

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ALNWICK/HALDIMAND  
SPECIAL MINUTES OF TUESDAY, MARCH 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2009 - 7:00 P.M.**

The Council of the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand met in Special Session on Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Council Chambers at the Satellite Office in the Alnwick Civic Centre with Mayor William Finley presiding. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the visions/goals and objectives of the Council of the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand for the balance of this term of Council which adjourns on November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

**Members Present:** Mayor William Finley  
Deputy Mayor Dalton McDonald  
Councillors: Raymond Bennis  
Art Jeninga  
Cathie Ritchie  
Rosemarie Robins

**Absent with Notification:** Councillor Bill Holmes

**Staff Present:** Terrence Korotki, Clerk/Administrator & Planning Coordinator

**Others:** None

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Finley called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

**II. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**

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There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

**III. COUNCIL DISCUSSION RE: VISIONS/GOALS/OBJECTIVES FOR THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ALNWICK/HALDIMAND TO NOVEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2010**

The Clerk/Administrator Terrence Korotki advised that he was unable to retrieve the initial discussions that were held in January/February 2007 pertaining to a Special Council meeting that was held to set visions/goals/objectives for the newly instilled Council of the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand. The Clerk/Administrator advised that he did retrieve minutes of a special Council meeting of Monday February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2006 outlining the initiatives of these Councillors. It was the general consensus of Council that the Clerk/Administrator review the issues and topics presented from this Special Council meeting of Monday February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2006 and prepare a list of outstanding matters that have not been completed from these minutes. Council discussion ensued in respect to the following topics;

- Municipal sign by-law.
- Colour system for municipal maps.
- Homeister Pit
- Alarm System for Municipal Office

It was the consensus to have a round table with each Councillor providing their opinion comments in respect to their visions/goals/objectives as a Councillor for the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand.

Councillor Art Jeninga:

- Portfolios for Committee/Boards
- Five Year Capital Plan for Arena Complex, Public Works Department, Fire Department, and Administration Department.
- Initiate a process to create a light industrial park on municipal property.

- Personal vision to construct a green residential subdivision without creating any pollution sensitive to the environment within a settlement area in the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan
- Councillor Jeninga mentioned that, he and Mayor William Finley attended a seminar pertaining to hemp cultivation and generating increased public awareness to create a hemp industry.

Councillor Cathie Ritchie: no comment

Councillor Rosemarie Robins:

- Discuss accessibility issue for all municipal buildings, the existing buildings do not meet all the Ontario building code requirements and accessibility needs and commented that the municipality will need to look at a long term costs for upgrading each facility to meet the accessibility needs.
- Initiate a five year plan for the Public Works Department and Fire Department in respect to the age of existing and cost for each piece of equipment.
- Initiate a recapping program and scrutinize existing municipal roads.

Councillor Ray Bennis:

Short Term Considerations:

- We have established a “Big Bang for the Buck” attitude in regards to Provincial and Federal grant money that we have and will hopefully receive. I feel that Benlock Road does not warrant the amount of money proposed for its repatriation and the money allocated for the installation of guardrails should be further scrutinized.
- The utilization of reserves for the Gilkrist pit should be examined more closely to see if it can be used in the municipality and we should look to stockpile more gravel in the McBride and George’s pits respectively.
- Preparation of roads for future hard surfacing by the Public Works Department should be categorized and some of the roads should be contracted and roads which have already been hard surfaced should be scrutinized more closely for resurfacing to try and save these roads while they can be done in a more cost efficient manner.
- We must establish specific reserves and more importantly establish a working reserve. I have suggested this over previous years and we continue to have a zero tax increase policy.
- We must adhere to a more professional and regulated approach at our municipal meetings. I am probably as guilty as any other in speaking before being recognized by the chair.
- We must be very vigilant of what is being proposed by the county staff for the usage of the different groups within the Northumberland Forest. All people/groups representing the forest should have access to this natural heritage. We only have to look at how the Ganaraska Forest is managed to realize that this concept is not impossible.
- Establish office design at the municipal building in Grafton and putting it in place to be complete this year.
- We should find someone to do a basic energy audit of our municipal buildings and make some cost savings recommendations as we do not have much time before the energy crunch hits us again.

Long Term Considerations:

- We should consider short term borrowing for major capital equipment purchases for fire trucks and roads equipment. I feel that a three year borrowing plan will take some of the pressure off of our tax payer in the next few years. I feel that economic conditions in our municipality will govern any decision along these lines.

- We should downsize our Council from seven to five members. I feel that the ward system should be retained with one Councillor choose from ward one, two Councillors elected from ward two, while the mayor and deputy-mayor should be elected at large.
- The library addition at Centreton with the updating of the Centreton Hall at the same time will probably occur in 2010 or 2011 and long term financing will be essential to this project.
- Construction of a new Roseneath Fire Hall will probably occur in the next two – three years. Could we get some contributions from the two large resorts that are being proposed on Rice Lake? Maybe a yearly contribution from the First Nations might be in order to instead of an increase in the fire contract.
- We should be trying to accumulate some commercial and industrial land for future industrial development. I feel that we should be trying to attract "clean industry" to our township if at all possible.
- I think that we should be establishing a volunteer appreciation evening somewhat similar to our Christmas Party and maybe we could alternate years for these events.
- I feel that the Council decision to cut the grant completely for the Nauwatin Sanctuary for the 2009 budget be rethought. At least give these volunteers some recognition for their interest in seeing this piece of municipal property function. I know if I sat on this committee, that Council did not give some monetary recognition to (the only in the municipality) I know what my reaction would be.

Deputy Mayor Dalton McDonald:

Initiatives:

- Upgrading Centreton Library
- To create a new fire hall in the Hamlet of Roseneath
- To address accessibility issues and structural integrity of the arena complex in the Hamlet of Grafton
- To address the outstanding human resources issue (OMERS)
- To discuss the registering of and explain his philosophy concerning the registration of home occupations, which has become a growing phenomenon in the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand. Deputy Mayor McDonald was in the opinion that in the future the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand will have to initiate programs that are revenue generating to offset the lack of growth in the future for the municipality through residential development and also reduce the property tax increase implication to the rate payers in the municipality.

COUNCIL BREAK: 8:45 P.M. – 8:55 P.M.

Mayor William Finley – Vision/Goals 2009

- Industrial Land Development, public and privately owned working with both groups to ensure that necessary official plan and zoning designations are in place.
- Ice River Springs road contributions to ensure full load all year round capability.
- Growth strategy for the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand
- The forest plan and the position of the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand.
- Alternate energy discussion and position of the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand relating to various options.
- Round I and II Canada Infrastructure preparation and what are the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand's needs with priorities?
- Roads Infrastructure programs – internal public works department versus external tender options.

Staffing Issues

- a. PSAB needs
  - b. Rosie Cromlish (Tax Collector)
  - c. Temporary Workers
  - d. Office renovations to accommodate staff.
  - e. John Eagleson's long term options.
- Year 2010 – Tree replacement of dead maples etc., throughout the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand.
  - Land Purchase – Roseneath Fire Hall financial options.
  - Employee Benefits
  - Cemetery (Active) assumption time table of spring 2009.
  - 2010 Budget cost containment measures.
  - Training/Cross Training Program including needs and documentation.
  - Equipment infrastructure needs – 1-5 projections
  - Trails – Grafton County Road 2 south to Harnden Avenue to Brimley Road.
  - Centreton Ball Park moth balling program
  - Staff personal goals and objectives tied into municipal goals and objectives.
  - Shearer Point sub-division monitoring and communication with developer and Pine Ridge Municipal Planning Agency. (P.R.M.P.A.)

Clerk/Administrator Terrence Korotki – Visions/Goals

- Review Our Mission Statement
- Six main concerns for Councils consideration are as follows;
  1. Council Composition
    - 7 to 5
    - distribution
  2. Municipal Organization
    - new organizational chart
    - weekly meetings
    - job descriptions
    - grid salary
  3. Policies
    - human resources
    - others
  4. Buildings
    - administrative
    - community centres
    - arena
  5. Equipment
    - replacement
    - capital plan
    - computer system
  6. Financial
    - balanced budget
    - reserves
    - loans (OSSIFA/Chartered Bank)

**COUNCIL INQUIRES RE: COMPUTER LAPTOP AT ROSENEATH SATELITE OFFICE**

A lengthy Council discussion ensued concerning the utilization of a municipal laptop for committee and board members in the Roseneath area to complete agendas and minutes. Councillor Art Jeninga advised that a policy should be in place for all boards and committees in the Roseneath area and suggested that each committee or board should obtain a memory stick to retain all their documentation. It was the consensus of Council that this municipal laptop be retained at the municipal satellite office in Roseneath and that access be provided to all committee/board members provided that they use the laptop in this location only. Administration Assistant Dianne Nicholls would be responsible for overseeing and delegating this laptop to the respecting committee/board members.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT – 9:45 P.M.**

Moved by Councillor Art Jeninga, seconded by Councillor Cathie Ritchie

“Be it resolved that the Special Council Session held on Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>,  
2009 be adjourned at 9:45 p.m., CARRIED.”

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Mayor, William Finley

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Clerk/Administrator, Terrence Korotki