MINUTES

for the

SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

March 10, 2020
9:00 a.m.
Council Chambers
2 West Carling Bay Road, Nobel, Ontario

Attendance

Council Members Present
Mayor Konoval
Councillor Murphy
Councillor Gilbert
Councillor Crocker

Staff Present
Kevin McLlwain, CAO/Clerk
Mackenzie Taylor, Records Clerk / Deputy Clerk
Gord Harrison, Fire Chief
Ryan Snowball, Planner
Kim Dixon, Chief Building Official
Joe Ryman, Public Works Manager
Sylvia Roy, Treasurer
Chris Waefler, Public Works Supervisor

Regrets
Councillor Crookshank

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 9:00am

2. 2020 BUDGET DISCUSSION

Lis McWalter stated that a 5.2% increase is not acceptable. She does not think that the road construction should be done in one year and that Dillion Road should be deferred for another year. She stated that there is something wrong with how council is approaching things and we need to prioritize our spending. She believes that the Community Centre should have never been built. Lis noted that all local governments experience downloading, lets right size for Carling.

Dan Sooley asked about the increases and when they were going to stop jumping so much.

Daniel Verite expressed his concerns regarding Dillon Road and stated that rebuilding the road should be a priority.

Richard Wilson had concerns about the salary line and asked why we were running a 4.8% increase.

Don Clement stated that he has seen the struggles that council has gone through. He said that he questioned the toboggan hill but he also recognizes that he needs to hire local contractors and they have kids who live here and would want a toboggan hill. He stated that Council has done a good job, they take a stand, and they listen to the seasonal ratepayers. He said that he is not here to defend council but he understands what they are trying to do.

Council responded to these questions. Mayor Konoval stated that the budget is something that we take very seriously, over the years council has not increased taxes when they should have been. We depend heavily on grants that have not been forthcoming. We should have been increasing taxes all along and now we are playing catch up. The CAO noted that the increase in Policing cost has had a big impact and that we have a number of roads in need of repair. He noted that if you look at tax increases from 2005 forward we are right in line with the other municipalities in our area. He explained that the modernization grant was in reserves and is allocated to be used to help fund the cost of reconstructing Dillon road in the event that we do not receive funding from the province. He noted that in accordance with our asset management plan we have a lot of roads that need to be repaired and delaying it only makes matters worse while increasing the cost. He explained how the salary grid works and how that has led to an increase this year. Councillor Gilbert noted that we built the Community Center because we were able to build it without spending any tax dollars. He pointed out that our mill rate is in line with the other area municipalities. Kevin noted that once we get the final invoices for the Community Centre we will be presenting a report to the public. Councillor Murphy noted that every year the funding from the province decreases and we have been waiting almost two years to hear a response on the Dillon road grant. She also noted that the new Community Centre is being well used. Councillor Crocker talked about the new perspective she has of the Township now that she is on council. She noted the work that the staff does and how seriously council takes the budgeting process.

3. CONFIRMING BY-LAW

2020-12 **Moved by Councillor Murphy**
Seconded by Councillor

BEING A BY-LAW to confirm the proceedings of the Special Meeting of Council held on March 10, 2020.

Carried

4. ADJOURNMENT

20-027 **Moved by Councillor Crocker**
Seconded by Councillor Murphy

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Special Meeting of Council be adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Carried

Mike Konoval, Mayor

Kevin McLlwain, CAO/Clerk