

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAR FALLS

MINUTES of the Special Meeting of Ear Falls Council
Ear Falls Municipal Council Chambers
November 25th, 2013 @ 10:00 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kevin Kahoot called the Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Mayor Kevin Kahoot, Councillor Rob Eady, Councillor Fred Melanson, Councillor Vic Robinson, Deputy Clerk Treasurer Paulette Covell, 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

F11-SR

4.1 Submission of an Expression of Interest to the Small, Rural and Northern Municipal Infrastructure Fund for an Engineering Assessment and Capital Rehabilitation project for the Low Lift Pumping Station at the Ear Falls Water Treatment Plant.

RESOLUTION NO. 309

Moved by Vic Robinson. Seconded by Fred Melanson.

WHEREAS Resolution No. 291-13, dated October 16th, 2013, authorized the Clerk Treasurer Administrator to submit an Expression of Interest to the Small, Rural and Northern Municipal Infrastructure Fund (SRNMIF) for an engineering assessment and capital rehabilitation project for the Low Lift Pumping Station at the Ear Falls Water Treatment Plant.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Ear Falls certifies that:

- the information in the Expression of Interest is factually accurate; and
- the Township of Ear Falls will have a comprehensive Asset Management Plan that includes all of the information and analysis described in the Building Together: Guide for Municipal Asset Management Plans in place by December 31st, 2013; and

- the Township of Ear Falls comprehensive Asset Management Plan will be publicly available and available online by May 30th, 2014; and
- the project put forward in this Application will be completed by December 31st, 2015.

Carried.

*L04-EA

- 4.2 By-Law No. 1831-13, a By-Law to Enter into Agreements with EACOM Timber Corporation (the “Company”) and the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation for the Settlement of Outstanding 2006 – 2013 Property Tax and Assessment Appeals.

RESOLUTION NO. 310

Moved by Fred Melanson. Seconded by Vic Robinson.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls hereby consider By-Law No. 1831-13 as passed.

Carried.

F02-WA

- 4.3 Water / Sewer Rate Review.

Council discussed the proposed four (4) year water / sewer rate increase scenario for a 13% / year water rate increase and a 7% / year sewer rate increase. Council expressed concerns about the affordability of the proposed rates and the impacts on individual rate payers.

Council discussed the implementation of the previous rate increases in 2011, 2012 and 2013, as well as the need for additional increases to meet full-cost recovery standards identified in the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002 and Water Opportunities Act, 2010. Council discussed the increased costs associated with operation of the water and sewer systems including increasing energy costs and the OCWA Contract.

Council concurred that a failure to address the gap between increasing expenditures and revenues would result in additional problems in the future regarding the Township’s ability to operate the systems in a safe and fair manner. Council requested that a By-Law adopting the proposed rates be brought forward for consideration at the December 4th, 2013 Council Meeting with a proposed implementation date of January 1st, 2014.

5. ADJOURNMENT

5.1 RESOLUTION NO. 311

Moved by Vic Robinson. Seconded by Fred Melanson.

RESOLVED THAT this Special Meeting of Council adjourn at the hour of 10:42 a.m.

Carried.

Mayor

Clerk