

CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF LAURENTIAN HILLS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 22 November, 2023 at 11:38 a.m.

- I. CALL TO ORDER** - The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Town of Laurentian Hills was held on Wednesday 22 November, 2023 at 11:38 a.m. in the Council Chambers.

The following members of Council were present:

Mayor	Anne Giardini
Deputy Mayor	Brenda Blimkie
Councillor	Bruce Boucher
Councillor	Gary McAnulty
Councillor	John Hoyle

Also present:

Chief Administrative Officer / Clerk	Sherry Batten
Treasurer/Deputy Clerk	Tammy Whalen

- II. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

- III. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS** – The delegation was heard at the beginning of the Protection to Persons and Property Committee meeting.

Mr. Ross Judd, Jason Peplinski and Cassidy Balemba representing WCCT reviewed their plans for fiber and upgrades to their infrastructure. They are seeking support for the running of fiber cable from Deep River to a new tower at the Baggs Road landfill. Next Spring they would continue with fiber cable and pedestals from the landfill to the Chalk River Fire Station.

Mr. Judd was advised that in order to install a tower at the Baggs Road landfill an amendment to NRLOB's ECA would be required. An easement agreement will be required for the fiber cable and pedestal installations that will be located on any Town road allowances.

- IV. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Blimkie
Seconded by Councillor McAnulty

THAT the minutes of the Special Council meeting of 10 November, 2023 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED Resolution 201 -23

Moved by Deputy Mayor Blimkie
Seconded by Councillor McAnulty

THAT the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of 17 October, 2023 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED Resolution 202-23

- V. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- (a) Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Councillor Boucher

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Committee of the Whole for Protection to Persons and Property of 17 October 2023 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED Resolution 203 -23

- (b) Moved by Councillor Boucher
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Committee of the Whole for Public Works of 17 October 2023 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED Resolution 204-23

- (c) Moved by Deputy Mayor Blimkie
Seconded by Councillor McAnulty

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Committee of the Whole for Community and Social Services of 17 October 2023 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED Resolution 205 -23

- (d) Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Councillor Boucher

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Committee of the Whole for Finance and Personnel of 17 October 2023 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED Resolution 206 -23

VI. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Clerk's Note from the Special Meeting of Council held on November 10th was brought forward for explanation/discussion. The CAO was requested to discuss staff reporting formats with Town staff.

VII. OTHER REPORTS

- (a) Moved by Councillor Boucher
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

THAT Council does acknowledge receipt of the Chalk River Drinking Water System and the Waste Water Treatment Plant Quarterly Operations report: Q3 2023 from Veolia North America, Canada.

CARRIED Resolution 207 -23

- VIII. MAYOR'S UPDATE** – The Mayor reported that on November 2 - RCDHU Regular update with Dr. Morgenstern; on the 9 - Special Renfrew County Council meeting; on the 11 - attended Remembrance Day Event at CR Lion's Hall, along with DM Blimkie; on the 14- performed an audit at the Bagg's Road Landfill site – 10 bags from each of Deep River and LH the Board will be conducting an additional audit for the garbage that was not available on that day. In attendance were Councillor Boucher, Mayor D'Eon, and Carol van de Water; on the 16 she attended the County Finance and Administration Committee Meeting by Zoom and on the 22 she attended first half of County Highway 17 Extension Meeting.

- IX. BY-LAWS** - None

- X. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS** - None

- XI. PETITIONS**

- XII. CORRESPONDENCE**

ACTION ITEMS

- (a) Moved by Deputy Mayor Blimkie
Seconded by Councillor Boucher

THAT the resolution from the Town of Aurora requesting the Government of Ontario re-evaluate its formula on how many cannabis stores are permissible within the boundaries of a municipality be endorsed.

CARRIED Resolution 208 -23

- (b) Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Councillor Boucher

THAT the resolution from the Town of Arnprior regarding the continuation of funding for the Hoarding Program operated by Mental Health Services of Renfrew County through the Pembroke Regional Hospital be endorsed.

CARRIED Resolution 209 -23

- (c) Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Councillor Boucher

THAT the resolution from the Municipality of Wawa regarding petitioning the Province of Ontario to expand water treatment training opportunities for communities within Ontario be endorsed.

CARRIED Resolution 210 -23

- (d) Moved by Councillor Boucher
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

THAT this Council of the Town of Laurentian Hills supports Catherine Fife's Private Members Bill 21 "An Act to amend the Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021 to provide spouses with the right to live together in a home" and directs that this resolution of support be distributed to Premier Doug Ford, Catherine Fife, MPP and John Yakabuski, MPP.

CARRIED Resolution 211 -23

- XIII. LATE CORRESPONDENCE**

Moved by Councillor McAnulty
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

THAT all items of correspondence be filed.

CARRIED Resolution 212-23

XIV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Moved by Councillor Boucher
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

THAT this Council of the Town of Laurentian Hills approves a donation in the amount of 100.00 to Jeffery Sheppard the organizer of the Chalk River Christmas parade to be held on December 3, 2023 for the purchase of candy.

CARRIED Resolution 213 -23

Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Councillor Boucher

THAT this Council of the Town of Laurentian Hills acknowledges receipt of the Chalk River Drainage study report and recommendations dated November 2023 as submitted by Jp2g Consultants Inc.

CARRIED Resolution 214 -23

Moved by Councillor Boucher
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

Staff was directed to bring the report back for review upon the competition of the Waste Water Treatment Plant upgrades.

THAT this Council of the Town of Laurentian Hills accepts the recommendation from Jp2g Consultants Inc. for the Filter tank replacement at the Chalk River Water Treatment Plant as outlined in Project Number 21-1021F with a budget costing of \$929,121.00 plus applicable taxes.

CARRIED Resolution 215 -23

Moved by Councillor McAnulty
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

THAT this Council of the Town of Laurentian Hills does set a Special Meeting of Council to be held at the Chalk River Lions Club on January 24, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. to present the Filter Tank replacement costs and the manner in which the costs will be collected from those connected to the Chalk River drinking water distribution system.

CARRIED Resolution 216-23

Staff will contact Sean Behnke to provide the sound system for the meeting and Jp2g Consultants to speak to the upgrades at the meeting.

XV. NEW BUSINESS

Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

WHEREAS in accordance with section 354(2) (a) of the Municipal Act c. 25 S.O. 2001, as amended, the Treasurer ascertains the following taxes as un-collectible for the 2023 taxation year and recommends to Council that such taxes be struck from the roll:

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that this Council of the Town of Laurentian Hills hereby approves that the following taxes be struck from the 2023 taxation roll:

4792 092 010 18100	295.90
4792 092 010 18000	302.33
4792 092 010 09904	42.46
4792 092 010 09800	42.46
4792 092 010 09900	42.46
4792 092 010 21020	295.90
4792 092 010 20405	861.97
4792 094 010 04550	<u>553.21</u>
	\$ 2,436.69

CARRIED Resolution 217-23

Moved by Deputy Mayor Blimkie
Seconded by Councillor McAnulty

THAT this Council of the Town of Laurentian Hills does authorize the CAO/Clerk to sign the Memorandum of Understanding for the prescribed snowmobile trail land use permissions with the North Renfrew Snowmobile Association on an annual basis provided there are no changes.

CARRIED Resolution 218-23

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

Moved by Deputy Mayor Blimkie
Seconded by Councillor Boucher

THAT this Council of the Town of Laurentian Hills does authorize the rescheduling of the Committee/Council meetings to be held on Wednesday 20 December to Wednesday 13 December, 2023.

CARRIED Resolution 219 -23

Moved by Councillor McAnulty
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

THAT this Council of the Town of Laurentian Hills does authorize the closing of the Municipal office and operations at noon on December 22 and for three days from December 27 to December 29th.

CARRIED Resolution 220 -23

Moved by Councillor Boucher
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

THAT this Council of the Town of Laurentian Hills approves the proposed outdoor patio for Fryway 17 Inc. located at 31239 Highway 17, Chalk River Ontario, as per the information provided by the owner Shayne Hoelke, dated November 10, 2023, provided that the owner adheres to all the applicable legislation under the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario regarding the licencing and serving of alcohol.

CARRIED Resolution 221-23

Moved by Councillor Hoyle
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

WHEREAS the Enbridge Gas has shared with the Town of Laurentian Hills key messages regarding the Ontario Energy Board's Leave to Construct (LTC) process, entitled "reducing red tape for more cost-effective, timely energy connections in Ontario:"

AND WHEREAS the Town of Laurentian Hills supports and wishes to endorse the recommendations put forward by Enbridge Gas in order to expedite the installation of natural gas to rural, remote or underserved communities such as the Town of Laurentian Hills.

NOWHERE BE IT RESOLVED THAT :

1. The Town of Laurentian Hills petitions the Ontario Government to expedite the implementation of the following recommendations:
 - a) That the Government of Ontario move to modernize the Ontario Energy Board's (OEB) Leave to Construct (LTC) process for smaller pipeline projects in order to bring reliable, affordable energy options to communities, homes and businesses in a more cost-effective and timely manner;
 - b) That the LTC cost threshold be updated from \$2M to \$10M for hydrocarbon lines (by amending Ontario Regulation O.Reg.328/03) while maintaining current requirements and expectations for Indigenous consultation and environmental review for projects greater than \$2M and less than \$10M;
 - c) That these outdated regulations are causing the LTC to apply far more broadly than intended when it was established over 20 years ago due to increased regulatory and cost pressures, as well as inflation, virtually all gas pipeline projects are now greater than \$2M rendering the threshold meaningless;
 - d) That roughly 0.5 KM pipe in urban settings now often exceeds the \$2M threshold;
 - e) That modernizing these outdated regulations would reduce delays and costs for economic development initiatives including transit projects, community expansion projects, housing developments, connections for low carbon fuel blending (e.g., renewable natural gas, hydrogen) as well as residential and business customer connections;
 - f) That based on OEB's performance standards, this proposal would save approx. 5-7 months of regulatory process which is in addition to the time needed to undertake Indigenous consultation and environmental review and prepare an application to the OEB;
 - g) That the cost of preparing and having a LTC application heard ranges from approx. ~\$50,000 to ~\$200,000, which is passed on to customers;
 - h) That while no cost-based threshold exists for electricity lines, there are a range of exemptions ensuring that LTC is only required for significant electricity projects and the proposed changes would help ensure that, consistent with electricity projects, LTC for hydrocarbon lines would only be required for significant projects;

Cont'd

- i) That increasing the cost threshold to \$10M would closer align Ontario with other Canadian jurisdictions (e.g., in B.C., these thresholds are \$15M for electricity and \$20M for natural gas); and
2. That this resolution be circulated to the President of AMO, Colin Best, Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of Energy, Todd Smith, The Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy and all regional municipalities requesting support of the proposed changes regarding reducing red tape for more cost-effective, timely energy connections in Ontario.

CARRIED Resolution 222-23

The CAO updated Council on a meeting with MLES about by-law enforcement services a call from the Town of Petawawa about the annual Water and Dirt Festival and whether there is an opportunity for Laurentian Hills to participate in it.

Staff was requested to invite a representative from MLES and the Town of Petawawa to Council's February meeting.

Moved by Councillor Boucher
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

THAT this Council of the Town of Laurentian Hills approves and authorizes staff to submit an application to the Emergency Management Ontario's Community Emergency Preparedness Grant and authorizes the CAO/Clerk to sign the necessary documents associated with the grant.

CARRIED Resolution 223-23

XVI. CLOSED SESSION - None

XVII. MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTION - None

XVIII. CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW

Moved by Councillor McAnulty
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

THAT By-Law No. 28-23 being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Town of Laurentian Hills meeting of Council held on November 22, 2023 do now be read a first, second and third time and passed.

CARRIED Resolution 224-23

XIX. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor McAnulty
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Blimkie

THAT this regular meeting of the Council of the Town of Laurentian Hills do now adjourn at 1:01 p.m.

CARRIED Resolution 225-23

MAYOR

CLERK