**The Corporation of the Township of Burpee and Mills**

**Regular Council Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday November 9, 2023**

The Corporation of the Township of Burpee and Mills Council met for the Regular Council Meeting at the Municipal Complex. Reeve Ken Noland and Councillors Arthur F. Hayden, David Deeg, Roger Morrell and Kim Middleton were in attendance. Gye Taylor, Road Superintendent and Beverly MacDonald were also in attendance. Lynn Jackes, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer recorded the minutes.

GUESTS: Donna Pearson, Kathryn Noland, Nicole Noland Middleton, Cheryl Burridge, Melanie Blain, and Rob Thirkill. Bill Concannon also attended but did not sign the attendance sheet.

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by Reeve Noland.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: David Deeg – Agenda Item #7

**MOTION: 2023-184**

Moved By: Kim Middleton

Seconded By: Roger Morrell

THAT Council approved the Agenda for the November 9, 2023 Regular Council

Meeting with the addition of the Bylaw Officer report……………….carried K.N.

**MOTION: 2023-185**

Moved By: David Deeg

Seconded By: Arthur F. Hayden

THAT Council approve the Council Meeting Minutes of October 3,

2023……………….carried K.N.

**Fire Department Report**

Chief, Rick Graham sent his regrets. David Deeg reported that the training is ongoing. They are still working on the truck. The fire department may need some winter wear.

**Road Superintendent’s Report**

Gye Taylor reported the plows are dressed and ready for winter operations. The grader will be dressed for winter after grading has been completed on roads. Gravel has been put down on all gravel roads requiring gravel.

Gye is requesting to purchase a new conveyor chain for the sander due to the existing chains poor condition. The new chain is $1919.19 plus taxes and shipping. He estimates the total to be approximately $2500.00.

Gye Taylor excused himself at 7:05 pm.

**Bylaw Officer Report**

Ken introduced the new Bylaw Officer, Beverly MacDonald.

Beverly reported that she has almost completed the 10 week bylaw course. She was asked if she had any issues getting settled in and if she needs anything from Council. She said she is doing fine and she had one complaint which has been resolved.

**MOTION: 2023-186**

Moved By: Arthur F. Hayden

Seconded By: Kim Middleton

That Council agrees to the purchase of a new conveyor chain for the roads sander. The cost will be not more than $3,000.00.………………carried K.N.

David Deeg excused himself from the meeting as he had a conflict of interest with Agenda item # 7, the approval of road vouchers.

**MOTION: 2023-187**

Moved By: Arthur F. Hayden

Seconded By: Roger Morrell

That the Road Voucher in the amount of $162,512.44 be approved for payment………………carried K.N.

**MOTION: 2023-188**

Moved By: Kim Middleton

Seconded By: David Deeg

THAT the General Voucher in the amount of $103,381.41 be approved for payment……………………carried K.N.

**MOTION: 2023-189**

Moved By: David Deeg

Seconded By: Roger Morrell

THAT the Fire Voucher in the amount of $1,983.67 be approved for payment………………..carried K.N.

Bill Concannon took the floor to make his presentation.

Bill thanked everyone for having him at the meeting.

He reminded everyone that the previous month he was at the meeting and the police were called. He waited until after the meeting and asked why they were called. He was stunned and shocked. He didn’t get an answer to that question.

He wanted to remind Council that this situation is not personal. He has a health issues which cause short term memory loss and an inability to find the correct words.

His goal is to have the Council listen to him today and have a fresh start from today forward. He then played a recording, for Council and guests (without permission) that he made of a previous phone call he had with Reeve, Ken Noland.

*He was questioning Ken on Short term rentals. It appeared that the tape had started before the part he played for Council.*

*Bill said he was going around the island to shut down short term rental bylaws because he believes that they are not needed. Bill said he was not trying to get Ken to defend the bylaws but wanted to know why after 150 years, municipalities suddenly want this bylaw. Ken tried to answer, and Bill said, “hold on, hold on, hold on and thought Ken was being argumentative.*

*Bill then asked what Ken’s job was as Reeve. Ken replied to look out for the welfare of the municipality, both the township and the people. Bill asked if Ken researched what the people wanted, and Ken was unsure what was meant by research. Bill said he didn’t get why it would be put in place if the majority of our 330-360 people don’t want it.*

*Ken replied that a lot of people don’t want speed limits on the road by they have to be there for safety.*

*Ken said the reason was extreme liability and when asked for an example, he said someone could fall off a deck and sue the township. Bill pushed to know how many times the township was sued for anything like that on private property. Ken replied he was going on the advice of lawyers across the province. Bill said okay hold on, hold on that’s what I wanted to hear. So, you are being advised by a lawyer to put this in place.*

*At which point Ken said he had an issue with Bill putting words in his mouth.*

*Ken asked if Bill was recording the phone call and when Bill confirmed he was, Ken said he disagreed with the taping of the conversation, said goodbye and hung up.*

Bill continued his presentation to say he tried to contact Ken again, through messages and emails to the office as well as texts and calls to Ken’s phone but his attempts were unsuccessful. He said he had to question Ken and record the conversation because he was sure that Ken told people about the call so he had to protect himself.

Previous to contacting Ken, Bill talked to Tim Bailey our previous bylaw Officer. He thought the conversation was going well until Tim also hung up on him.

Although Bill does not have short term rentals himself, he represents and assists people all over the island with running their rentals.

He complained that every municipality on the island does everything differently and used the examples of fire bans being different in every area.

Bill brought up the goal for his presentation. There is a website called, Chatham, Kent let’s talk. For 10 years they have been using this website to bring information from the people to the Councils they trust to run the Township. People complained about the Chicken bylaw so it was rescinded. He suggests a Manitoulin talks website.

He ended his presentation by thanking Council for listening.

**MOTION: 2023-190**

Moved By: Roger Morrell

Seconded By: Arthur F. Hayden

THAT Council approve The Township of Gordon/Barrie Island’s request to name the Township Boundary Line that runs west to east from the Thompson-Slomke Road at Stone Lake as “Gordon Mills Line Road”……………………carried K.N.

**MOTION: 2023-191**

Moved By: Arthur F. Hayden

Seconded By: David Deeg

THAT Council request that the Clerk inform the MTO that the Pine Haven signs are not in Burpee and Mills.……………………carried K.N.

The Recreation and Wellness Committee will be supporting the Manitoulin Family Resources’ Emergency Food Assistance Program with a donation to their 2023 Christmas Basket campaign.

**MOTION: 2023-192**

Moved By: Roger Morrell

Seconded By: Kim Middleton

WHEREAS Council agrees to a meeting with Lambac to discuss the cost and details of the Manitoulin Wayfinding Plan……………………carried K.N.

**MOTION: 2023-193**

Moved By: David Deeg

Seconded By: Kim Middleton

THAT Council move to an In Camera Meeting to discuss a personnel matter about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees of the municipality as required under section 239(1) and (2)(b) of the Municipal Act 2001 at 7:34 p.m.……………………carried K.N.

**Reports:**

**Airport –** Reeve Noland advised the Airport Project is moving slowly. The roof and trusses are up.

**MMA –** Kim Middleton reported that the following were discussed at the MMA meeting:

The doctor shortage, waste management and the emergency forest fires.

**MPB –** Reeve Noland advised the Natural Heritage information had been submitted as required the process has been stalled with the Province for over a month.

**CPAC –** No meeting

**POA** - No meeting

**Recreation –** The Spaghetti dinner is being advertised in the Newsletter. The Christmas Hamper donation to the Family Resource Centre was approved and the Christmas Dance planning is proceeding.

**Library –** A assistant librarian has been hired at 6 hours per week and a casual library assistant at 3 hours per month. Santa will be reading to the children on Friday December 15th. There is no money in the budget to purchase new computers, however there is a large reserve which may be able to be used.

**Waste –** Roger Morrell advised that the plastics have been picked up by GFL.

**Manor –** Art Hayden advised there is 97% occupancy at the Manor. Year to date there is a good surplus. Staffing is in good shape after Covid. There is only one vacancy. The Tree of Lights fundraiser has started to help the residents.

**MOTION: 2023-198**

Moved By: Arthur F. Hayden

Seconded By: Roger Morrell

THAT the Regular Council Meeting be adjourned at 8:06p.m………………………….carried K.N.

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Ken Noland, Reeve

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Lynn Jackes, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer