



THE CORPORATION of the UNITED TOWNSHIPS of HEAD, CLARA & MARIA MINUTES

Minutes of a regular meeting of Council held on March 20, 2025.

The following persons were present:

Mayor Debbi Grills, Councillors: Chris Dowser, Fran Kelly- Chamberlain, Karen LeClerc and Rachel Richer.

Meeting Clerk: Peggy Young-Lovelace, E4m
Staff/Advisors: Frank Morin, Municipal Works Foreman/Labourer
Leanne Crozier, E4m (Electronically)
Josh Young, E4m (Electronically)

1. Call to Order and Moment of Silence

Mayor Grills called the meeting to order at 2:07 P.M.

Let us take a moment of silent reflection to contemplate in our own way the responsibility we have to collectively use our skills and experience to ensure the mutual long-term benefit of our Municipality and those we represent.

2. Traditional Land Acknowledgement

As we gather this morning (afternoon), I would like to acknowledge on behalf of Council and our community that we are meeting on the traditional territory of the Algonquin People. We would like to thank the Algonquin people and express our respect and support for their rich history, and we are extremely grateful for their many and continued displays of friendship. We also thank all the generations of people who have taken care of this land for thousands of years.

3. Recital of the Municipal Mission and Vision Statements – Councillor Dowser

HCM Mission: At your service; working effectively to bring together people, partnerships and potential for a strong, connected community.

HCM Vision: Providing a healthy, connected, and sustainable community teeming with possibilities for our citizens now and into the future.

4. Approval of Agenda

Resolution No.: 2025-023

Moved by Councillor Richer and seconded by Councillor Dowser

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda of the Regular Meeting of Thursday March 20, 2025, be adopted as amended to add the Survivors Campaign as item 11(a)(iii).

Carried

5. Declarations of Disqualifying Interest (Pecuniary)

None were declared

6. Mayor's Address

Resolution No.: 2025-024

Moved by Councillor Kelly-Chamberlain and seconded by Councillor Dowser

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Mayor's Address be received as presented.

Carried

7. Approval of the Minutes of the Most Recent Meeting(s)

a. Special Meeting March 5, 2025

Resolution No.: 2025-025

Moved by Councillor Kelly-Chamberlain and seconded by Councillor LeClerc

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Special Meeting of Wednesday March 5, 2025, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

8. Delegations/Presentations

Parry Pichette – Boat Launch in Bisset Creek

Mr. Pichette attended the Council meeting to request that Council reconsider their decision related to the installation of a boat launch in Bisset Creek. Mr. Pichette questioned the validity of the report that Council considered in May/June 2022 which cited multiple reasons for Council not to consider the installation of a boat launch in Bisset Creek. He questioned the qualification so the Public Works Leader to make decisions on where a boat launch can and cannot be built and if the individual did not have the qualifications then Mr. Pichette suggested that Council needed to hire the people/experts that do.

Mr. Pichette added that his neighbour Al Lang had a road built last summer that is adjacent to the proposed boat launch site and he reported that the road was built in three days.

Mr. Pichette also added that it is not an easy or quick trip by boat to either the Stonecliffe or Deux Rivières launches and that this posed a health and safety risk.

Mr. Pichette's neighbour (Chris) provided information and mapping to Council for their consideration.

9. Council Direction from the Previous Meeting

(None)

10. Legislative Matters

a. Council Working Session (Council will convene to discuss and develop certain municipal policies/programs)

i. Council Remuneration – Reconciliation of 2024 amounts

ii. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Municipality and the Library Board

iii. Reserves and Investment Policy

iv. Asset Management Policy – Review/Affirm/Amend existing

v. Appointment of a Deputy Mayor

vi. Strategic Plan – Next Steps: New Implementation Strategy

vii. Organizational Structure and Collaborative Governance

b. Consent Agenda (includes items of correspondence not requiring administrative reports/action, committee reports not requiring any action by Council – matters that are for information purposes only).

Resolution No.: 2025-026

Moved by Councillor Kelly-Chamberlain and seconded by Councillor Dowser

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Consent Agenda be accepted as circulated.

Carried

c. Bylaws

d. Public Hearings: Planning/Zoning Matters (None)

The Mayor called a brief recess from 4:30 to 4:37 P.M.

e. Committee/Local Board Reports

i. Library Board

Board Minutes

Resolution No.: 2025-027

Moved by Councillor LeClerc and seconded by Councillor Richer

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Library Board Minutes for February 4 and March 4, 2025, be received.

Carried

Board Rep Report

Resolution No.: 2025-028

Moved by Councillor Richer and seconded by Councillor Dowser

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Library Board Council Representative Report be received.

Carried

Board Member Appointment

Resolution No.: 2025-029

Moved by Councillor Kelly-Chamberlain and seconded by Councillor LeClerc

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Debbie Froehlich be appointed to the Library Board as requested by the Board Chair Catherine Sutherland.

Carried

ii. Police Services Board
(None)

iii. Renfrew County and District Health Unit

Letters to the Board from the Medical Officer of Health January 28 and February 25, 2025

Resolution No.: 2025-030

Moved by Councillor Richer and seconded by Councillor Dowser

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Letters from the Medical Officer of Health to the Renfrew County and District Health Unit Board of Directors be received.

Carried

iv. Renfrew County

County Council Summary February 2025 and Approved 2025 Budget

Resolution No.: 2025-031

Moved by Councillor Dowser and seconded by Kelly-Chamberlain

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Renfrew County Council February 2025 Summary and approved 2025 budget be received.

Carried

v. Community Emergency Management Control Group
(None)

11. Administrative Matters

a. New Business/Reports from Officers/Employees on Various Issues (including reports from departments which require Council approval)

- i. Inclusive Community Grants – Accessible Washrooms Project
Resolution No.: 2025-032
Moved by Councillor Kelly-Chamberlain and seconded by Councillor Dowser
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the United Townships of Head, Clara and Maria does hereby directs that the funder of the Inclusive Community Grants program be approached to see if the \$60,000 of approved funding for the proposed accessible washrooms could be used for the barrier free upgrades of the hall kitchen instead.

Carried

- ii. Council Remuneration Report for 2024
Resolution No.: 2025-033
Moved Councillor Richer and seconded by Councillor Dowser
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council Remuneration report as prepared by Leanne Crozier Deputy Treasurer be received.

Carried

- iii. Survivors Campaign – Council reviewed the material and directed that the matter be brought forward to the April 17, 2025 Council Meeting.
- b. Financial Update/Statement/Quarterly Variance Report
(None)
- c. Update on Capital Projects
 - i. Streetlights – an update on this project was provided and Council gave direction to find the most cost-effective solution for the light proposed for Jennings Road.

12. Leadership Issues

- a. Update to Strategic Plan
- b. Five-Year Financial Plan (including Asset Management Plan)
- c. New Policy
- d. Notice of Motion

13. Confirmation of Proceedings

- a. Confirmatory Bylaw 2025-08
Resolution No.: 2025-034
Moved by Councillor LeClerc and seconded by Dowser
BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 2025-08 being a bylaw to confirm proceedings of Council at their Regular Meeting of March 20, 2025, be read and adopted.

Carried

14. Adjournment

Mayor Grills adjourned the meeting at 5:48 P.M.

Original signed by
Mayor Debbi Grills

Original signed by
Meeting Clerk Peggy Young-Lovelace