well-Being Plan; AND FURTHER THAT Council endorses and supports the Township of Asphodel-Norwood as they call upon the Solicitor General to review the imposed deadline for municipalities to complete and adopt a Community Safety & Well-Being Plan in consultation with local governments to address the unique challenges facing individual regions.

CARRIED.

19. **Boven - Shortreed:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby agree to go in-camera at 6:30 p.m. in order to address a matter pertaining to:
- Personal matters regarding an identifiable individual, including employees – *Hiring of Deputy Treasurer;*
 - Litigation or potential litigation, including matter before administrative tribunals affecting the municipality or local board – *Notice of Application in the Court of the Drainage Referee.*

CARRIED.

20. **Boven - Toles:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby agree to come out of in-camera session at 7:30 p.m.

CARRIED.

February 10, 2021 Regular Council Meeting Minutes Cont'd:

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21. **Toles - Dunn:** BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby adjourn to meet again on Wednesday, February 24, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

CARRIED.

Errors or Omissions from January 27, 2021 Regular Council Meeting minutes: None.
Business arising from January 27, 2021 Regular Council Meeting minutes: None.

Council requested Mayor Harold McQuaker to contact Mayor June Caul to offer support from the Township of Emo in regards to the GreenFirst Forest Products Inc. and the Boundary Waters Forest concerns. Council also requested Councillor Lincoln Dunn to bring these concerns to the executive committee of the Rainy River District Municipal Association for their support. It was also suggested to contact Geoff Gillon from Rainy River Future Development Corporation for advice and assistance on this issue.

The meeting adjourned 7:35 p.m.

Attested by:

Harold McQuaker,
Mayor

Bridget Foster,
CAO/Clerk-Treasurer