

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EMO
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
August 9, 2023**

Minutes of the Regular meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Emo held on Wednesday, August 9th, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Harold McQuaker; Councillors Harrold Boven, Lisa Teeple, Philip Whatley, Gerald Wieringa; and Crystal Gray, CAO/Clerk – Deputy Treasurer; Jason Smith, Public Works Superintendent – left at 8:05 a.m.

Guests: Mike Canfield, BDO – Arrived 6:00 p.m., left at 7:00 p.m.; Steve Burnett, S Burnett & Associates – Arrived 6:48 p.m., left @ 7:54 p.m..

1.0 MOMENT OF REFLECTION

2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- 1. WHATLEY - WIERINGA** BE IT RESOLVED that Council hereby approves the Regular Council Meeting Agenda of August 9, 2023.

Addition to Agenda requested by Councillor Harrold Boven:

1. Civic Holiday to be reviewed with the HR Policy.

CARRIED

3.0 DECLARATION OF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST – None

4.0 ADOPTION OF MINTUES/ERRORS OR OMISSIONS

- 2. BOVEN - WIERINGA** BE IT RESOLVED that Council hereby approves the following Council meeting minutes:

1. Statutory Planning Meeting Minutes – July 12, 2023
2. Regular Meeting of Council Minutes – July 12, 2023
3. Special Council Meeting Minutes – July 24, 2023
4. Special Council Meeting Minutes – August 1, 2023

CARRIED

5.0 DEPUTATIONS

- 5.1** Mike Canfield, BDO - 6:05 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Mike Canfield of BDO presented the draft copy of the 2021 Audited Financial Statements to council. Council was provided a detailed review of the financial statements and Mr. Canfield answered questions that Council members had.

Mr. Canfield advised Council that the Township of Emo's administration department has been operating short-handed for many years, this became very noticeable in 2015. The delay

in completed audits is a pressing concern that additional help is needed. The farther behind an organization is, the harder it is to maintain strong financial controls.

6.0 CORRESPONDENCE

Council reviewed the following correspondence:

- 6.1 AMCTO Municipal Minute - July 5, 2023
- 6.2 NOMA – Introducing the Centre for Rural Economic Development launch of redesigned website.
- 6.3 MPAC Assessments and the July 8 Toronto Star Article
- 6.4 NOMA - Public Review - Draft Accessibility Standard on Employment
- 6.5 AMCTO Municipal Minutes - July 19, 2023
- 6.6 AMO Policy Update - Property Tax Reassessment - July 17, 2023
- 6.7 City of Ottawa – Donation of Decommissioned Ambulance to St. John’s Ambulance
- 6.8 AMO – Watchfile – July 20, 2023
- 6.9 AMCTO – Legislative Express – July 19, 2023
- 6.10 AMO – Watchfile – July 27, 2023
- 6.11 Prime Minister announces changes to the Ministry _ Prime Minister of Canada

7.0 MOTIONS/STAFF REPORTS

3. BOVEN - WIERINGA BE IT RESOLVED that the reports for August 9, 2023, be hereby approved and accepted.

1. Jason Smith – Public Works Report – August 2, 2023
2. Rick Hallam, CBO – Monthly Building Statistics Report – July 2023
3. OCWA Water & Wastewater Monthly Report – June 2023
4. Tyrell Griffith – CEL Fire Chief Report – July 5 – August 1, 2023
5. April Simmons – EarlyON Centre – July 2023 Report
6. James Booth – Arena/Parks Report – August 1, 2023
7. Nick Donaldson – July 2023 Report
8. Crystal Gray – CAO Report – 2023-17

CARRIED

Item 7.1 b) Stephen Burnett – S. Burnett & Associates – T.J. Kaemingh & Son’s – Final Report – Phase 1 Completion

Steve Burnett of S. Burnett & Associates presented to Council regarding the T.J. Kaemingh & Son’s Subdivision, Phase 1 Completion. S. Burnett reported that all outstanding conditions for Phase 1 have been completed.

S. Burnett also reported to Council that there is still an outstanding amount of approximately \$83,000 from T.J. Kaemingh & Son’s relating to the installation of water to

the school located within the subdivision. This was an amendment to a previous water project that took place in 2014. An initial payment was made with a payment agreement. No further payments were made on this amendment to the 2014 water project.

Council has requested S. Burnett & Associates to provide a formal release letter for the \$75, 303.75 that is being held by the municipality. Once received the municipality will release the final portion of the guarantee deposit related to the Phase 1 completion of the T.J. Kaemingh & Son's subdivision.

Council has requested S. Burnett & Associates and Administration to follow up on the outstanding amount owed regarding the amendment to the 2014 water project which allowed water to be installed to the school.

4. TEEPLE – WIERINGA BE IT RESOLVED that Council hereby approves the completion of Phase 1 of the Kaemingh Subdivision. The Final Phase 1 amount to release is \$75,303.75.

CARRIED

Item 7.3 a) OCWA – Emo Water & Wastewater Treatment Monthly Report – June 2023

Council has questions regarding the turbidity that is taking place, the high turbidity alarms, and filter efficiency. Were these events taking place while the water treatment plant was actively running or while the water treatment plant was off?

Item 7.3 e) Housing Accelerator Fund: Small/Rural/North/Indigenous Stream

S. Burnette & Associates and Administration to investigate this grant offering to see if the grant is able have an application submitted to for additional funds for the Florence Street and King Street watermain project.

5. BOVEN – WHATLEY BE IT RESOLVED that Council hereby approves an application to be made to the Housing Accelerator Fund: Small/Rural/North/Indigenous Stream for the King and Florence Street Watermain Upgrade.

CARRIED

6. BOVEN – TEEPLE BE IT RESOLVED that Council approves the following positions for the Emo Volunteer Fire Department.

- a) Station Chief Volunteer Position Description
- b) Captain Volunteer Position Description
- c) Fire Fighter Volunteer Position Description
- d) Training Officer Volunteer Position Description
- e) Auxiliary Fire Team Member Volunteer Position Description

CARRIED

7. TEEPLE – BOVEN BE IT RESOLVED that Council approves paying 1/3 of the cost to send CEL Fire Chief Tyrell Griffith to the Firefighter Survival Course at the 2023 Fire Con in Thunder Bay, ON. The Firefighter Survival Course is September 8 - 9, 2023. Registration cost for the Firefighter Survival Course is \$450 plus HST.

One-third cost of all related expenses will be paid by the Township of Emo.

CARRIED

8. BOVEN – WHATLEY BE IT RESOLVED that Council approves to send Emo VFF Captain Ted Bowcock to 2023 Fire Con in Thunder Bay, ON to attend the Instructor Development Workshop from September 7 – 9, 2023. Registration cost for the Instructor Development Workshop is \$650 plus HST.

All related expenses will be paid by the Township of Emo.

CARRIED

9. TEEPLE - WIERINGA BE IT RESOLVED that Council hereby accepts the Financial Statements and approves payments on the following accounts:

GENERAL

CHQ	(100,211-100,233)	\$	65,251.38
CHQ	(100,234-100,256)	\$	96,503.55
CHQ	(100,257-100,258)	\$	142,859.56
EFT	Pre-Auth OCWA (missed reporting in Feb)	\$	31,424.83
EFT	Pre-Auth Utilities	\$	7,012.37
EFT	Pre-Auth Manulife	\$	5,792.44
EFT	Pre-Auth Tbaytel/Minister of Finance-HST	\$	2,405.83
EFT	VISA	\$	2,783.97
PAYROLL	Payrun 3319	\$	21,070.11
PAYROLL	Payrun 3320	\$	22,796.14
PAYROLL	Payrun 3321	\$	2,636.08
PAYROLL	Payrun 3322	\$	<u>22,171.58</u>
Total General Payments		\$	<u>422,707.84</u>

Arena

ARENA	(13,529-13,532)	\$	695.56
ARENA	(13,533-13,534)	\$	71.13
EFT	Pre-Auth Utilities	\$	<u>935.88</u>
Total Arena Payments		\$	<u>1702.57</u>

Recreation

EFT	Pre-Auth Utilities	\$	<u>209.72</u>
Total Recreation Payments		\$	<u>209.72</u>

Parks

EFT	Pre-Auth Utilities	\$	<u>553.58</u>
Total Parks Payments		\$	<u>553.58</u>

EarlyON Centre

CHQ	(6040-6041)	\$	102.99
CHQ	(6042-6043)	\$	1,074.86
EFT	Pre-Auth Utilities	\$	<u>83.02</u>
Total EarlyON Centre Payments		\$	<u>1,260.87</u>

CARRIED

Item 7.8 f) Request for Speed Reduction from 70km/h to 50km/hr on West Side of Emo.

Council received a request from Warren Toles regarding a speed reduction on the west side of Emo due to the excessive speed of motorists not following the speed limit coming into the Town of Emo, and the increased concern of safety of residents walking alongside Hwy 11/71.

Council advised that this request should be directed to Township of Chapple. Majority of this speed zone is not located within Township of Emo's municipal boundaries. (Approximately 0.2km of this speed zone is located within the Township of Emo's municipal boundaries.)

10. TEEPLE - WIERINGA BE IT RESOLVED that Council approves the CAO/Clerk-Deputy Treasurer to attend the AMCTO Zone 9 Fall Meeting and training workshops in Thunder Bay on September 18-20, 2023. The cost to attend will be \$250.00.

All related expenses will be paid by the Township of Emo.

CARRIED

11. BOVEN – WHATLEY BE IT RESOLVED that Council hereby approves an invitation to be extended to the Bear Clan to have their presence during the Emo Fall Fair Thursday, August 17, 2023 to Saturday, August 19, 2023.

CARRIED

8.0 **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

12. TEEPLE - WIERINGA BE IT RESOLVED that Council hereby accepts and reviews the following Committee and Board reports or minutes:

1. ELCC – Regular Board Meeting Minutes – June 1, 2023
2. ELCC – Regular Board Meeting Minutes – July 18, 2023
3. Phil Whatley = Emo Recreation Committee Report – July 2023
4. NOMA – Request of Support of NOMA’S Housing Resolution for FONOM
5. RRDSSAB Regular Meeting Minutes – June 25, 2023
6. Phil Whatley – May 25, 2023 Fort Frances & District Doctor’s Recruitment and Retention Committee
7. Fort Frances & District Doctor’s Recruitment and Retention Committee – May 25, 2023 Meeting Package

CARRIED

13. BOVEN – WHATLEY Council reviews Civic Holiday as a holiday for staff when reviewing the HR Policy.

CARRIED

Item 8.2 a) Phil Whatley – Emo Recreation Committee Report – July 2023

Councillor Philip Whatley reported to Council on the July 31, 2023 Committee Meeting. The Committee has reviewed the history of the Tennis Courts located at the Emo riverfront and the concern of safe parking along the riverfront for users of the amenities.

There will be a resolution of recommendation that will be presented on behalf of the Emo Recreation Committee concerning the Tennis Courts/Pickle Ball Courts that grants be researched and applied for to allow for Tennis Courts/Pickle Ball Courts to be developed along the waterfront.

14. BOVEN - TEEPLE

BE IT RESOLVED that Council hereby supports NOMA Resolution 2023-07 to FONOM – Housing Resolution.



Representing the Districts of Kenora, Rainy River and Thunder Bay
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July 28, 2023

Resolution 2023-07: Housing Resolution

WHEREAS the Federal and Provincial Governments need to support their most vulnerable households, the ones who are or are at risk of becoming homeless. Overall, housing and services for low-income, vulnerable, or marginalized people should be a primary consideration moving forward so we help those who need it the most.

WHEREAS the Township of Emo understands every community across Ontario is impacted by a need for affordable housing and support for people at risk of homelessness. Municipal governments are working in collaboration with all orders of government to invest in permanent solutions to the housing and homelessness crisis in Ontario.

WHEREAS the Township of Emo understands that the Federal **National Housing Strategy** allocation formula to provinces and territories for jointly funded housing initiatives, roughly follows their share of the national population. This approach leaves Ontario underfunded because, as per the 2021 Census figures, the number of Ontario households in **Community Housing Network** as a share of the national total is 44.1 percent, which is well above the provincial share of the national population at 38.5 percent. This is also by far the highest share of the national **Community Housing Network** relative to every other province and territories.

WHEREAS receiving a by-population allocation from the federal government hampers Ontario's ability to reach more of those households in need that require assistance with housing.

WHEREAS the lack of ongoing federal operating funding for **National Housing Strategy** initiatives leads to significant underfunding for subsidized housing projects and can undermine the physical and financial viability of the community housing stock.

WHEREAS a similar situation occurs with federal homelessness funding to Ontario through **Reaching Home**, where the share allocated to Ontario is also below the provincial share of **Community Housing Network** nationally.

WHEREAS there is an inequitable distribution of **Reaching Home** funding in Ontario as only 25 of 47 Service Managers have designated communities receiving funding under the program, despite the prevalence of need across the entire Province.

WHEREAS the Township of Emo understands the federal government takes the position that its role is to provide capital funding while Provinces and Territories are to fund operating expenses, but this approach does not create an equitable sharing of the burden of funding long-term operating costs, which continue for the life of a project.

WHEREAS taken altogether, the underfunding to Ontario for housing and homelessness relative to its share of national **Canadian Housing Network** amounts to approximately \$480 million over the term of the Federal **National Housing Strategy**.

WHEREAS the federal government previously provided leadership in ensuring the long-term financial and physical viability of the social housing stock under the **Social Housing Agreement** for several decades

through federal social housing operating agreements that provided funding for both mortgages and operating costs.

WHEREAS without some flexibility on the part of the federal government, Ontario and its municipalities will be poorly positioned to take advantage of this funding, and this will turn into a significant missed opportunity, leading to a further deterioration in the long-term physical and financial sustainability of the community housing stock.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Township of Emo also supports the provincial ask for federal operating funding for **National Housing Strategy** initiatives.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Township of Emo would appreciate the federal effort to repurpose this funding quickly from the main **National Housing Co-Investment Fund** program line, Service Managers across the province have indicated their challenges with meeting the terms of the federal proposal, particularly as they relate to cost matching and meeting the requirements for greenhouse gas emissions, energy efficiency and accessibility.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Emo would like need-driven indicators incorporated into the funding allocation formulas for all federal programs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NOMA and FONOM appreciates the federal government's commitment to end chronic homelessness and wishes this to be inclusive across all areas of our province by expanding Reaching Home funding to all Service Managers.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, NOMA and FONOM also support the provincial position in relation to the provinces and territories **Repair Fund** under the **National Housing Co-Investment Fund**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, NOMA and FONOM supports the Province of Ontario position on the application-based \$4 billion federal **Housing Accelerator Fund**. We wish to emphasize the importance of providing municipalities with maximum support in preparing applications to the HAF, understanding that some rural and northern municipalities may face capacity challenges in applying to this program on the anticipated tight timelines.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Township of Emo wishes to request that **Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation** consider actions taken by municipalities under the province's **Housing Supply Action Plans** into account when assessing municipal applications, recognizing that these initiatives have the potential to significantly increase the supply of housing in our communities.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Township of Emo believes the lack of ongoing federal operating funding for **National Housing Strategy** initiatives leads to significant underfunding for subsidized housing projects and can undermine the physical and financial viability of the community housing stock.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Township of Emo believes the federal government should heed the precedent of the **Social Housing Agreement** and recommit itself to funding operating costs that often stretch out over decades for the lifetime of a housing project.

As an example, the **Rapid Housing Initiative's (RHI)** 20-year affordability requirement and lack of federal operating dollars will very likely result in housing providers asking Service Managers and the provincial government to fund operating expenses to ensure the long-term affordability of units given housing providers' limited revenue-raising capacity. However, the recent federal changes to the RHI program guidelines no longer define Northwestern Ontario as the "North" rather only communities located in the Yukon, Northwest Territories, or Nunavut receive this designation. This is an issue for municipalities in our region as this results in those municipalities automatically losing 25% marks on their application, meaning they are only able to secure 75% max with a perfect application. Therefore, applications are unsuccessful, and funding is not flowing to Northwestern Ontario municipalities. This

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will significantly affect housing initiatives moving forward through the RHI in our region and put us further behind our housing needs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that all northern, rural, and remote communities in Northwestern Ontario receive northern designation through the RHI, as they are not currently recognized as such.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED This lack of ongoing federal operating funding for **National Housing Strategy** initiatives leads to significant underfunding for subsidized housing projects and can undermine the physical and financial viability of the community housing stock.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Township of Emo urges the Federal Government provide additional funding for Ontario so that we can deal with our shortages of safe and affordable housing and at the same time build safer and healthier communities for all our residents.

FURTHER IT BE RESOLVED THAT a Copy of the Resolution be forward to the individuals listed below for consideration and support, Prime Minister Trudeau, Minister Ahmed Hussen, MP Patty Hajdu – Thunder Bay-Superior North, MP Marcus Powlowski – Thunder Bay-Rainy River, MP Eric Melillo – Kenora, Premier Ford, Minister Clark, MPP Kevin Holland – Thunder Bay-Atikokan, MPP Lise Vaugeois - Thunder Bay-Superior North, Leaders of the Federal and Provincial Opposition Parties, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, and all clerks and CAO's in NOMA.

Moved By: Eric Pietsch

Seconded By: Rick Dumas

CARRIED



President

DEFEATED

RECORDED VOTE

Pecuniary Interest	Recorded Vote	Council Member	Yea	Nay	Declaration Under Municipal Conflict of Interest Act
		Harold McQuaker		x	
		Harrold Boven		x	
		Lisa Teeple		x	
		Philip Whatley		x	
		Gerald Wieringa		x	

9.0 **RESOLUTIONS/BY-LAWS**

15. BOVEN - WHATLEY Emo Council agrees to pursue Depot Operation Agreement with Circular Materials.

CARRIED

10.0 **NEW and UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

11.0 **ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

11.1 Civic Holiday to be reviewed with the HR Policy.

12.0 **IN-CAMERA ITEMS**

16. BOVEN - WIERINGA BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the Township of Emo hereby agree to go in-camera at **8:38 p.m.** as authorized under Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001 c.25 for the following purpose:

Section 239 (2)

- a) Security of property of the municipality or local board;
- b) *Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees;***

12.1 a) Council Code of Conduct Policy

- c) A proposed or pending acquisitions or disposition of land by the municipality or local board;
- d) Labour relations or employee negotiations;
- e) *Litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board;***

12.2 a) AFRAAT – Pre-Hearing Conference – Szeder Drain

- f) Advice subject to a solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;
- g) A matter in respect of which a council, local board or committee or other body may hold a closed meeting under another Act;
- h) information explicitly supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them;
- i) a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization;
- j) a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial or financial information that

belongs to the municipality or local board and has monetary value or potential monetary value;

- k) a position, plan, procedure, or criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board. 2001, c.25, c. 239 (2); 2017, c. 10, Sched. 1, s. 26.

Section 239 (3)

- a) a request under the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, if the council, board, commission or other body is the head of an institution for the purposes of that Act; or
- b) an ongoing investigation respecting the municipality, a local board or a municipally-controlled corporation by the Ombudsman appointed under the *Ombudsman Act*, an Ombudsman referred to in subsection 223.13 (1) of this Act, or the investigator referred to in subsection 239.2 (1). 2014, c. 13, Sched. 9, s. 22.

CARRIED

17. WIERINGA - BOVEN BE IT RESOLVED that we agree to return to open session at 9:30 p.m.

CARRIED

18. WIERINGA - WHATLEY BE IT RESOLVED that Administration be directed to proceed as per Council's instructions in-camera.

CARRIED

19. TEEPLE - WIERINGA BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby adjourn to meet at 6:00 p.m. for the Regular Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 12, 2023.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Attested by:

Harold McQuaker,
Mayor

Crystal Gray,
CAO/Clerk-Deputy Treasurer
(Acting Treasurer)