

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAR FALLS

MINUTES of the Special Meeting of Ear Falls Council
Ear Falls Municipal Council Chambers
November 17, 2016 @ 11:00 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kevin Kahoot called the Meeting to order at 11:15 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Mayor Kevin Kahoot, Councillor Jim Desmarais, Councillor Tracey Simon, Councillor Michael Moore (Wabauskang First Nation), Councillor Della Van Wynen (Wabauskang First Nation), Jay Petiquan, Right to Play Coordinator (Wabauskang First Nation), Clerk Treasurer Administrator Kimberly Ballance, and two (2) members of the public.

3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

None Declared.

4. MATTERS FOR WHICH SPECIAL MEETING WAS CALLED

Mayor Kahoot welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

4.1 Recreation Shared Services

Council members discussed opportunities and the potential for shared recreation services.

Wabauskang First Nation's Right to Play program was introduced. Jay Petiquan advised that the program is focused on delivering life and leadership skills with a focus on promoting health. There has been some partnership with the Ear Falls Public School in the program through a Summer Camp program that was run a few years ago.

Council members discussed opportunities for the communities to collaborate and potentially share facilities and staff in order to offer broader programming. Wabauskang First Nation Council members identified an interest in investigating a Corporate Membership for use of Ear Falls recreation facilities including the KinFit Gym, Ice Surface and Golf Course. Additional information was requested from them regarding the number of people that would be interested in this Membership. Fees for these services are already in place and will be sent to Councillor Moore for further review.

Council members discussed recreation summer student positions and the potential for a shared recreation staff position. Additional information on this will be brought back to the next joint Meeting.

Council members discussed opportunities for a youth council to provide input into local projects and engagement in the local government process. Use of social media and communication methods were discussed.

4.2 ServiceOntario

Ear Falls Council discussed the history of ServiceOntario in Ear Falls and the interest in potential coordination of services with Wabauskang First Nation. Council members discussed the availability of Drive Test and Drivers Education services available in the area. Wabauskang First Nation Council members advised that they would consider providing a letter of support to Ear Falls Council regarding ServiceOntario service provision.

Clarification was requested regarding whether MP Sarah Campbell had provided any input or support regarding the matter.

4.3 Wastewater Treatment Plant Incident – June 17th, 2016

A description of the incident was provided by the Township identifying that 10 m³ of wastewater was released due to a sludge line problem at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Clarification was requested on how Wabauskang First Nation Council was notified of the incident. They advised that they had received a letter from an individual but did not have much information about it. Wabauskang Council members identified that they were interested in being added to the Ministry of the Environment Spills Action Centre Notification procedure list. Ryan Haines of Kenora Resource Consultants, would act as Wabauskang First Nation's contact for this type of notice.

4.4 Economic Development Opportunities

Council members discussed opportunities for economic development projects including a dinner / gambling cruise on Lac Seul, all weather trails for ATV / snowmobiles, eco-tourism, bottled water, whiskey development, tourism / seasonal businesses, boat / canoe routes, birding / bird sanctuaries, the growing amateur photography field, photography classes set up like a baited hunt, and paintball hunts.

Councillor Jo-Anne Petiquan is Wabauskang First Nations' economic development representative and will be able to discuss this more fully at the next Meeting.

Council Members identified that another Meeting should be held in February 2017 to continue the conversation about opportunities for our communities.

5. ADJOURNMENT

5.1 RESOLUTION NO. 298

Moved by Tracey Simon. Seconded by Jim Desmarais.

RESOLVED THAT this Special Meeting of Council adjourn at the hour of 12:00 p.m.

Carried.

Mayor

Clerk