

**THE CORPORATION OF  
THE TOWNSHIP OF BONNECHERE VALLEY  
MINUTES  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY JULY 9, 2019 5:30 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**PRESENT** Mayor Jennifer Murphy  
Deputy Mayor Merv Buckwald  
Councillor Brent Patrick  
Councillor Jack Roesner  
Councillor Tim Schison  
CAO Bryan Martin  
Deputy CAO Sandra Barr

**REGRETS** None

**GALLERY** 1

**CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Jennifer Murphy called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**PECUNIARY INTEREST OR GENERAL NATURE THEREOF** – None

**ADDITIONS/CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA**

**19.106 MOVED BY** Tim Schison  
**SECONDED BY** Merv Buckwald

**That:** The agenda be accepted as amended/presented. Carried

**INDIGENOUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Minutes from June 18, 2019 Regular Meeting for approval.

**19.107 MOVED BY** Merv Buckwald  
**SECONDED BY** Tim Schison

**THAT:** The minutes of the regular council meeting held June 18, 2019, as amended/presented be hereby adopted.

Carried

Minutes from July 3, 2019 Special Meeting for approval.

**19.108 MOVED BY** Brent Patrick  
**SECONDED BY** Jack Roesner

**THAT:** The minutes of the special council meeting held July 3, 2019, as amended/presented be hereby adopted.

Carried

**DELEGATION** - None

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**(A) Correspondence "A"**

- (i) Municipality of Temagami – Bill C-68
- (ii) City of Hamilton – Public Health Changes
- (iii) Town of Laurentian Hills - Endorsement
- (iv) Township of Huron-Kinloss – Supporting Resolution

- (v) Township of Huron-Kinloss – Supporting Resolution
- (vi) Township of Champlain – Resolution Support
- (vii) Municipality of Centre Hastings – Resolution Support
- (viii) Township of O’Connor – Resolution Support
- (ix) Hydro One Ombudsman - Introduction

**(B) Correspondence “B”**

- (i) Clothing Bank – Request for Garbage Stickers
- (ii) City of St. Catharines – Free Menstrual Products
- (iii) Sandy Petraitis – Sign Permission
- (iv) Kayleigh Vaillancourt – Concerns Regarding Speed on Foran Street
- (v) Township of Warwick – Safety on Family Farms

**(C) Correspondence “C”**

**19.109 MOVED BY** Tim Schison  
**SECONDED BY** Jack Roesner

**THAT:** the Correspondence be filed. Carried

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM COMMITTEE**

**1. Quality Management System Operational Plan**

**19.110 MOVED BY** Jack Roesner  
**SECONDED BY** Tim Schison

**THAT:** as the Owner and Operating Authority, we commit to and endorse the Quality Management System Operational Plan for the Eganville Drinking Water System.

Carried

**2. Accessibility Plan**

**19.111 MOVED BY** Merv Buckwald  
**SECONDED BY** Tim Schison

**THAT:** The Township of Bonnechere Valley accept the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities (AODA), 5 Year Accessibility Plan 2019-2024.

Carried

**3. Free Waste Voucher Scale Weight**

**19.112 MOVED BY** Tim Schison  
**SECONDED BY** Brent Patrick

**THAT:** the free dump vouchers policy be revised to include up to 550 kg’s for free, and that individuals be charged for any weight over and above that weight.

Carried

**4. Legal Aid**

**19.113 MOVED BY** Tim Schison  
**SECONDED BY** Merv Buckwald

WHEREAS The Renfrew County Legal Clinic (the “**Clinic**”) has delivered services in Renfrew County for over 30 years. We provide direct front line legal services to low

income clients across Renfrew County and our service numbers continue to go up annually. We are an extremely busy legal office. We have 4 practicing lawyers including the Executive Director. We are audited annually, and all staff provide front line service;

The Clinic's main office is in Renfrew, but it also has satellite offices across the County and are given free ad hoc office space when needed to meet with clients who live in communities where there is no satellite office;

The Clinic assists area residents who cannot afford legal assistance due to financial hardship – including those on social assistance, pensioners, the unemployed, or those with low income;

The Clinic's services are aimed at ensuring that people with low incomes are able to meet their most basic needs, which in turn gives them the ability to live with health and dignity as active members of their community;

The Clinic is committed to upholding the rights of the most vulnerable people of Renfrew County on issues that are most critical to them – including Canada Pension Plan, Ontario Disability Support Program Workplace Safety and Insurance, Ontario Works, Landlord and Tenant, Criminal Injuries Compensation, powers of attorney, wills, human rights, consumer and debt issues, administrative legal issues and many other areas that impact low-income people;

The Clinic also provides public legal education sessions, duty counsel services at the Landlord Tenant Board hearings and we work with different community groups on issues such as domestic violence and homelessness in Renfrew County;

Like other community legal clinics across the province, the Clinic carries out this work through funding provided by Legal Aid Ontario ("**LAO**");

The provincial government's 2019 budget cut funding to LAO by \$133 million – which is 30% of its budget – retroactive to April 1, 2019. Legal Aid is downloading a large portion of these cuts to Legal Clinics.

Budget cuts could result in the closure of the Renfrew County Legal Clinic. As a rural community service provider, we are at risk of local services being cancelled with the expectation that services will be delivered out of Ottawa for example. A second scenario is that we stay open, but with a smaller staff and we become ineffectual.

The Clinic is in danger of significant budget cuts despite how much the Clinic accomplishes with so little resources. Last year, the Clinic won 1.5 million dollars for our clients. This money was spent locally, and it came from outside sources. Clients got off of Ontario Works benefits, the municipalities financially benefited, and the local economy was strengthened.

This significant cut will result in a loss of legal services to low income residents in our community, including a loss of critical legal clinic services – such as access to landlord-tenant law, seniors' law, consumer debt issues, legal interventions that ensure access to income supports like Canada Pension Plan Disability benefits, protection for injured workers, community development and public legal education;

The cut to the LAO budget has already had a direct negative impact on the Clinic and the services they provide, and in the near future, it will have a devastating impact on the Clinic's ability to continue to provide legal services to our community's most vulnerable citizens;

The absence of the Clinic's services will have adverse social consequences for the Township of Bonnechere Valley and other communities served by the Clinic – including by increased homelessness resulting from avoidable evictions, and increased poverty resulting from lack of income supports and employment supports;

The absence of these services will have adverse economic consequences for the Township of Bonnechere Valley and surrounding communities as well – resulting from increased reliance on municipal services such as mental health services, hospitals and public housing, increased demand on our local court from unrepresented people appearing without legal assistance, and increased reliance on social assistance administration resulting from people being denied appropriate supports;

Full and effective access to the justice system is a fundamental right that should be accorded to all the people in our municipalities, including our most vulnerable, many of which experience poverty or live on low incomes; and

The Township of Bonnechere Valley believes all levels of government should provide fair, economically-sound, and evidence-based programs and supports to help low-income residents, vulnerable people, and other equity-seeking individuals escape poverty, precarious housing, and systemic disadvantage, and realize their full potential by living healthy and safe lives.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Township of Bonnechere Valley:

Calls upon the Premier and the Attorney General to make a commitment to access to justice, to respect the commitment of their government to not decrease front line services; and to confirm that funding for community legal clinics will not be decreased;

Urges the province to restore funding to these critical services and ensure that all the residents of Renfrew County have access to a fair and equitable justice system, regardless of their incomes;

Give AMO direction to speak to the province and voice opposition to the budget cuts to Legal Clinics; and

Directs that a copy of this resolution be issued forthwith to the MPP for Renfrew County, the Attorney General, the LAO Board, the Premier and all Renfrew County municipalities.

Carried

## **5. Energy Management Plan**

**19.114 MOVED BY** Brent Patrick  
**SECONDED BY** Jack Roesner

**THAT:** The Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan prepared for the Township of Bonnechere Valley for 2019 to 2024 be accepted as presented.

Carried

## **6. Cambium Boardwalk Peer Review**

**19.115 MOVED BY** Merv Buckwald  
**SECONDED BY** Brent Patrick

**THAT:** Council proceed with the Peer Review by Cambium Environmental of the Boardwalk Project.

Carried

## 7. Flooding Support

**19.116 MOVED BY** Brent Patrick  
**SECONDED BY** Merv Buckwald

WHEREAS flood victims along the Ottawa River are waiting for reliable information on the factors contributing to recent flooding events, the likelihood of reoccurrence, and the likelihood of flood relief measure being implemented, before making decisions on relocating (i.e., being bought out) or repairing their homes and/or cottages.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Bonnechere Valley, through the Warden, request the Federal and Provincial governments to conduct a truly independent technical review of the existing dam and reservoir infrastructure in the Ottawa River watershed with a goal of determining if "best use" is being made of the said infrastructure to forecast, reduce, or eliminate flooding along the Ottawa River and its tributaries, and;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Bonnechere Valley, through the Warden, request the Federal and Provincial governments to conduct a truly independent review of the Ottawa River Regulation Planning Board mandate, governance model, operating procedure and policies, with a goal of determining the appropriateness of same to (1) ensure the integrated management of all reservoirs and dams in the Ottawa River watershed, and (2) minimize damage from flooding along the Ottawa River and its tributaries, and;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Bonnechere Valley, through the Warden, request the Federal and Provincial governments to conduct a truly independent study into the feasibility of adding reservoir capacity in the Ottawa River watershed as a means to reduce flooding along the Ottawa River and its tributaries, and;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Bonnechere Valley, through the Warden, request the Provincial government to (1) change the eligibility requirements for financial assistance under the "Disaster Relief Program" to include both seasonal (cottages) and principal residences, for both Quebec resident and non-Quebec residents and (2) replace the existing relocation allowances from current "caps" to market value.

Carried

### **BYLAWS**

**19.117 MOVED BY** Tim Schison  
**SECONDED BY** Brent Patrick

#### **THAT:**

- (1)** By-Law 2019-037 Being a By-Law to amend comprehensive zoning By-Law 2006-28 of the Township of Bonnechere Valley – Clarmo;
- (2)** By-Law 2019-038 Being a By-Law to confirm the proceedings of Council;
- (3)** By-Law 2019-039 Being a By-Law to regulate smoking and vaporizing in public places and enclosed workspaces in the Township of Bonnechere Valley;

BE READ A FIRST TIME, BE DEEMED READ A SECOND TIME, BE DEEMED READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

Carried

**MEDIA SESSION** - None

**CLOSED SESSION** - None

**ADJOURNMENT**

**19.118 MOVED BY  
SECONDED BY**

Brent Patrick  
Merv Buckwald

**THAT:** This Council meeting be adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

Carried

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Mayor Jennifer Murphy

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CAO Bryan Martin