

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RYERSON

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 27, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ryerson was held **June 27, 2023** at 6:00 p.m. This was a hybrid meeting combining in person, electronic meeting via Zoom and phone.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor George Sterling called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Attendance was announced, and it was noted that the meeting is being recorded.

Council members attending electronically via Zoom or phone: Mayor Sterling, Councillors: Abbott, Miller Patterson and Robertson.

Delegates: Doug & Vickie Ash.

Staff in attendance: Brayden Robinson, Nancy Field, and Kryssi Sinclair.

Public attending by phone or electronically: Judy Ransome, Nieves Guijarro, Roman Kaczynski and Paul Van Dam.

Notice of this meeting was posted on the website.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

R- 112 - 23 Moved by Councillor Abbott, Seconded by Councillor Robertson,

Be it resolved that the minutes from the regular meeting on June 13, 2023, be adopted as circulated. (Carried)

3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST: None noted.

4. DELEGATION:

4.1 Doug and Vickie Ash presented their proposal for a dog boarding kennel.

5. TENDERS: None registered.

6. REPORTS:

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

6.1 Council received an update report from the Fire Chief.

PUBLIC WORKS:

6.2 Council was provided with a roads report from the Roads Supervisor.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

6.3 Council received a copy of the draft summer newsletter and recommended some changes.

DEPUTY CLERK:

6.4 Council received a report regarding the appointing Brayden Robinson as the Acting Clerk and the following resolution was adopted.

R- 113 - 23 Moved by Councillor Robertson, Seconded by Councillor Abbott,

Be it resolved that leave be given to introduce a Bill # 28-23, being a By-law to appoint an Acting Clerk and further; That By-Law #28-23 be read a First, Second, and Third time, Signed and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto and finally passed in Council this 27th day of June 2023. (Carried)

COUNCIL REPORTS:

6.5 Councillor Miller provided information from the Joint Building Committee and the following resolution was adopted by Council.

R- 114 - 23 Moved by Councillor Miller, Seconded by Councillor Patterson,

Be it resolved that Council for the Township of Ryerson hereby amend By-law #18-23 being a by-law to appoint a DCBO, as follows: Number 4. That By-law 42-19 By-law to Appoint Jeremy Bean as DCBO is repealed. ~~and all previous By-laws appointing a DCBO or Building Inspector.~~ (Carried)

6.6 Councillor Patterson provided the June minutes and status report from the Almaguin Highlands Health Council.

6.7 Councillor Robertson provided a report from ACED and the Council adopted the following resolutions.

R- 115 - 23 Moved by Councillor Abbott, Seconded by Councillor Patterson,

That the Council of the Township of Ryerson is in favour of participating in exploratory discussions regarding a multi-municipal community bussing partnership. (Carried)

R- 116 - 23 Moved by Councillor Robertson, Seconded by Councillor Abbott,

That the Council of the Township of Ryerson is in favour of the creation of a regional task force to address opportunities and barriers regarding housing development, agrees that a regional approach to housing development is needed for the area, and agrees to participate in a task force if it is created. (Carried)

7. BUSINESS ARISING/ACTIVITY LOG:

7.1 Council discussed the delegates request for a dog boarding kennel. The Deputy-Clerk recommended that the Township seek legal advice regarding the Dog By-law, 14-99 and Council agreed. Further discussions will commence once advice is received.

7.2 Council received an update from Burk's Falls regarding the Almaguin Health Centre Contributions.

7.3 Council discussed the success of the Community Yard Sale held on June 24, 2023. With the communities' generous donations, \$546.65 was donated to the Burk's Falls and District Food Bank.

7.4 Information from Mayor Rod Ward from Armour was provided to Council regarding the Hospital Local Share Update.

8. COMMUNICATION ITEMS

8.1 Council received a request from FONOM regarding the Homelessness resolution. Council adopted the following resolution.

R- 117 - 23 Moved by Councillor Patterson, Seconded by Councillor Miller,

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;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ryerson 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; AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ryerson 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 national Community Housing Network relative to every other province and territories;

AND 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;

AND 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;

AND 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;

AND 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;

AND WHEREAS Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ryerson understand 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;

AND 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;

AND 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;

AND 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;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ryerson:

1. Also supports the provincial ask for federal operating funding for National Housing Strategy initiatives
2. 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
3. Would like need-driven indicators incorporated into the funding allocation formulas for all federal programs
4. 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
5. Also supports the provincial position in relation to the provinces and territories Repair Fund under the National Housing Co-Investment Fund
6. 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
7. Wish 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

8. Believe 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
9. Believe 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 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
10. Believe 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
11. Urge the Federal Government to 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

AND 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, Scott Aitchison, M.P.P., Premier Ford, Minister Clark, Graydon Smith, M.P., Leaders of the Federal and Provincial Opposition Parties, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities. (Carried)

8.2 Council received a request to support a resolution from Parry Sound and the following resolution was adopted.

R- 118- 23 Moved by Councillor Abbott, Seconded by Councillor Robertson,

Be it resolved that Council of the Township of Ryerson support resolution Number 2023 – 079 dated June 6, 2023 received from the Town of Parry Sound, calling upon the provincial and federal governments for additional resources to combat the opioid crisis, mental health and homelessness, AND recommending to the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit that a regional coalition of public health, relevant community agencies and others appropriate, be established in order too amplify regional concerns and investigate potential strategies and resources,

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, The Town of Parry Sound, First Nations communities within Parry Sound District, MP Scott Aitchison, MPP Graydon Smith, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO). (Carried)

8.3 Council received the June Landfill report.

General Information Items Received:

- Council received an update from the District Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB)
- Council received the financial statement from the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit

9. CONFIRMING BY-LAW

R- 119 -23 Moved by Councillor Robertson, Seconded by Councillor Abbott,

Be it resolved that leave be given to introduce a Bill #29-23, being a By-law to confirm the meetings of Council and further; That By-Law # 29-23 be read a First, Second, and Third time, Signed and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto and finally passed in Council this 27th day of June 2023. (Carried)

11. ADJOURNMENT:

R- 120 -23 Moved by Councillor Miller, Seconded by Councillor Patterson,

Be it resolved that we do now adjourn at 7:05pm. The next regular meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. (Carried)

Original signed by George Sterling
MAYOR

Original signed by Nancy Field
CLERK/DEPUTY CLERK