

The minutes of the regular meeting of Lake of the Woods Twp Council, which was held on Tuesday August 6th 2024 at 7pm in the Morson Council Chambers.

PRESENT Mayor Colleen Fadden, Councillors: A Chojko-Bolec, K Cottam, N Gate & W Lundgren. Clerk-Treasurer: P W Giles, Rd Supt E Pearson.

MINUTES #24-42 LUNDGREN & CHOJKO-BOLEC & CARRIED that the minutes of the regular meeting of Council, held on July 2nd 2024, be approved as printed.

ACCOUNTS #24-43 COTTAM & GATE & CARRIED that the accounts in the amount of \$177,496.64 and representing disbursements for the month of July be approved for payment.

BLDG PRMTS #24-44 GATE & COTTAM & CARRIED that effective August 1<sup>st</sup> 2024, the building permit application information sheet be updated to delete the suggested dollar value for the various types of construction costs, the CBO will instead use reasonable construction costs to estimate building permit fees.

CEMETERY #24-45 CHOJKO-BOLEC & COTTAM & CARRIED that the rules for our cemeteries be clarified to state that where there is no burial then there is to be no monument.

OINP #24-46 COTTAM & CHOJKO-BOLEC & CARRIED that **WHEREAS** employers across

Northern Ontario are experiencing a critical shortage of skilled workers, contributing to a shrinking labour market. **WHEREAS**, the labour shortage is causing significant economic hardship for Northern Ontario communities, including reduced productivity and business closures; and **WHEREAS** population and migration trends to 2021 suggest that Northern Ontario needs **100,000 newcomers by 2041** to sustain current population; and **WHEREAS** the success of the federal Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP) demonstrates the effectiveness of allocating nomination spots to address regional labour shortages in attracting newcomers to Northern Ontario; and **WHEREAS**, the Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program has been expanded from 9,750 nominees in 2022 to a goal of 21,500 nominees in 2024; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY Township COUNCIL of the Township of Lake of the Woods to: Urges the Government of Ontario to address the critical labour market shortage in Northern Ontario by allocating 3,000 Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program spots to support the region's economic growth and development. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:** Copies of this resolution be forwarded to: the Ontario Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training & Skills Development; local Members of Provincial Parliament; the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association/Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities; and the Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce.

OTHER The Rd Supt reported on road work including completion of the roadside cutting, gravelling on various roads and culvert replacement on Lange Rd, surface treatment should be completed in the next few weeks. The public works garage addition is not

completed yet and the Clerk-Treasurer will write to inquire when the contractor will start on the rink boards replacement. Fibre optics being installed to homes on Frenchman's Rock Rd. The roads spare labourer will continue to clean the toilets at Oscar Bay Beach. Council discussed various items including the cemetery rules and whether or not monuments can be placed on cemetery plots if there is no remains in support of the monument, see #24-45, and a premium for weekend burials will be charged, an inquiry from V Vogan seeking relief for a 2<sup>nd</sup> minor variance on her lot on Morrison Rd and Council will not approval a 2<sup>nd</sup> variance. The Clerk-Treasurer reported on the next fire board meeting, property taxes outstanding balance, OMPF payment, CCBF (formerly gas tax) revenue payment, ORNGE helipad payment being increased to \$5000.00. Councillor Cottam reported on a recent meeting of the district municipalities & hospital as it relates to doctor and nurse coverage at local hospital.

ADJOURN #24-47 GATE & LUNDGREN & CARRIED that the meeting be adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_ Clerk