

# CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RYERSON

## SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday October 11, 2023 – **9:30 a.m.**

*The Municipal Council of the Township of Ryerson recognizes that we are on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe Peoples, in the Robinson-Huron and Williams Treaties areas. We wish to acknowledge the long history of First Nations and Métis Peoples in Ontario, and show respect to the neighbouring indigenous communities.*

A special meeting of Council has been scheduled for Wednesday October 11, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. for an open meeting of Council to discuss goals and priorities for a Council Term Plan.

Members of Council were notified of this special meeting by e-mail on October 6, 2023. The public was notified of this meeting by posting of this special meeting agenda October 6, 2023.

1. Call the meeting to order.
2. Attendance.
3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest.
4. Council Term Plan Discussion.
5. Direction and resolutions, if required.           1
6. Adjournment.



## Staff Report

To:	Ryerson Township Council
From:	Judy Kosowan
Date of Meeting:	October 11, 2023
Report Title:	Council Term Plan
Report Date:	October 6, 2023

### **Recommendation:**

Council receive and consider this report and develop a Plan for this term.

### **Purpose/Background:**

At a meeting April 5, 2023, Council discussed issues raised during the 2022 municipal election campaign and drafted a preliminary list of priorities as a basis for setting strategic goals for the next few years 2023-2027.

Attached is a document drafted for Council's consideration, 'Council's Priorities from Discussion at Visioning Meeting April 5, 2023':

The first part of the document is a listing the priorities discussed and now categorized under four themes/pillars: Economic Development, Partnerships/Shared Services/Collaboration, Infrastructure/Municipal services and Community/Recreation/Natural Features.

The second part is 'Next Steps – Narrow Goals with a Common-Sense Approach aligning with the Fiscal Reality'.

This section is a draft for discussion purposes narrowing the goals under each theme. Once the goals are focused, and realistic in terms of fiscal and people resources to deliver, it will form the basis of the Council Term Plan.

## **COUNCIL TERM PLAN**

Council's priorities from discussion at visioning meeting April 5, 2023:

### **Economic Development**

- Make use of the resources we have - prioritize: market what we have to offer (embrace the past), communication, advertising – Museum – opportunities for preservation and use of this unique, historic facility
- Broadband/Internet cell coverage, home occupations/industries,
- Planning – housekeeping changes to ZBL, support housing initiatives
- Review House Size, planning documents, make it more affordable
- Retain rural character through planning documents
- Protect natural features through planning documents
- Development updates to O.P. then ZBL
- Agriculture – market gardens, beef production/hay/horses, non-traditional agriculture

### **Partnerships/Shared Services/Collaboration:**

- Continue/support/evolve with current partnerships/community services: Shared Services (Burks Falls/Armour) Arena, Fire, Waste Management, Library, ACED, Women's Own Resource Centre, Almaguin Adult Learning Centre, Historical Society, Food Bank, Almaguin Highlands Health Centre, Hospital Local Share, Joint Building Department, Agricultural Society, local snowmobile clubs
- Actively pursue further shared service opportunities:

### **Infrastructure/Municipal Services**

- Transportation infrastructure, property standards with 'common sense approach' and rural flavor, housing
- Roads – continue with long range plan/tied to Asset Management Plan
- By-law Enforcement – property standards, noise
- Administration/Finance – support professional development, continue to implement efficiencies in IT – 'modernization', more digital based improvements as per Service Delivery Review
- AMP, Budget – fiscal realities
- Review existing resources-parks existing change rooms/portable toilets – water access

- Review owned municipal property – potential uses (recreation/aggregates), potential disposition of property and possible acquisition of property

### **Community/Recreation/Natural Features**

- **tourism: trail systems, water access, volunteerism**
  - **Natural heritage features**
  - **Review water access inventory**
  - **Parks & Recreation Staff report to Council**
  - **options for property acquisition and/or sale of vacant municipal property**
  - **support regional recreation, and regional snowmobile trails**
  - **eco tourism (cycling – (Santosha Farm))**
  - **recreation committee, public input**
  - **accessible**
  - **volunteerism**
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### **NEXT STEPS**

#### **Narrow Goals with a Common-Sense Approach aligning with the Fiscal Reality**

The next step is to narrow the focus of the priorities from the visioning session into a realistic Council Term Plan. This will clearly outline what limited financial resources can be responsibly allocated through the Annual Budget as per the Asset Management Plan, to reach goals.

For discussion purposes and using the above four themes as examples, the start of a draft Council Term Plan is as follows:

#### **1. Economic Development**

- Move forward with Housekeeping Zoning By-law up-dates, and this relates directly to updating the trailer by-law
- By-law enforcement of new documents and clean yard by-law
- Update Official Plan and Zoning By-law (a lengthy process) and this supports provincial housing initiatives to allow for creative housing opportunities, lot creation and potential housing developments

## **2. Partnerships/Shared Services/Collaboration**

- Continue to support and improve existing shared service partnerships: Shared service expenditures: fire hall, library, arena, health centre, hospital local share
- A key aspect for sustainability, is that the Township must actively pursue and develop options for expanding collaborations
- For this municipality, creative solutions are needed to ensure sustainability in this environment of large and multiple demands for the limited fiscal and people resources

## **3. Infrastructure/Municipal Services**

- Public Works: continue with long range plan, tied to Asset Management Plan for maintenance and capital items
- Annual budget: allocate resources for capital expenditures for existing buildings – garage/offices and other infrastructure – museum/parks
- Financial resources for shared services

## **4. Community/Recreation/Natural Features**

- Support the Historical Society in maintaining the unique Wiseman Corners School House heritage site and culture of the local area
- Encourage a healthy community by supporting the Ryerson Recreation Committee in trail and signage development. Promote Eco tourism and make use of our local natural heritage features.
- Encourage Volunteerism