

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RYERSON

SHARED SERVICES MEETING **MINUTES**

Monday, March 20, 2017

Senior's Centre, Burk's Falls – 6:30 P.M.

A Shared Services meeting with the Village of Burk's Falls, Township of Armour and Township of Ryerson was held at the Young at Heart Senior's Centre, 136 Yonge Street, Burk's Falls, Monday, March 20, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

In attendance: Ryerson Township: Reeve Glenn Miller. Councillors: Barbara Marlow, Rosalind Hall and Doug Weddel. George Sterling was absent. Deputy Clerk Leanne Fetterley and Treasurer Judy Edwards were also present.

Burks Falls Council: Reeve Cathy Still and Councillors Lewis Hodgson, Jarve Osborne and Rex Smith. Absent: Lisa Morrison.

Armour Council: Reeve Bob MacPhail. Councillors Marina Hammond, Rod Blakelock and Jerry Brandt. Absent: Pat Hayes.

Members of the public and some members of the Burks Falls, Ryerson and Armour municipal staff were also in attendance.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest: None declared.

The Village of Burks Falls hosted the meeting and Reeve Cathy Still called the meeting to order at 6:56 p.m.

Presentation: Township of Armour

Reeve MacPhail reviewed Armour's proposal and discussed each of the three options presented. Option 1 includes a board administration concept with all three partners paying one third of all shared services costs.

Option 2 is based on the original proposal from Burk's Falls and treats each service separately. In Option 2, Reeve MacPhail raised concerns about the high cost of the fire budget, the role of medical calls in the fire budget, issues with using fire risk assessment data, and the impact of a regional Fire Prevention Officer (FPO) program. New landfill usage statistics were provided. Reeve MacPhail conveyed Armour's interest in owning a certain volume of the potential landfill expansion and paying accordingly.

In Option 3, Armour Township will find service solutions outside of the current agreement.

Reeve MacPhail stressed that Option 2 represents a solution that is very close to meeting the requirements of all three partners. However, he noted that if Armour Township does not receive a response by April 4 from Burk's Falls and Ryerson indicating which option they choose, Armour will move forward with Option 3.

Presentation: Ryerson Township

Reeve Miller reminded Councillors that the original cost sharing agreement was developed many years ago and that it was based on households, population and assessment as well as a factor to account for distance from services. In response to Armour's proposal, Reeve Miller stated that fire risk assessment data could be used as a factor in apportioning the fire budget. He noted that the fire budget may decrease with the move to a regional FPO program, but that if the fire budget is reduced to \$300,000, the level of service will go down.

With regard to the administration, Reeve Miller suggested that committees are the best way to move items forward and that no single Municipality should have a veto. With legal counsel, terms of reference can be developed to administer shared services through a legal committee structure.

Reeve Miller stressed that our shared services agreement should be viewed as serving one community, not three. He cautioned against partners choosing to pay less than what is determined by the chosen factor and stated that ultimatums are not good for relationship building. He concluded that Ryerson is in shared services and committed to coming to an agreement.

Discussion

Members of Burk's Falls council questioned the landfill statistics provided by Armour and indicated that more information is required about how the data was compiled.

Various factors that impact the fire budget were discussed such as seasonal residents and medical calls.

It was noted that the budgets under review do not include capital. It was generally agreed that all budgets must be reviewed to identify potential cost-savings and that negotiating a new agreement in a timely fashion is critical.

An extension to Armour's deadline of April 4th was requested and denied. Ryerson and Burk's Falls indicated their interest in having a joint meeting.

Next Meeting

A meeting was not scheduled at this time.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Barbara Marlow, seconded by Councillor Marina Hammond that the meeting now adjourns at 7:58 pm. (Carried)

Original signed by Glenn Miller

REEVE

Original signed by Leanne Fetterley

DEPUTY CLERK