

INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF HILTON BEACH

MINUTES

Special Council Meeting – March 23, 2019
9:00 a.m. – Council Chambers, Hilton Beach Municipal Office
3100 Bowker Street, Hilton Beach, Ontario

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Present were Mayor Hope and Councillors Davison, Moore and Bailey Meeks. Councillor Wells was absent.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

LONG TERM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. Old Village office

It was agreed that Council should place the old Village office for sale for a period of six months and that it be listed with Meaghan Vance of Exit Realty. If it does not sell during that period of time, it is to be demolished.

2. Economic Development – promotions

A variety of ideas were discussed:

- Welcome baskets should be provided to new residents of the Village;
- Mayor Hope will speak with local boaters and boaters from Sault Ste. Marie to see if there are improvements that could be made that may attract more boaters;
- A permanent structure should be considered for the Farmers' Market and it could be used for a variety of other purposes. It could possibly be placed over the all-season surface.
- Village of Hilton Beach signage should be placed on Hwy. 17 as advertisement. Costs are to be explored.
- A permanent lift for the marina could be considered in the future.

3. Waterfront Centre rentals

- The waterfront centre rental spaces are to be advertised in Soo Today, the Island Clippings and the North Shore Sentinel;
- Some ideal types of businesses include: charter boats, kayaks and fish tackles; fudge shop; summer clothing; scuba diving; camping/boating supplies;
- The brick area could have a fire pit with a seating area around it; barbeques and the Mariner's Lounge could be improved.
- The Norgoma could be sunk outside the breakwall and this would create a diving attraction.

4. Marina – attracting boaters

- Same as above

5. Marks Street/Bowker Street intersection (next to the Dry Dock)

- The sign is in the wrong place. It had previously been discussed that the street could be one-way but it was agreed that this would lead to other problems. It was noted that if there is no sign and two vehicles are at the intersection, the driver must yield to the right. It was agreed that a Yield sign may work better for the intersection. A jersey barrier could be placed between the Dry Dock and the Yield sign to prevent vehicles from driving in that area. Proper painting on the road would also be helpful.

6. South Street – issues with it/alternatives such as extend Maple Street up to Sixth Street

It was agreed that no action should be taken until after next winter to see how it works out. It was agreed that it would be a very expensive project for very few people and it is in an area where there is no water and sewer available. Discussions should take place with the individuals living in that area. There was discussion of a Maple Street extension but this would result in a steep grade as well. If a grant becomes available in the future, consideration could be given to reducing the grade but there would be a number of hurdles to make that work as well.

7. Hwy. 548 – disastrous condition

The MTO should provide forms for damaged vehicles resulting from the disastrous state of Hwy. 548 through the Village. It was reiterated that surface treatment is never going to work at this location and asphalt should be required. Council members are willing to camp out, if necessary, to prevent more surface treatment at this location. The media should become involved.

8. Landfill – changes to days for opening; future requirements

It was agreed that the days and hours will remain the same at this time. Receipts are to be issued.

9. Future of Community Night – planning and organizing as Julie will not be available

It was noted that all of the venues are in very rough shape and very difficult to put together. Many repairs would be needed if Community Night proceeds. As there are not sufficient volunteers and/or coordinators, Community Night should be cancelled. It was agreed that some of the Community Night venues could be incorporated into the Car Show if volunteers are available.

10. Rink Boards – will it be used; volunteer maintenance; bottle drive funds; township

It was suggested that 2 x 8 or 2 x 6 boards could be placed on their edge with something made to hold them up. This would help keep the rink edges intact. There would be a need for volunteer maintenance of the rink and the Fire Department could also be approached. It was agreed that the funds received for the recycled bottles from the landfill should be allocated to this project for 2019. The signs would need to be changed at the landfill.

11. Snow Plowing of Village roads – alternatives for next winter – contractor vs. own equipment

Various contractors should be approached to determine if there is interest in snow plowing the Village roads. Council will also consider contractor vs. own equipment. Research is to be done to determine pricing for a medium-sized used plow truck. There may also be a truck available locally that should be considered.

12. Community Hall usage

Advertising of the Community Hall should be undertaken. Some upgrades may be possible with costs being shared with the Lion's Club as they have indicated previously that we could submit a request for assistance. The most important upgrades would include new tables that are commercial grade but lighter than the existing ones and kitchen counter top and flooring. Consideration of a ground source heat pump could help reduce some costs but a grant would be required. The outside area could be spruced up and the hedges cut back properly. The front steps also require attention. Possibly this could be done when the library steps/sidewalk are completed. Prices should be obtained.

13. Financials – Long Term Debt reduced – consider using savings for reserves vs. increased operating costs vs. capita costs vs reduce taxes – or combination

This will be looked at to a greater extent at budget time.

14. New funding

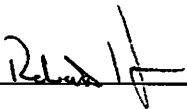
Items such as the South Street drainage, the sewage treatment plant roof and recommendations from OCWA for water and sewer work should be considered. It was also agreed that all of the funding should not be used immediately as there is a good chance that the OMPF grant will be reduced next year.

MAYOR/COUNCILLOR ITEMS

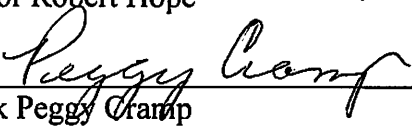
There is concern with the amount of dog waste that is occurring along South Street next to the ADSAB building. A note should be placed on their bulletin board and 'dog poop' bags should be used. It was also noted that there seems to be a lot of storage taking place on the balconies of the ADSAB building that needs to be cleaned up as it is a fire hazard.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1 p.m.



Mayor Robert Hope



Clerk Peggy Cramp