

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ASSIGINACK  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Assiginack was held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

**Present:** Mayor Brenda Reid  
Councillor Dwayne Elliott  
Councillor Jennifer Hooper  
Councillor Janice Bowerman

**Staff:** Deb MacDonald, Deputy CAO/Treasurer  
Heidi Ferguson, Clerk  
Freda Bond, Tax & Utility Manager  
Jackie White, Project Events Coordinator

**Public:** Nishin Meawasige and Mathieu Page

**Regrets:** Alton Hobbs, CAO, and Councillor Robert Maguire

**OPENING:**

**#55-05-2024 D. Elliott – J. Bowerman**

THAT the Regular Meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Assiginack be opened for business at 7:00 p.m., with a quorum of members present, with Mayor Reid presiding in the Chair.

*CARRIED*

**AGENDA:**

**#56-05-2024 J. Bowerman – D. Elliott**

THAT we amend the agenda to remove items:

6a.) Request for Reconsideration- By-law # 2024-01;

9b.) Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal employees;

And we will add these items to a future meeting agenda.

*CARRIED*

The Land Acknowledgement was read.

**DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:**

NONE

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Councillor Hooper shared that she was invited by the 1<sup>st</sup> Manitowaning Girl Guides to speak to them on March 4<sup>th</sup> in honor of International Women's Day. She thanked the group for their great questions about what it is like to be a female Councillor and shared that the future is bright for these young ladies. She

thanked them for the invitation, the beautiful pin they made for her and the honor it was to have the opportunity to speak with them.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

**#57-05-2024 J. Bowerman – D. Elliott**

THAT we approve the minutes of the Strategic Planning Advisory Committee of March 12, 2024.

*CARRIED*

**#58-05-2024 J. Hooper – D. Elliott**

THAT we approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council of March 5, 2024.

*CARRIED*

**#59-05-2024 D. Elliott – J. Bowerman**

THAT we approve the minutes of the Infrastructure Committee meeting of February 27, 2024.

*CARRIED*

**#60-05-2024 J. Bowerman – D. Elliott**

THAT we approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council of February 20, 2024.

*CARRIED*

**DELEGATIONS:**

NONE

**REPORTS:**

**#61-05-2024 J. Bowerman – D. Elliott**

THAT we acknowledge receipt of the Public Works Report provided by the Public Works Superintendent and thank him for his report.

*CARRIED*

*NOTE: Members of Council expressed their appreciation to the Public Works staff members for the great job they did grading the roads.*

**#62-05-2024 J. Hooper – D. Elliott**

THAT we accept the Arena Report and thank the Arena Manager for her report.

*CARRIED*

*NOTE: It was asked if the Arena has a skate sharpening machine, and it does and skates can be sharpened there as requested. Members of Council shared how nice it is to see our facilities being well utilized.*

**#63-05-2024 D. Elliott – J. Bowerman**

THAT we accept the PEC Report and thank the Project Events Coordinator for her report.

*CARRIED*

*NOTE: Members of Council congratulated the Threads Club members who are*

*sending their quilts to Edmonton and shared their thanks for the report and the variety of activities that are happening within our community.*

**ACTION REQUIRED ITEMS:**

**#64-05-2024 J. Hooper – D. Elliott**

THAT we authorize the following accounts for payment: General \$299,283.97, pursuant to the attached Treasurer's Statement of Accounts.

*CARRIED*

**#65-05-2024 D. Elliott – J. Bowerman**

THAT we authorize the following accounts for payment: Payroll \$57,883.92, pursuant to the attached Treasurer's Statement of Accounts.

*CARRIED*

**#66-05-2024 J. Hooper – D. Elliott**

THAT we acknowledge receipt of the 2023 Manitowaning Water Treatment Report.

*CARRIED*

**#67-05-2024 D. Elliott – J. Bowerman**

THAT we acknowledge receipt of the 2023 Sunsite Estates Drinking Water System Report.

*CARRIED*

**#68-05-2024 J. Bowerman – J. Hooper**

THAT we approve the Virtual Communications Policy, as amended.

*CARRIED*

*NOTE: Discussion took place and it was requested that the term 'external' be defined within the definitions section of the policy and for this definition to include any events and activities outside of the Township. Staff will make the requested change.*

**#69-05-2024 J. Bowerman – D. Elliott**

THAT we acknowledge receipt of OCWA's Proposal regarding Sludge Removal options for the Lagoon.

*CARRIED*

*NOTE: Discussion took place regarding the proposal options and cost.*

**#70-05-2024 J. Hooper – D. Elliott**

THAT we acknowledge receipt of the Southeast Manitoulin Lions Club's request and that we will discuss this request during our 2024 Budget Deliberations.

*CARRIED*

**#71-05-2024 J. Bowerman – D. Elliott**

THAT we acknowledge receipt of the request for support from Fixing our Felines and that we will discuss this request during our 2024 Budget Deliberations.

*CARRIED*

**#72-05-2024 J. Hooper – J. Bowerman**

THAT we acknowledge receipt of the request for support from Bluegrass in the Country and that we will discuss this request during our 2024 Budget Deliberations.

*CARRIED*

**#73-05-2024 D. Elliott – J. Bowerman**

THAT we support the District of Nipissing East Home for the Aged request to the Minister of Long-Term Care to conduct a review of the Governance Structure of Boards of Management for Territorial District Homes.

*CARRIED*

**#74-05-2024 J. Hooper – J. Bowerman**

THAT we support the County's request for support for the Province to provide support to expand the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements.

*CARRIED*

**#75-05-2024 J. Bowerman – D. Elliott**

THAT we support the Board of Heath's request for support to call on the Provincial Government to incorporate local food affordability findings in determining adequacy of social assistance rates to reflect the current costs of living and to index Ontario Works rates to inflation going forward.

*CARRIED*

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

**#76-05-2024 J. Hooper – J. Bowerman**

THAT we acknowledge receipt of the following information items:

- a.) Letter to the Mayor/Council re: New Housing Infrastructure-Miigwetch/Thank you!
- b.) OCWA Drinking Water Quality Management System Review Minutes.
- c.) Request for Support – Town of NEMI: Rural and Small Urban Water & Wastewater.
- d.) Request for Support – Northumberland County: Amendment to the Occupational Health & Safety Act to clarify the definition of an employer.
- e.) Request for Support – Township of Amaranth: Highway 413.
- f.) Request for Support – Town of Lincoln: Increased funding to Libraries and Museums.
- g.) Request for Support – Town of Quinte West: Housing Funding.
- h.) Request for Support – Town of Goderich: Return to combined ROMA and OGRA Conferences.

*CARRIED*

*NOTE: Discussion took place and members of Council would like to support motions c.) and d.), and these motions will be brought back to our next Regular Meeting of Council. Members of Council acknowledged their appreciation for Mr. Meawasige's letter of thanks to Council.*

**BY-LAWS:**

*NONE*

**CLOSED SESSION:**

**#77-05-2024            D. Elliott – J. Bowerman**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT in accordance with By-law # 02-02 as amended and Section 239 of the Municipal Act, as amended, Council proceed to a Closed Session at 7:26 p.m. in order to attend to matters pertaining to:

- a) Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal employees.

*CARRIED*

**#78-05-2024            J. Hooper – J. Bowerman**

THAT we adjourn from our Closed Session at 8:15 p.m., accept the minutes of the previous closed session, and resume our Regular Meeting.

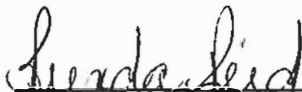
*CARRIED*


**CLOSING:**

**#79-05-2024            J. Bowerman – D. Elliott**

THAT we adjourn at 8:15 p.m. until the next regular meeting or call of the Chair.

*CARRIED*

  
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Brenda Reid, MAYOR

  
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Heidi Ferguson, CLERK

\*These Minutes have been circulated but are not considered Official until approved by Council.