



The Corporation of the Township of Dawn-Euphemia

- M I N U T E S -

Regular Council Meeting
Monday, February 1, 2021
6:30 pm, Municipal Office, 4591 Lambton Line

Meeting was held by Teleconference, #19 (in accordance with S.4.6 of Procedural By-Law 2020-13, Electronic Meetings During a Declared Emergency)

Present: Mayor: A. Broad
Councillors: A. Gray
M. McGuire
J. Meyer

Absent: L. Williams

Staff Present: D. Clermont, Administrator-Clerk
P. Dalton, Public Works Superintendent
S.Gawley, Treasurer

Guest: Ray Dobbin, PEng, Dobbin Engineering Inc.

Public Present: H. Wright, Independent News
J. Allaert, Resident

Disclosures: None

6:30 – 6:55 pm Meeting to Consider –Young Drain
Engineer: Ray Dobbin, PEng, Dobbin Engineering Inc.
Public Present: Jeff Cross, Landowner

2021-12 Councillor Meyer – Councillor Gray

Open Meeting to Consider Young Drain

That Council hereby opens the Consideration Meeting at 6:30 pm for discussion regarding the Amended Young Drain Report, dated November 24, 2020. *Carried.*

Recorded Vote	
Vote	
Y	A. Broad
Y	A. Gray
Y	M. McGuire
Y	J. Meyer
-	L. Williams

The Chairman called the meeting to order. The *original* Young Drain Report dated August 25, 2016, was first presented to Council at a Public Meeting to Consider on September 19, 2016, followed by a subsequent Court of Revision date of November 7, 2016. At the Regular Council Meeting of December 5, 2016, the Drainage Superintendent presented Council with a Report advising that the sole proponent of the Young Drain had requested a different scope of work be considered. This request was received *after* the invited tenders had been opened and read. Council agreed at that time, to suspend any progress until further investigation and the report was referred back to the Engineer for recommendations. The Report has been amended and the new Report dated November 24, 2020, is before Council for consideration.

Engineer Ray Dobbin, PEng, Dobbin Engineering Inc., presented the amended Young Drain Report, Section 78, dated November 24, 2020, of which notice was sent to all affected landowners and parties as required by the Drainage Act, on December 21, 2020. He advised that the owner had requested changes to the original report and highlighted the changes being mainly the realignment of the drain, west of Downie Road. The estimated cost of the drain is \$356,831 with damage to crops included.

The landowner, Jeff Cross agreed that the report was self-explanatory, acknowledged the costs, and confirmed that "all was good". The Landowner questioned if there were any foreseeable reasons that would prevent him from bidding on the project during the competitive process. The Engineer advised that he was not aware of anything preventing a tender submission provided that all criteria and specs are met including insurance, WSIB, required deposits etc; however, final decision for awarding the tender lies with Council.

Council questioned the drain costs directly related to Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), to which the Engineer responded they were "substantial".

The Chairman concluded the meeting by advising the public present of the appeal procedures under the Drainage Act, and advised that appropriate notices will be sent out to all affected owners as to the date of the Court of Revision. Council passed the following resolution:

2021-13 Councillor Meyer – Councillor McGuire

Accept Engineers Report-Young Drain

Subsequent to review and consideration of the Young Drain Report, as prepared by R. Dobbin Engineering Inc., dated November 24, 2020, at the Consideration Meeting held on Monday, February 1, 2021, Council hereby accepts the report as presented; and further directs the Drainage Superintendent to schedule the Court of Revision Meeting; and further directs staff to prepare the necessary provisional bylaw for the next Council Meeting. *Carried.*

Recorded Vote	
Vote	
Y	A. Broad
Y	A. Gray
Y	M. McGuire
Y	J. Meyer
-	L. Williams

2021-14 Councillor Gray – Councillor Meyer

Close Meeting to Consider-Young Drain

That Council hereby closes the Consideration Meeting for the Young Drain Report, dated November 24, 2020, at 6:55 p.m. *Carried.*

Recorded Vote	
Vote	
Y	A. Broad
Y	A. Gray
Y	M. McGuire
Y	J. Meyer
-	L. Williams

**7:00 pm – 7:10pm: Public Meeting – 2021 Budget
Scott Gawley, Treasurer**

Public Present: J. Allaert, Resident, H. Wright, Independent

The draft budget including the 2021 Operating, Maintenance, Administration and Capital Budget was presented and reviewed by Council on January 11 and 18, 2021. The budget meeting was opened to the public for comment. No comments were received.

The budget estimates show a 2.85% or the average Residential Tax Class will see \$19.00 a year increase per \$100,000 of assessment or Farm Tax Class will see \$4.00 a year increase per \$100,000 of assessment. The Township tax levy for 2021 will be \$4,017,961 with the following changes:

- Gravel resurfacing increase in quantity \$50,000
- COVID-19 potential expenses in 2021 \$66,000
- Insurance Premium increase \$11,851
- Staffing full-time Treasurer position \$44,438

The water rate increased to \$2.95 per m3 (from \$2.85 per m3) and the basic fixed charge increase to \$23.00 per bill (from \$22.00). Council adopted the 2021 Water Financial Plan covering period until 2026 at the January 18, 2021 Council meeting. The following resolution was passed:

2121-15 Councillor McGuire – Councillor Gray

2021 Budget Adoption

That subsequent to the Public Meeting and Presentation of the 2021 Budget, Council hereby adopts the 2021 Budget, as presented by the Treasurer. *Carried*

Recorded Vote	
Vote	
Y	A. Broad
Y	A. Gray
Y	M. McGuire
Y	J. Meyer
-	L. Williams

2021-16 Councillor Meyer – Councillor Gray

Minutes –January 18, 2021

That the minutes of the January 18, 2021, Regular Council Meeting be approved. *Carried.*

Recorded Vote	
Vote	
Y	A. Broad
Y	A. Gray
Y	M. McGuire
Y	J. Meyer
-	L. Williams

2021-17 Councillor McGuire – Councillor Meyer

2021 SCRCA Budget

That That Council hereby acknowledges receipt of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority 2021 Approved Budget. *Carried*

Recorded Vote	
Vote	
Y	A. Broad
Y	A. Gray
Y	M. McGuire
Y	J. Meyer
-	L. Williams

2021-18 Councillor Meyer – Councillor McGuire

Tax Levy Bylaw

That By-law 2021-01, being a by-law to Provide for 2021 Interim Tax Levies, be taken as read a first, second and third time, and finally passed this 1st day of February, 2021. *Carried*

Recorded Vote	
Vote	
Y	A. Broad
Y	A. Gray
Y	M. McGuire
Y	J. Meyer
-	L. Williams

Other Business

Councillor Meyer expressed ongoing concerns regarding Council attendance at budget adoption meetings and the following resolution was passed:

2021-19 Councillor Meyer – Councillor Gray

Tax Levy Bylaw

That Council directs staff to provide a report regarding Council Members attendance at Budget Adoption Meetings, for the past 5 years. *Carried.*

Recorded Vote	
Vote	
Y	A. Broad
Y	A. Gray
Y	M. McGuire
Y	J. Meyer
-	L. Williams

2021-20 Councillor Gray – Councillor Meyer

Adjournment

That this Regular Session of Council be hereby adjourned at the hour of 7:13 pm, to meet again on Tuesday February 16, 2021 @ 6:30 pm (Regular Meeting), or at the call of the Chair. *Carried.*

Recorded Vote	
Vote	
Y	A. Broad
Y	A. Gray
Y	M. McGuire
Y	J. Meyer
-	L. Williams

Mayor

Administrator-Clerk