

TEMISKAMING MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

REGULAR MEETING

NOVEMBER 30, 2023

	MEMBER	MEMBER
Armstrong	Jean Marc Boileay	Reynald Rivard
Brethour	Tom Goddard	
Casey	Guy Labonté	Bruno Trudel
Chamberlain	Kerry Stewart	
Charlton/Dack	William Lauriat	
Cobalt		
Coleman	Lois Perry	
Englehart	Kaytlyn Swanson	Jo-Anne Farmer
Evanturel	Barb Beachey	
Gauthier		
Harley	Sophie MacKewn	
Harris	Ron Sutton	Brian Brownlee
Hilliard		
Hudson	Larry Craig	Greg Seed
James		
Kerns		
Kirkland Lake	Stacy Wight	Rick Owen
Larder Lake	Patty Quinn	
Latchford	Sharon Gadoury	Jo-Anne Cartner
Matachewan		
McGarry		
Temagami		
Temiskaming Shores	Danny Whalen	Mélanie Ducharme
Thornloe	Pauline Peddie	
Speaker	Diane Johnston	
Save Thornloe Cheese	Sam Loranger	
NDP MP	John Vanthof	

November 30, 2023

Meeting opened at 6:30 pm.

Moved by: Guy Labonté

Seconded by: Mélanie Ducharme

That the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 26, 2023 be approved.

Carried

DELEGATION:

Sam Loranger:

- 4 years ago Parmalat threatened to close the cheese factory.
- Gay Lea purchased Thornloe Cheese and made promises that the equipment would be upgraded. This never materialized and now major investment is required to keep the business as a going concern. Instead of making the required investments on October 30th Gay Lea decided to lock the doors and try to sell the business. A lot of promises were broken.
- Hearing that there might be one or more potential buyers but nothing concrete but Gay Lea will not divulge the asking price,
- Gay Lea maintains that because of damaged equipment there might be a risk of E coli. Per Gay Lea at least 10M\$ needs to be invested to do the required upgrades.
- One of the main vats collapsed and there may be some issues with the water.
- There were 35 employees working but that number has dropped to seven.
- MP John Vanthof believes that grants are probably available to do some of the upgrades.
- Thornloe Cheese has now lost its shelf space in stores all over and this will be a major obstacle if we are back in business.
- Need to get as much municipal support as possible to lobby various ministers of the government,
- A resolution will be prepared with the assistance from the office of John Vanthof and then circulated to all municipalities for support. We will then collect these resolutions and give them to John Vanthof who will take them to Queens Park.
- FedNor, Tem Fund and NOHFC are willing to consider any demand for funds.
- We need to continue putting pressure on Gay Lea, the Federal and Provincial governments to help us save Thornloe Cheese Factory.

John Vanthof:

Highways:

- 2 plus 1 highway is still being considered for Northern Ontario.
- Driving schools are allowed to train and then issue driving licences to their trainees. Urgent need for more government involvement in this process.
- Municipalities need to pressure Ministry of Transport by sending resolutions. The office of John Vanthof will assist in wording for such a resolution.

November 30, 2023

- A resolution prepared by MP Guy Beaudoin in regards to passing on solid double line is being circulated to all municipalities and should be supported by all municipalities.

Medieval Villages:

- New Minister for Municipal Affairs and Housing is not familiar with issues that unincorporated Townships are having to deal with when it comes to those medieval villages and also the impact that these villages could have on incorporated townships.
- TMA, as a group, has to come up with different scenarios on how these villages should be handled. It is just a matter of time before the government asks for our input and we need to be ready.
- We must ensure that those living in these medieval villages are not forced into homelessness which in turn would be a bigger problem for municipalities.

DISCUSSIONS: See minutes of Executive Meeting

Larder Lake: Community Risk Assessment

- We will ask Clayton Seymour (Ontario Fire Marshall Office) to explain the difference between the table top exercise that is done yearly by most municipalities and the current Risk Assessment that must be prepared for all municipalities before July 2024.

Latchford: Exotic Animals

- Municipalities are not equipped to deal with exotic animals
- A by-law will not solve the problem. We have no place to lodge an exotic animal if we had to remove it from a residence.
- The provincial government must get involved. It is suggested that the Ministry of Agriculture be contacted for assistance.

Cobalt: Fire Trucks / Fire Equipment:

- Fire Underwriters Survey. This subject will be brought back in January.

Coleman: Conservation Officer Reclassification

- Letter Dan Cl roux and Council This subject will be brought back in January.

Brethour Township:

- Northern Telephone do not seem to be interested in doing regular maintenance on their land lines in the township. Residents are often left with no telephone service for days.
- Bring back a resolution to TMA for support for the January meeting.

November 30, 2023

Evanturel Township:

- Catch and Release Justice
- Gender Based and Intimate Violence - Declaration of Epidemic
- A resolution will be prepared in support of these two resolutions in January 2024.

MPAC:

- They were invited to attend but they could not make it work in their schedule but they would be happy to meet in the new year.

Moved by: Guy Labonté

Seconded by: Jo-Anne Cartner

That Temiskaming Municipal Association receives and accepts the October 30th, 2023 bank reconciliation as presented by the treasurer.

Carried:

The meeting of November 30, 2023, was adjourned at 7:38 pm.

Executive meeting on January 18, 2023 at 12:00 pm at the Thornloe hall.

TMA meeting on January 25, 2023 at 6:30 pm at the Rosaire and Wilfrid Paiement arena