

COUNCIL MINUTES

TOWNSHIP OF COCKBURN ISLAND COUNCIL MEETING

5:00 PM WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12th, 2025

Meeting On-line by ZOOM

ZOOM LINK <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84944xxxxxxx>

(same link every regular meeting)

PRESENT

Mayor: Brenda Jones
Councillors: Lee Chappell
Jeff House
Simon Lacombe
Scott Stewart (5:10)
Clerk: Brent St. Denis
Absent: Nil

(A number of ratepayers observed the meeting.)

5:07 PM

Call to Order

Declarations of any pecuniary interest

Delegations – if any

New Business – none

NOTE – There will not be any Public Works Committee meetings until April or May while Darren and Alex are off. PW issues can be raised during the Council Member Concerns portion of the meeting.

Resolution # 25-03-01

Moved: J House

Seconded: S Lacombe

That the March 12th, 2025 Council meeting agenda be adopted.

CARRIED

Resolution # 25-03-02

Moved: L Chappell

Seconded: S Lacombe

That the minutes of the February 12th regular and February 27th, 2025 special meeting with auditors BDO to review and receive the 2023 financial audit be adopted

CARRIED

Action Items

Table Top Emergency Exercise

Council agreed that the following potential emergency in our township be the subject of the

annual table-top exercise; **Off-island medical evacuation event in very bad weather and possibly no tug boat available**

The following points were raised during the exercise;

- Don't necessarily limit ourselves to the helipad, consider possible ORNGE landings at a beach, the in-land private CIL airport or road intersection.
- Confirm if we use "911" or is there a direct line to ORNGE?
- How far will the ORNGE EMTs travel from the helicopter?
- Poster(s) needed at the Telephone Building and elsewhere outlining emergency procedures and phone # in the event an ORNGE evacuation was needed
- Should we "go get someone" if a serious accident occurred outside the hamlet area?
- The tugboat might not always be available. Are there other boats available?

Budget 2025

Resolution # 25-03-03

Moved: L Chappell

Seconded: S Stewart

That Be It Resolved that By-law #2025- 04 being a by-law **to adopt the 2025 township budget and tax rates** be read a first, second, third and final time, be adopted, be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, be sealed with the corporation's seal, be numbered #2025-04, and be filed with the by-law records.

CARRIED

Rates & Charges By-law #2025- 05

Council agreed to the rounding up to the nearest \$.05 (5 cents) for non-ratepayer dock rates

Resolution # 25-03-04

Moved: J House

Seconded: S Stewart

That Be It Resolved that By-law #2025-05 being a by-law **to adopt the various Rates and Charges for 2025** be read a first, second, third and final time, be adopted, be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, be sealed with the corporation's seal, be numbered #2025-05, and be filed with the by-law records.

CARRIED

2025 Wages & Honorarium - #2025-06

Resolution # 25-03-05

Moved: S Lacombe

Seconded: S Stewart

That Be It Resolved that By-law #2025- 06 being a by-law **to adopt the various Wage and Honorarium rates for 2025** be read a first, second, third and final time, be adopted, be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, be sealed with the corporation's seal, be numbered #2025-06, and be filed with the by-law records.

CARRIED

Dock Project 2025 – Review Quotes – included in Council package.

Resolution # 25-03-06
Moved: L Chappell
Seconded: S Lacombe

That Council decides as follows as it concerns quotations received from THE IRONWORKS (Pointe au Barile, Ont) for new docks at the marina as part of a plan for ongoing improvements to this important community asset;

- Obtain further information and quotes

CARRIED

Discussion about new docks included the pricing, whether steel or aluminum should be considered, metal coating, warranty, 8 ft or 10 ft width, dock spacing and if the Township was supplying cedar decking.

Street Lights Tender Call – review 2024 draft tender for updates, if any.

Resolution # 25-03-07
Moved: J House
Seconded: S Lacombe

That we issue a tender for the rehabilitation of streetlights using the 2024 draft with updates to be prepared by Council member Chappell.

CARRIED

It was agreed that once the updates were made the tender would be posted on the township website.

Financial Report

Northern Credit Union Bank balances as of March 7, 2025

Landfill Savings Account (pending \$10,000 deposit)	0.00
Dock Account 101	\$14,600.72
Heritage Account 102	\$73,353.77
Operating Account 100	\$175,061.08

TOTAL ALL ACCOUNTS \$263,015.57

Current Interest Rate earned on Operating account3.20 %
Current Interest Rate earned on Twp Heritage Account 2.70 %
Current Interest Rate earned on Dock Account.....2.70 %

Resolution # 2025-03-08

Moved: S Stewart

Seconded: L Chappell

That the Treasurer's report on bank balances, cheques, auto-debit payments, transfers and the VISA card statement be hereby received.

CARRIED

Council Members' Concerns

- Council member House asked about our supply of culvert extensions and bands for the 14th
- Council member Lacombe mentioned the several very dark areas due to streetlights being out of service, the WIFI extender needs a new bracket and he provided a new Weather Station update
- Council member Chappell asked whether Public Works should start earlier than the Monday before the May long weekend, suggested we get on to the issue of a new Clerk-Treasurer to replace Brent when he retires in 2026, wondered if there were better ways to handle the landfill such as requiring compostable garbage bags and better recycling - (the idea of a compactor combined with off-island removal was raised)
- Mayor Jones asked about plans to store the township's historical office documents once they are sorted and repackaged into plastic totes at Brent's home – possible storage space with shelving could be provided in the Ontario Paper garage

It was agreed that the weather station as recommended by Council member Lacombe be ordered.

Clerk's Report

- a) Request from Megan at NCC – "I'm hoping to reserve the McLeod House for the following dates in 2025, if possible:" (total 22 nights)
 - May 9-15 (6 nights)
 - June 16-20 (4 nights)
 - July 31-Aug 4 (4 nights)
 - Sept 15-19 (4 nights)
 - Nov 1-5 (4 nights)
- b) Medical Building Grant – update on request to extend to end 2025
- c) Landfill report 2002 (qualified), Colin Trivers PEng in council package
- d) 2025 Newsletter – see 2024 and 2025 DRAFT in council package
- e) Asset Management Plans – update MFOA, Ministry and KPMG – KPMG response pending
- f) Weed Control Inspector – update – no action needed
- g) 2024 Phragmites report received from Judith Jones – in Council package
- h) NOHFC Pavilion Grant application has been submitted (had to wait for Ontario election to be over)
- i) Weather Station saga - update
- j) Clerk-Treasurer can now receive cash transfers by email for direct deposit to the township operating account.

Adjournment

Resolution # 2025-03-09

Moved: S Lacombe

Seconded: J House

That this meeting be now adjourned and that Council meet again at 5:00 PM on Wednesday April 9 th , 2025 by Zoom or at the call of the Mayor.

CARRIED

Time – 6:14 PM