

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAR FALLS

MINUTES of the Special Meeting of Ear Falls Council
Ear Falls Municipal Council Chambers
November 18th, 2015 @ 6:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kevin Kahoot called the Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Mayor Kevin Kahoot, Councillor Rob Eady, Councillor Tracey Simon, Councillor Daniel Sutton, and Clerk Treasurer Administrator Kimberly Ballance.

3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

None Declared.

4. MATTERS FOR WHICH SPECIAL MEETING WAS CALLED

C08-CO

4.1 Strategic Plan Draft Presentation

Mayor Kahoot welcomed Paul Hicks to the Meeting, who was participating via teleconference.

Paul reviewed the strategic planning process that the municipality had completed to date; identifying that the Plan has four (4) key sections:

- Vision
- Mission
- Goals
- Objectives

The strategic planning process identified five (5) common themes:

- New Economic Development Opportunities
- Population Growth & Retention
- Municipal Services & Service Delivery
- Transportation & Logistics
- Relationships & Partnership

The Ear Falls Vision is proposed as:

- Ear Falls will be a growing and supportive community, a place where families and businesses are proud to call home.

The Ear Falls Mission is proposed as:

- To make our vision a reality, Ear Falls will strive to create a business and family-friendly environment that will retain and attract businesses and families.

Paul reviewed the proposed goals and objectives for Council's discussion.

Council requested clarification on the Community Improvement Plan (CIP) incentives that are offered in other communities. Paul identified that an example of a CIP could be a Façade Improvement Program, beautification, energy improvement, home-business startups in a commercial zone, or possible tax incentives for completing a municipal approved initiative / project.

Council discussed Economic Development priorities and discussed that a separate committee may not be necessary, but that a standing item on the Council Agenda targeting an economic development project / issue may suffice. Opportunities for participating in regional economic development organizations may have local benefits. A regional tourism strategy could improve opportunities locally (i.e. projects could include regional ATV routes, canoeing routes).

Council discussed community development activities such as determining if a Community Development Officer would be feasible for the community; this could be linked to the municipal service delivery review. The creation of a Community Development Committee was also discussed.

Council discussed the development of a beautification initiative including wayfinding signage.

The Implementation Timeline was reviewed as presented.

Council requested clarification on the difference between the Economic Development Committee and the Community Development Committee.

Paul requested clarification from Council on suggested modifications to the draft Plan and implementation timeline.

Council thanked Paul for his work to date and will provide comments on the draft Plan following further Council review.

Council discussed a potential Community / Economic Development Committee that is more focused on community development, although economic development could still be identified as part of their mandate.

5. ADJOURNMENT

5.1 RESOLUTION NO. 312

Moved by Rob Eady. Seconded by Daniel Sutton.

RESOLVED THAT this Special Meeting of Council adjourn at the hour of 7:00 p.m.

Carried.

Mayor

Clerk