

MEETING NO. 13

OF THE

COUNCIL

OF THE

TOWN OF MARATHON

Held in the Council Chambers, Administration Building on Monday, July 26, 2010.

Present: R. Dumas - Mayor
 T. Fox - Councillor
 R. Lake - Councillor
 R. Souckey - Councillor
 K. Tsubouchi - Councillor

Also Present: R. Kerster - CBO/Emergency Services Manager
 L. Lees - Deputy Clerk
 M. McCuaig - Administrative Assistant/HR Specialist
 D. Skworchinski - Community Services & EDO Manager
 C. Verbo - Administration & Finance Manager/Treasurer

Absent: B. Tocheri - CAO/Clerk
 B. Hyshka - Works & Operations Manager

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. **ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA:**

Mayor Dumas asked members for any additions or deletions to the Agenda and hearing none proceeded with the meeting.

MOTION #178/10: Moved by: R. Souckey
 Seconded by: T. Fox
 Resolved: THAT Council hereby accepts the Agenda for the Monday, July 26, 2010, Regular Meeting of Council as circulated.

CARRIED

3. Mayor Dumas asked members for any disclosure of interest and the following was noted.

Councillor Ray Lake - 13 b) NOMA resolution regarding Rural and Northern Physician Group Agreement

4. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held on Monday, June 28, 2010, and the Closed Meeting of Council held on Tuesday, June 29, 2010, were presented.

MOTION #179/10: Moved by: R. Lake
 Seconded by: T. Fox
 Resolved: THAT Council hereby adopts the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held on Monday, June 28, 2010 and the Closed Meeting of Council held on Tuesday, June 29, 2010, as circulated.

CARRIED

5. **DELEGATION:**

- a) Kelsey Johansen, Recreation & Tourism Development Co-ordinator, was in attendance to provide an update of her recent activities. Ms. Johansen reviewed her work plan as well as the partnerships that she is pursuing and upcoming projects. Members welcomed Ms. Johansen to the community and posed questions regarding working with the local business community, relationship building and our neighbouring aboriginal communities, pool opening, hiking/biking trail development and community group asset cataloguing.

6. **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- a) No items were received.

7. **C.A.O. REPORTS:**

- a) No items were received.

8. **ADMINISTRATION REPORTS:**

- a) Report on 2010 Financial Report – First Six Months.

Chuck Verbo, Finance and Administration Manager/Treasurer, reviewed the report in its entirety. Mr. Verbo noted that the report was being presented for members' information only.

- b) Report on 2010 Operating and Capital Budget.

Chuck Verbo, Finance and Administration Manager/Treasurer, reviewed the report in its entirety. Mr. Verbo recommended that members accept the revised budget with the Special Assistance Grant (SAG) being transferred into reserves. Discussion took place regarding possible uses of the funds, applying for additional funding and continued lobbying.

MOTION #180/10: Moved by: R. Souckey
 Seconded by: R. Lake
 Resolved: THAT Council hereby accept the attached report and recommendation on 2010 Operating and Capital Budget;

AND FURTHER THAT the appropriate by-law be adopted later in the meeting.

CARRIED

- c) Report on 2010 Tax Ratios.

Chuck Verbo, Finance and Administration Manager/Treasurer, reviewed the report in its entirety. Mr. Verbo recommended that the 2010 tax ratios be adopted as presented.

MOTION #181/10: Moved by: R. Souckey
 Seconded by: T. Fox
 Resolved: THAT Council hereby accept the attached report and recommendation on 2010 Tax Ratios;

AND FURTHER THAT the appropriate by-law be adopted later in the meeting.

CARRIED

d) Report on Tax Policy Decisions.

Chuck Verbo, Finance and Administration Manager/Treasurer, reviewed the report in its entirety. Mr. Verbo recommended Council adopt a capping program that moves closer to CVA; the maximum option claw back being a 10% cap limit for 2009 annualized taxes, 5% of 2009 CVA taxes and a \$250 threshold for the increasing (capped) or decreasing (claw back) properties. Questions were posed on what this means to rate payers and that the onus is on property owners to appeal their assessments to MPAC.

MOTION #182/10: Moved by: R. Lake
 Seconded by: T. Fox
 Resolved: THAT Council hereby accept the attached report and recommendation on Tax Policy Decisions;

AND FURTHER THAT the appropriate by-law be adopted later in the meeting.

CARRIED

e) Report on A By-Law to Limit Tax Decreases in 2009.

Chuck Verbo, Finance and Administration Manager/Treasurer, reviewed the report in its entirety. Mr. Verbo recommended that tax decreases be revenue neutral by funding capping through claw back and to establish the claw back percentages as presented.

MOTION #183/10: Moved by: R. Souckey
 Seconded by: R. Lake
 Resolved: THAT Council hereby accept the attached report and recommendation on A By-Law to Limit Tax Decreases in 2009;

AND FURTHER THAT the appropriate by-law be adopted later in the meeting.

CARRIED

f) Report on 2010 Final Levy of Taxes.

Chuck Verbo, Finance and Administration Manager/Treasurer, reviewed the report in its entirety. Mr. Verbo recommended members approve the 2010 final tax levies, as presented.

MOTION #184/10: Moved by: K. Tsubouchi
 Seconded by: R. Souckey
 Resolved: THAT Council hereby accept the attached report and recommendation on 2010 Final Levy of Taxes;

AND FURTHER THAT the appropriate by-law be adopted later in the meeting.

CARRIED

g) Report on Street Light Retrofit Program.

Daryl Skworchinski, Community Services and Economic Development Manager, reviewed the report in its entirety. It was noted that the report was being presented for Council direction only. A lengthy discussion took place regarding the program and concern was raised regarding the strength of the LED light. Administration was instructed to enter into a non-binding letter of intent, which allows the Town to enter into communications with Soltron Lighting. Administration will bring a report back to Council when more information has been gathered.

9. **CHEQUE RUN:**

A motion to approve the cheque runs was presented:

MOTION #185/10: Moved by: R. Souckey
 Seconded by: R. Lake
 Resolved: THAT the following cheque runs be approved for
 payment:

June 29 – July 21, 2010 Accounts Payable/Payroll \$587,430.14

CARRIED

10. **REPORT OF APPOINTED MEMBERS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:**

a) No items were received.

11. **BY-LAWS:**

a) By-Law No. 1709, being a by-law to amend By-Law No. 1693 and being a by-law to adopt the Revised Estimates of all Sums required during the Year 2010, was presented.

MOTION #186/10: Moved by: R. Souckey
 Seconded by: K. Tsubouchi
 Resolved: THAT By-Law No. 1709, being a by-law to amend By-Law No. 1693 and being a by-law to adopt the Revised Estimates of all Sums required during the Year 2010, be read a first and second time this 26th day of July, 2010.

CARRIED

b) By-Law No. 1710, a by-law to Set Tax Ratios, Confirm Property Classes and to Set Tax Rate Reductions for Prescribed Property Sub-classes for the Town of Marathon for the 2010 taxation year, was presented.

MOTION #187/10: Moved by: K. Tsubouchi
 Seconded by: T. Fox
 Resolved: THAT By-Law No. 1710, a by-law to Set Tax Ratios, Confirm Property Classes and to Set Tax Rate Reductions for Prescribed Property Sub-classes for the Town of Marathon for the 2010 taxation year, be read a first and second time this 26th day of July, 2010.

CARRIED

c) By-Law No. 1711, a by-law to adopt the Final Levy of Taxes for the Year 2010 and for the Collection of Said Taxes, was presented.

MOTION #188/10: Moved by: R. Souckey
 Seconded by: R. Lake
 Resolved: THAT By-Law No. 1711, a by-law to adopt the Final Levy of Taxes for the Year 2010 and for the Collection of Said Taxes, be read a first and second time this 26th day of July, 2010.

CARRIED

d) By-Law No. 1712, a by-law to Adopt Optional Capping Tools for the Purposes of Administering Limits for the Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential Property Classes for the 2009 Taxation Year, was presented.

MOTION #189/10: Moved by: R. Souckey
 Seconded by: K. Tsubouchi
 Resolved: THAT By-Law No. 1712, a by-law to Adopt Optional Capping Tools for the Purposes of Administering Limits for the Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential Property Classes for the 2009 Taxation Year, be read a first and second time this 26th day of July, 2010.

CARRIED

- e) By-Law No. 1713, a by-law to establish the percentages by which tax decreases are limited for 2010, commercial and industrial classes, was presented.

MOTION #190/10: Moved by: T. Fox
 Seconded by: R. Lake
 Resolved: THAT By-Law No. 1713, a by-law to establish the percentages by which tax decreases are limited for 2010, commercial and industrial classes, be read a first and second time this 26th day of July, 2010.

CARRIED

MOTION #191/10: Moved by: T. Fox
 Seconded by: K. Tsubouchi
 Resolved: THAT By-Law Nos. 1709, 1710, 1711, 1712 and 1713 be read a third time and finally passed this 26th day of July, 2010.

CARRIED

12. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- a) No items were received.

13. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a) Information was received from NOMA regarding the 28th Annual Northwestern Ontario Regional Conference scheduled for September 29 – October 1, 2010, in Thunder Bay.

MOTION #192/10: Moved by: K. Tsubouchi
 Seconded by: R. Lake
 Resolved: THAT the following individual's attendance be approved to the NOMA 28th Annual Northwestern Ontario Regional Conference scheduled for September 29 – October 1, 2010, in Thunder Bay;

Rick Dumas	Roger Souckey
Kelly Tsubouchi	Terry Fox
Brian Tocheri	Daryl Skworchinski

AND FURTHER THAT expenses be paid according to policy.

CARRIED

Councillor Lake declared a conflict and left the meeting.

- b) A request was received from NOMA seeking support of a resolution regarding the Rural and Northern Physician Group Agreement.

MOTION #193/10: Moved by: R. Souckey
 Seconded by: T. Fox
 Resolved: WHEREAS recruiting and retaining physicians remains a key concern for all rural and northern communities who are at particular risk of physician shortages;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has previously recognized the particular needs of Northern and Rural communities with the creation of the RNPGEA;

AND WHEREAS the RNPGEA is no longer an effective or competitive incentive program in retaining or attracting physicians to rural and Northern communities,

AND WHEREAS there is a particular need to enhance the emergency room funding within the RNPGEA contract to ensure consistency among northern RNPGEA and non RNPGEA hospitals,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVE THAT the Town of Marathon request the government of Ontario negotiate quickly through the OMA, a more effective and properly funding agreement for attracting and retaining physicians in rural and northern communities;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be sent to NOMA and member municipalities for endorsement.

CARRIED

Councillor Lake returned to the meeting.

- c) A request was received from NOMA seeking support of their resolution regarding Bill 13: Water and Waste Waster Systems.

MOTION #194/10: Moved by: R. Souckey
 Seconded by: K. Tsubouchi
 Resolved: THAT Council hereby supports the attached resolution received from NOMA resolution regarding Bill 13: Water and Waste Waster Systems;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be forwarded to the Honourable John Gerrestsen, Minister of the Environment, NOMA and Michael Gravelle, Thunder Bay Superior North MPP for their information and action.

CARRIED

- d) A request was received from the Town of Atikokan seeking support of their resolution regarding off-road vehicles. A brief discussion took place regarding the resolution and the types of vehicles qualify as off-road.

MOTION #195/10: Moved by: R. Lake
 Seconded by: R. Souckey
 Resolved: THAT Council hereby supports the attached resolution received from the Town of Atikokan regarding off-road vehicles;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be forwarded to the individuals listed on the originating resolution for their information and action.

CARRIED

- e) A request was received from the Town of New Tecumseth seeking support of their resolution regarding opposition to the HST. Discussion took place regarding the request and Administration was instructed to forward the petition to the appropriate locations.

MOTION #196/10: Moved by: R. Lake
 Seconded by: R. Souckey
 Resolved: THAT Council hereby supports the attached petition received from the Town of New Tecumseth regarding opposition to the HST;

AND FURTHER THAT the petition be placed in all Town facilities, circulated to local businesses and on the Town’s website until August 15, 2010.

CARRIED

- f) An invitation was received from The Honourable Brad Duguid, Minister of Energy and Infrastructure, to participate in a discussion on a 10-year Infrastructure Plan for the Province of Ontario.

MOTION #197/10: Moved by: R. Souckey
 Seconded by: R. Lake
 Resolved: THAT the following individual(s) attendance be approved to participate in a discussion on a 10-year Infrastructure Plan for the Province of Ontario being held in Thunder Bay on Thursday, August 26, 2010:

Rick Dumas Brian Tocheri

AND FURTHER THAT expenses be paid according to policy.

CARRIED

14. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mayor Dumas took the opportunity to thank all of the organizers of Marathon’s SummerFest activities, especially the Committee Chairs; Andre Paris and Michael Clancy.

Mayor Dumas reminded residents of the process when dealing with bears.

Mayor Dumas requested volunteers to sit on various Committees of Council. Interested parties are to contact the Town Office for more information.

Mayor Dumas requested residents call into the Town Office when they discover a pothole on municipal roads. The process will be similar to streetlight concerns.

15. **ADJOURN:**

MOTION #198/10: Moved by: R. Lake
 Seconded by: K. Tsubouchi
 Resolved: THAT we do now adjourn at the hour of 8:00 p.m.

CARRIED

(SEAL)

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 Mayor

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 Deputy Clerk