

**TOWNSHIP OF STRONG
COUNCIL MEETING
ON JANUARY 12, 2021
AT 5:30 P.M.**

NOTICE – Due to the Provincial Lockdown in the North Pay Parry Sound District Health Unit until January 24, 2021, no members of the public are permitted to attend Council meetings in person at this time. Please email info@strongtownship.com for access to the Zoom Link to attend the virtual meeting.

Council Members Present: Mayor Kelly Elik (in person), Councillors Jody Baillie (electronic), Jeff McLaren (in person), Jason Cottrell (electronic), Marianne Stickland (electronic)

Guest: None

Staff Present: Treasurer Dan Truchon (electronic – 7:39PM – 9:30PM), Public Works Superintendent Tom Young (in person), By-law Enforcement Officer Chris Fraser (in person).

1.0 Meeting Declared Open at 5:30 PM by Mayor Elik

2.0 Pecuniary Interest Declared

None

3.0 Adoption of Agenda

R2021-001

Moved by: Jason Cottrell

Seconded by: Jody Baillie

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong approve the January 12, 2021 meeting agenda as circulated.

Carried

Recorded Vote:

	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
<i>Kelly Elik</i>	X	
<i>Jody Baillie</i>	X	
<i>Jason Cottrell</i>	X	
<i>Jeff McLaren</i>	X	
<i>Marianne Stickland</i>	X	

4.0 Adoption of Minutes

4.1 R2021-002

Moved by: Jody Baillie

Seconded by: Marianne Stickland

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong adopt the Minutes of the December 8, 2020 regular meeting; as circulated.

Carried

Recorded Vote:

	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
<i>Kelly Elik</i>	X	
<i>Jody Baillie</i>	X	
<i>Jason Cottrell</i>	X	
<i>Jeff McLaren</i>	X	
<i>Marianne Stickland</i>	X	

4.2 Business Arising from Minutes

None

5.0 Delegation

None

6.0 Comments/Communications/Correspondence

6.1 Town of Carleton Place – Request for Support re: Ontario Childcare Funding

R2021-003

Moved By: Jason Cottrell

Seconded by: Jody Baillie

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Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong have hereby received and read resolution 1-132-10 dated December 8, 2020 from the Town of Carleton Place regarding COVID-19 Childcare Funding; and That the Council for the Township of Strong hereby support this resolution as circulated; and

That a copy of this support be forwarded to the local MP, MPP and the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development.

Carried

Recorded Vote:

	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
<i>Kelly Elik</i>	X	
<i>Jody Baillie</i>	X	
<i>Jason Cottrell</i>	X	
<i>Jeff McLaren</i>	X	
<i>Marianne Stickland</i>	X	

6.2 Township of Nairn & Hyman – Request for Support re: Closure of Non-Essential Businesses

R2021-004

Moved By: Jeff McLaren

Seconded by: Marianne Stickland

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong hereby have received and read resolution #2020-15-246 dated December 14, 2020 from the Township of Nairn & Hyman regarding the closure of non-essential businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

That the Council for the Township of Strong hereby support this resolution as circulated; and

That a copy of this support be forwarded to the local MP, MPP and the Premier of Ontario.

Carried

Recorded Vote:

	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
<i>Kelly Elik</i>	X	
<i>Jody Baillie</i>	X	
<i>Jason Cottrell</i>	X	
<i>Jeff McLaren</i>	X	
<i>Marianne Stickland</i>	X	

6.3 Steve Clark, Minister MMAH – Safe Restart Agreement Top-Up Funding

6.3.1 SRA Funding – Excess Funds to Reserves

R2021-005

Moved By: Jody Baillie

Seconded by: Jeff McLaren

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong hereby approve that any unused portion of the Safe Restart Agreement funding received in 2020 be placed in reserves for use in 2021.

Carried

Recorded Vote:

	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
<i>Kelly Elik</i>	X	
<i>Jody Baillie</i>	X	
<i>Jason Cottrell</i>	X	
<i>Jeff McLaren</i>	X	
<i>Marianne Stickland</i>	X	

6.4 Michael Bechard, Operators Manager: Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency

Received

6.5 Management – Update from Ontario Fire Marshal, Northeastern Ontario

Received

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6.6 Kate Manson-Smith, Deputy Minister: MMAH – Enforcement of Orders under Reopening Ontario Act, 2020

Received. Council noted OPP should be patrolling the arena parking area for out of District snowmobilers.

6.7 Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General – Community Safety & Wellbeing Plan extension

Received

6.8 NBPS District Health Unit – News Release: COVID-19 Class Order until Section 22 of HPPA

Received

6.9 AMO Policy – New Lockdown Measures & CSWB Plan Update

Received

6.10 Comment Forms: December 24, 2020 – January 7, 2021

Councillor Cottrell commented on ice blading process.

Councillor Cottrell and Councillor Stickland commented on the Comment Form received regarding a snow windrow placed in front of Old Ranch Road. Staff explained that the road is only seasonally maintained, per Township Bylaw, and that someone is plowing the area without Township approval. Staff recommended a legal opinion as the person plowing the road has not responded to years of correspondence. Councillor Cottrell requested an opportunity to speak to the person in question.

All other comment forms have been forwarded to the relevant department for reply.

7.0 Report of Committees

7.1 Almaguin Recycling Initiative – November 25

The Clerk Administrator advised that the 2019 annual report was forwarded to the ARI secretary for completion for 2020, which is due March 31, 2021.

7.2 POA Partners Committee – November 26, 2019 and December 9, 2020

Councillor Baillie advised that the POA Court may not be using the location at the Arena until in person resumes.

7.3 Emergency Management Program Committee – December 16, 2020

Received

7.4 Central Almaguin Planning Board – December 16, 2020

Received

7.5 Sundridge Strong Fire Department Committee – December 22, 2020

Councillor Stickland requested additional information on the surplus in the Budget Document dated to December 18, 2020.

7.6 Almaguin Highlands Health Centre Committee – December 6, 2020 & January 8, 2021

Received

7.7 SSJ Arena Committee – January 6, 2021

Received

8.0 Discussion Items

8.1 Contaminated Sites

The Clerk Administrator asked Council if they were aware of any contaminated sites in the municipality. None were reported.

**8.2 Authorization for Treasurer to Pay Accounts
R2021-006**

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Moved By: Jeff McLaren Seconded by: Jody Baillie

The Council for the Township of Strong is aware that the Township receives some invoices that must be paid prior to Council meetings because of penalties for late payments; and that

Council is also aware that the Treasurer pays employee's wages bi-weekly and council wages monthly;

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong hereby authorize the Treasurer to issue cheques for the above as and when required throughout 2021. The Council also authorizes the Treasurer to purchase necessary stationary supplies, printing supplies and other office materials that are required to efficiently operate the municipal business from day to day throughout 2021.

Carried

Recorded Vote:

	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
<i>Kelly Elik</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Jody Baillie</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Jason Cottrell</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Jeff McLaren</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Marianne Stickland</i>	<i>X</i>	

8.3 Official Plan Amendment – 3444 Pevensey

The Clerk Administrator advised that a pre-consultation with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is required and was completed. Their recommendation was to include verification of the new septic system by North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority.

R2021-007

Moved By: Jeff McLaren Seconded by: Jason Cottrell

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong have received and read the application for an Official Plan Amendment for the property legally known as Con 8 Pt Lot 30 RP 42R10644 Part 5, 3444 Pevensey Road; and

That Council support this application in principle provided the applicant submit confirmation from the North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority that the septic system would be approved on the property as a complete application.

Carried

Recorded Vote:

	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
<i>Kelly Elik</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Jody Baillie</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Jason Cottrell</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Jeff McLaren</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Marianne Stickland</i>	<i>X</i>	

**8.4 Near North Snow Drifter Memorandum of Understanding
R2021-008**

Moved By: Jeff McLaren Seconded by: Jody Baillie

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong have hereby received and reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding for the prescribed Snowmobile Trail Land Use Permission with the Near North Snowdrifters; and

That Council authorize the Clerk Administrator to enter into the Memorandum of Understanding with the Near North Snowdrifters to legally enter, groom, maintain, sign and use municipally owned roads as per the Schedule "A" of the MOU and sketch per Item 6, in the same form or substantially the same form as attached to this MOU; and

That the Near North Snowdrifters purchase 50% required signage and the Township of Strong shall install; and

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Further that use of Township of Strong roads shall not commence until a Certificate of Liability naming the Township as an additional insured is received.

Carried

Recorded Vote:

	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
<i>Kelly Elik</i>	X	
<i>Jody Baillie</i>	X	
<i>Jason Cottrell</i>	X	
<i>Jeff McLaren</i>	X	
<i>Marianne Stickland</i>	X	

8.5 2021 Landfill Rates – Township of Joly & Village of Sundridge

Council requested additional information from staff. Resolution deferred.

R2021-

Moved By: Seconded by:

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong hereby amend the Waste Management Fees to the Village of Sundridge and Township of Joly by _____ % for the year 2021.

8.6 Operations Update: COVID-19

The Clerk Administrator provided a brief overview of the Provincial Declaration and Stay-at-Home order that was announced that afternoon. Further review of guidelines, once received, is required before any operational changes can be completed. Staff were directed to prepare a resolution to lower the 2021 trailer fees, and waive the 2021 dog tag due date.

9.0 Staff Reports

9.1 Tom Young, Public Works Superintendent – Roads Report

9.1.1 Staffing Update

Mr. Young advised that the Temporary Operator 1 position was filled effective January 4, 2021. Council requested staff notify Council by email of new hires as soon as possible.

9.1.2 Tandem Truck Tender RFP 2020-01 – request for delivery extension

Councillor McLaren expressed concern that the truck was being delivered with a two way reversible plough. Staff advised the tender was awarded in June 2020 with those specifications, per the Public Works Superintendent's recommendation.

R2021-009

Moved By: Jeff McLaren

Seconded by: Jason Cottrell

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong have hereby received and read correspondence dated January 11, 2021 from Doug Vardy, Dealer Principal, Freightliner North Bay regarding delivery of the Tandem Truck under Strong RFP 2020-01; and That Council hereby waive the Penalty Clause Section 2.1 of the RFP 2020-01 for delayed delivery of the unit due to unforeseen circumstances as a result of the COVID-19 Global Pandemic in Lou of an American one way plow with carbide cutting edges in exchange of the reversible two way plow.

Carried

Recorded Vote:

	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
<i>Kelly Elik</i>		X
<i>Jody Baillie</i>		X
<i>Jason Cottrell</i>	X	
<i>Jeff McLaren</i>	X	
<i>Marianne Stickland</i>	X	

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9.2 Dan Truchon, Treasurer

9.2.1 Strong Cemetery – Quote for Hydraulic Lift

R2021-010

Moved By: Jeff McLaren

Seconded by: Jody Baillie

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong hereby approve the quote from S & S Fabrication for the supply and installation of a hydraulic table and roller/slider system for the Strong Cemetery Winter Storage Vault; and

That the costs be included in the 2021 Strong Cemetery Budget.

Carried

Recorded Vote:

	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
<i>Kelly Elik</i>	X	
<i>Jody Baillie</i>	X	
<i>Jason Cottrell</i>	X	
<i>Jeff McLaren</i>	X	
<i>Marianne Stickland</i>	X	

9.2.2 Approve Consultant Services for 2021

R2021-011

Moved By: Jason Cottrell **Seconded by: Marianne Stickland**

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong hereby approve use of Brayden Robinson for consultant services for treasury functions at a cost of \$40.00/hr for 2021 for up to 8 weeks; and

That the cost be included in the 2021 Township Budget.

Carried

Recorded Vote:

	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
<i>Kelly Elik</i>	X	
<i>Jody Baillie</i>	X	
<i>Jason Cottrell</i>	X	
<i>Jeff McLaren</i>	X	
<i>Marianne Stickland</i>	X	

9.2.3 COVID-19 Technology Adoption Fund – funding approved

R2021-012

Moved By: Jody Baillie **Seconded by: Marianne Stickland**

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong hereby approve the Treasurer to execute and sign the COVID-19 Technology Adoption Fund with Blue Sky Economic Growth Corporation on behalf of the Township.

Carried

Recorded Vote:

	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
<i>Kelly Elik</i>	X	
<i>Jody Baillie</i>	X	
<i>Jason Cottrell</i>	X	
<i>Jeff McLaren</i>	X	
<i>Marianne Stickland</i>	X	

9.2.4 Asset Management Plan RFP 2021-01

Mr. Truchon advised that the plans had been reviewed and scored by himself and Brayden Robinson.

R2021-031

Moved By: Jeff McLaren **Seconded by: Marianne Stickland**

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong hereby award Asset Management Plan RFP 2021-01 to Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. at a cost of \$42,450 + HST; and

That the Clerk Administrator and Treasurer be hereby directed to sign and execute and agreement thereto on behalf of the Township.

Carried

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Recorded Vote:

	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
<i>Kelly Elik</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Jody Baillie</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Jason Cottrell</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Jeff McLaren</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Marianne Stickland</i>	<i>X</i>	

Council did not extend curfew per Procedural Bylaw 2011-008, so all other items deferred to the January 26, 2021 meeting.

~~9.3 Brian Dumas, CBO~~

~~9.3.1 November 2020 Permit Report~~

~~9.3.2 December 2020 Permit Report~~

~~9.4 Dave Gray, Director of Economic Development~~

~~9.4.1 ACED & AHCC 2020 AGM Report~~

~~9.4.2 Draft 2021 ACED Work Plan~~

10.0 Council Member Reports

None

11.0 Public Meeting/Notice

None

12.0 By-Laws

~~12.1 2020-020 Use, Alter and Occupy Public Highways in the Township of Strong~~

~~Second reading MLEO recommends set fines.~~

**~~12.2 2021-001 Confirm Proceedings of Council Oct 1 – Dec 31, 2020
R2021-~~**

~~Moved By: Seconded by:~~

~~Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong have read By-Law 2021-001 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council from October 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020.~~

~~And that Council for the Township of Strong hereby authorize the Mayor and Clerk Administrator to sign this by-law and affix the Seal of the Corporation thereto.~~

~~Carried~~

~~12.3 2021-002 Interest on Tax Arrears~~

~~R2021-~~

~~Moved By: Seconded by:~~

~~Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong have read By-law 2021-002 being a by-law to impose an interest charge expressed as a percentage per month for nonpayment of tax arrears;~~

~~And That Council for the Township of Strong hereby authorize the Mayor and Clerk Administrator to sign this by-law and affix the Seal of the Corporation thereto.~~

~~Carried~~

~~12.4 2021-003 Penalty on Current Taxes~~

~~R2021-~~

~~Moved By: Seconded by:~~

~~Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong have read By-law 2021-003 being a by-law to impose an interest charge expressed as a percentage per month for nonpayment of current taxes or any class or installment thereof;~~

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~~_____ And That Council for the Township of Strong hereby authorize the Mayor
_____ and the Clerk Administrator to sign this by-law and affix the Seal of the
_____ Corporation thereto.
_____ **Carried**~~

~~**12.5 2021-004 Temporary Borrowing**~~

~~_____ **R2021-**~~

~~_____ **Moved By: Seconded by:**~~

~~_____ Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong have read By-law
_____ 2021-004 being a by-law to authorize the temporary borrowing from time to
_____ time to meet current expenditures during the financial year ending
_____ December 31, 2021.~~

~~_____ And That Council for the Township of Strong hereby authorize the Mayor
_____ and the Clerk Administrator to sign this by-law and affix the Seal of the
_____ Corporation thereto.
_____ **Carried**~~

~~**12.6 2021-005 Interim Tax By-Law**~~

~~_____ **R2021-**~~

~~_____ **Moved By: Seconded by:**~~

~~_____ Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong have read By-law
_____ 2021-005 being a by-law to provide for an Interim Levy and the payment of
_____ Interim Taxes for 2021;~~

~~_____ And That Council for the Township of Strong hereby authorize the Mayor
_____ and Clerk Administrator to sign this by-law and affix the Seal of the
_____ Corporation thereto.~~

~~_____ **Carried**~~

~~**12.7 2020-006 Limit Gross Weight of vehicles passing over Proudfoot
Bridge**~~

~~_____ **R2021-**~~

~~_____ **Moved By: Seconded by:**~~

~~_____ Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong have read By-law
_____ 2021-006 being a by-law to limit the gross weight of any vehicle or any class
_____ thereof passing over a bridge under the jurisdiction of the Corporation of the
_____ Township of Strong;~~

~~_____ And That Council for the Township of Strong hereby authorize the Mayor
_____ and Clerk Administrator to sign this by-law and affix the Seal of the
_____ Corporation thereto.~~

~~_____ **Carried**~~

~~**13.0 Closed Session**~~

14.0 Adjournment

R2021-014

Moved by: Jeff McLaren

Seconded by: Marianne Stickland

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong hereby adjourn the regular meeting at 9:30 p.m. until the regular meeting scheduled on January 26, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

Carried

Recorded Vote:

	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
<i>Kelly Elik</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Jody Baillie</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Jason Cottrell</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Jeff McLaren</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Marianne Stickland</i>	<i>X</i>	

Mayor, Kelly Elik

Clerk Administrator Caitlin Haggart