

# THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

Held using GoToMeeting Web Conference System  
On Wednesday, September 2, 2020

**PRESENT:** Mayor Erwin Butikofer  
Pardee Councillor Curtis Coulson  
Councillor at Large Gordon Cuthbertson  
Crooks Councillor Brian Wright  
Pearson Councillor Gary Gardner  
Blake Councillor Mark Thibert

**REGRETS:** Scoble Councillor Brian Kurikka

Erika Kromm, Clerk-Treasurer  
Laura Jones, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

### **PUBLIC PRESENT:**

Carla Smylie  
Patti and Bill Exell  
Randy Lapointe  
Rhonda Crocker-Ellacott

### **1. PRELIMINARY MATTERS:**

- (a) **Call to Order:** Mayor Butikofer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- (b) **Attendance:** Attendance was recorded.
- (c) **Accept/Amend the Agenda:**

**Res. No. 2020-09-148**

Moved by: Councillor Thibert  
Seconded by: Councillor Coulson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda as amended by adding item 7.1 Closed Session minutes from August 12 for this regular meeting of Council be approved.

**CARRIED ✓**

- (d) **Declarations of Interest:**  
No declarations of interest were brought forward.

### **2. HEAR DEPUTATIONS FROM AUDIENCE MEMBERS:**

No deputations were scheduled for this meeting of Council.

### **3. CONSENT AGENDA: MINUTES, REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

- 3.1 **Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on August 12, 2020**  
(Recommendation to approve the minutes, with any error corrections, as required.)

- 3.2 Minutes of the Open Session portion of the Regular Meeting of Council held on August 12, 2020  
(Recommendation to approve the minutes for both the open session (Item 3.1) and the Closed Session (Item 7.1), with any error corrections, as required.)
- 3.3 Voucher Report for the month of July  
(Recommendation to approve the vouchers.)
- 3.4 Report from Clerk-Treasurer Regarding Administrative Activity  
(Recommendation to receive the report for information)
- 3.5 Report from Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Regarding Tax Arrears Letters  
(Recommendation to receive the report for information)
- 3.6 Information Correspondence List  
(Recommendation to receive the correspondence for information)

Res. No. 2020-09-149

Moved by: Councillor Wright

Seconded by: Councillor Thibert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves the recommendations from Administration with respect to all of the items on the consent agenda portion of this evening's meeting, being Items 3.1, through 3.6, and approve the closed session meeting minutes at Item 7.1

**CARRIED ✓**

**4. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED REQUIRING DIRECTION:**

4.1 Report from Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Regarding re-opening the Blake Hall

Members present discussed the report. There was some discussion regarding upcoming hall usage and possible conflicts.

Res. No. 2020-09-150

Moved by: Councillor Coulson

Seconded by: Councillor Thibert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council authorizes Administration to reopen Blake Hall for public bookings with the COVID safety protocols, as discussed.

**CARRIED ✓**

Administration was directed to advise TOPS that they could resume their regular meetings at Blake Hall.

**4.2 Report from Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Regarding COVID Recovery Funding**

Members present discussed the report.

**Res. No. 2020-09-151**

Moved by: Councillor Coulson  
Seconded by: Councillor Cuthbertson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council authorizes Administration to accept the COVID recovery funding from the province,

AND THAT Council authorizes Administration to use the funding for expenditures related to setting up Blake Hall for Council meetings,

AND FURTHER THAT the remainder of the funding be placed as a reserve until the grant expenditure guidelines are made available

**CARRIED ✓**

**Res. No. 2020-09-152**

Moved by: Councillor Gardener  
Seconded by: Councillor Cuthbertson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council waives the Purchasing By-law to contract CRC Communications to install the communication tower at Blake Hall, on the basis that the company has previously been contracted to decommission the tower from the Fire Hall 3 location and will already have the equipment and manpower in the area.

**CARRIED ✓**

**4.3 Report from Clerk-Treasurer Regarding Land Ambulance Levies**

Members present discussed the report.

**Res. No. 2020-09-153**

Moved by: Councillor Wright  
Seconded by: Councillor Coulson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council authorizes Administration to send the letter appended to the report to Superior North Emergency Medical Services with the amendments, as discussed.

**CARRIED ✓**

**4.4 Report from Clerk-Treasurer Regarding Noise Complaints**

Members present discussed the report. There was some discussion regarding the number of noise complaints received and the options available to deal with noise complaints.

Administration was directed to bring forward a draft noise by-law back to Council that outlines the parameters for a noise disturbance and possible fines or fees.

4.5 Correspondence from Hydro One to LPMC regarding the Waasigan Roundtable Invitation from

Members present reviewed the correspondence. No resolution was passed.

CARRIED ✓

5. BY-LAWS

There were no by-laws presented at this meeting.

6. NEW BUSINESS - ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Coulson noted that the road crew has been working hard.

Councillor Cuthbertson noted a sharp rise in COVID-19 cases in Minnesota. Would like Administration to draft a letter to bring to the next Council meeting encouraging other levels of Government to keep the US International border closed to Non-Essential Travel.

Councillor Wright noted that the changes to the speed limit signs had been completed on Cloud Lake Road and seems to be effective. He asked Administration to pass on his thanks to Public Works.

Councillor Cuthbertson asked Administration to look into delays in relocating the Landfill attendant sheds to allow for two-way traffic with the shed in the middle.

The Clerk stated that the Boundary Drive bridge repair is complete and the next bridge inspection should be positive.

The Clerk informed Council that there is a Cannabis micro-grow agricultural operation being established in Neebing. As the business meets our zoning requirements, no approvals are required from Municipality.

The Clerk stated that FCM made a funding announcement for a new fire hall. The Fire Department is interested in revisiting new fire hall with respect to possibly applying for the same grant. Councillor Cuthbertson and Mayor Butikofer will participate in the funding application project.

The Clerk would like to schedule a Roads Committee Meeting. A tentative date of September 8 has been set.

The Clerk stated that two severance applications have been received and a third application may be coming. Administration was directed to schedule a Public Meeting for Planning purposes on October 7, 2020 at 5:00 pm.

7. CLOSED SESSION

7.1 Minutes of the closed session portion of the regular meeting of council held on August 12, 2020

These minutes were approved through the consent agenda resolution earlier in the meeting.

**8. CONFIRMATION BY-LAW**

**8.1 By-law 2020-031 To Confirm the Proceedings of the Meeting**

Res. No. 2020-09-154

Moved by: Councillor Thibert

Seconded by: Councillor Wright

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 2020-031, to confirm the proceedings of this evening's meeting, be passed as presented.

**CARRIED ✓**

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE WERE INVITED TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

There were several members of the public in attendance at the meeting. Mayor Butikofer invited these individuals to speak if they had any comments or questions.

The discussion related to Item 4.4, a report about noise complaints and a proposed noise by-law. There were concerns expressed regarding the definition of a disturbance, and the noise tolerance level of neighbours. There were concerns raised about municipal fines being applied to residents, based on the subjective opinion of their neighbour's complaint.

There were also concerns expressed that a noise by-law was being requested by only a few individuals. Mayor Butikofer stated that there has been an accumulation of noise complaints received over time in every area of the Municipality. Mayor Butikofer also stated that the by-law would have to be reasonable and respectful to everyone.

**9. ADJOURN THE MEETING:**

There being no further business to attend to, Mayor Butikofer adjourned the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

**REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

  
Erwin Butikofer  
MAYOR

  
Erka Kromm  
CLERK-TREASURER

