

**TOWNSHIP OF STRONG
COUNCIL MEETING
ON APRIL 25, 2023
AT 5:30 P.M.
PUBLIC MEETING AT 7:00PM –OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT/ZONING BY-
LAW**

NOTICE: Zoom Link to attend the meeting virtually is available on the website at <https://calendar.strongtownship.com/meetings>.

Council Members Present (in person): Mayor Tim Bryson. Councillors Jeff McLaren, Kevin Noaik, and Marianne Stickland.

Council Members Absent: Councillor Jim Ronholm

Staff Present (virtually): Lois O'Neill-Jackson, Acting Clerk

Staff Present (in person): Kim Dunnett, Deputy Clerk; Braden Bradford, Municipal Law Enforcement Officer

Guests Present (in person): Don Preston, Chad Preston, Brent Rudachyk and Jeffrey Tuckey

Guests Present (virtually): Greg Wilson

1.0 Meeting Declared Open at 5:30 PM by Mayor Tim Bryson
R2023-164

Moved By: Marianne Stickland Seconded by: Kevin Noaik

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong hereby appoints Lois O'Neill-Jackson of VS Municipal Solutions, as the Acting Clerk for this April 25, 2023 Regular Council Meeting.

Carried

2.0 Pecuniary Interest Declared

The following declaration was filed with the Clerk:

I, Kevin Noaik, declare a pecuniary interest in Item 11.1-12.1 on the April 25/2023 Council agenda. I am making this declaration because: primary employer. I confirm that I will not vote on the matter, I will not take any part in discussion on any questions in respect of the matter, and I will not attempt in any way whether before, during or after the meeting to influence the voting on any such question.

3.0 Adoption of Agenda
R2023-165

Moved by: Marianne Stickland Seconded by: Kevin Noaik

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong approve the April 25, 2023 regular meeting agenda, as amended.

Moving Item 9.1 to after Item 5.2 to hear from staff.

Carried

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4.0 Adoption of Minutes

4.1 R2023-166

Moved by: Jeff McLaren

Seconded by: Kevin Noaik

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong adopt the Minutes of the April 11, 2023 regular meeting, as circulated.

Carried

4.2 Business Arising from Minutes

Council requested that a copy of the Pevensey Road Petition be circulated to Council.

The staff report regarding security cameras will be provided for the next meeting.

5.0 Delegation

**5.1 Don Preston, Chad Preston, Brent Rudachyk, GF Preston Ltd –
Procurement Procedures**

R2023-167

Moved By: Kevin Noaik

Seconded by: Jeff McLaren

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong hereby receive the delegation from Don Preston, Chad Preston, Brent Rudachyk, GF Preston Ltd regarding Procurement Procedures, with thanks.

Carried

Don Preston, Chad Preston and Brent Rudachyk left the meeting at 5:58 p.m.

**5.2 Jeffery Tuckey – Use of Unopened Road Allowance Con 5, Lot 11-13
R2023-168**

Moved By: Marianne Stickland Seconded by: Kevin Noaik

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong hereby receive the delegation from Jeffery Tuckey regarding Use of Unopened Road Allowance Con 5, Lot 11-13, with thanks.

Carried

Jeffrey Tuckey left the meeting at 6:14 p.m.

Council moved item 9.1. forward for discussion.

9.0 Staff Reports

**9.1 Braden Bradford, Municipal Law Enforcement Officer – Clean Yards
By-law**

R2023-169

Moved By: Marianne Stickland

Seconded by: Jeff McLaren

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Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong have hereby discussed the draft “Clean Yards By-law”; and
Direct staff to make the requested amendments and bring to the next regular meeting for a second and third reading.

Carried

Braden Bradford left the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

Council took a short recess.

Council moved to item 11.0 Public Meeting pursuant to notice provided for an Official Plan/Zoning By-law amendment and Zoning By-law amendment.

6.0 Comments/Communications/Correspondence

6.1 AMO Policy Update – Bill 97; Less Red Tape Update
Received

6.2 Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Housing Supply Crisis Update
Received

**6.3 Village of Burk’s Falls – Almaguin Highlands Health Centre Long Term Proposal
R2023-172**
Moved By: Kevin Noaik Seconded by: Marianne Stickland
Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong receive the Almaguin Highlands Health Centre Long Term Care Report presented to the Almaguin Health Council on April 6, 2023; and
Further that Council for the Township of Strong approve the requested cost of \$6,007.00 for the 2023 fiscal year.
Carried

**6.4 Almaguin Highlands Secondary School – 2023 Graduation Donation
R2023-173**
Moved By: Jeff McLaren Seconded by: Marianne Stickland
Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong hereby receive the letter from the Almaguin Highlands Secondary School dated April 4, 2023; and
Further that a contribution to the graduation ceremony of \$100.00 be approved and included in the 2023 Township budget.
Carried

**6.5 Diane Noble, The Woman of Ontario Say No – Request for Support
re: Bill 5**

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R2023-174

Moved By: Kevin Noaik Seconded by: Marianne Stickland

Whereas municipally elected leaders do not have an appropriate accountability structure when it comes to perpetrating violence and harassment in the workplace; and

Whereas a fundamental, underlying principle of broadening diversity, equity and inclusion in politics rests on the assumption that the workplace is safe; and

Whereas Bill 5, the Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act would require Councillors to comply with the workplace violence and harassment policies of the municipality they represent, permit municipalities to direct the Integrity Commissioner to apply to the court to vacate a member's seat for failing to comply with the municipality's workplace violence and harassment policies as well as restrict officials whose seat has been vacated from seeking immediate subsequent re-election; and

Whereas over 20 municipalities have formally endorsed and communicated public support for Bill 5; and

Whereas Bill 5 would both hold accountable and protect all municipal officials;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council for the Township of Strong express its support for Bill 5, Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act;

Further that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; Graydon Smith, MPP for Parry Sound-Muskoka; and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Defeated

6.6 James Chirico, Medical Officer of Health for NBPSDHU – Food Insecurity

R2023-175

Moved By: Marianne Stickland Seconded by: Jeff McLaren

Whereas, improved financial stability allows municipal residents to participate, contribute, and invest in their local economies and communities; and

Whereas, poverty puts additional pressure on municipalities, who are responsible for delivering necessary and strained public and social services to support residents who are struggling with the consequences of inadequate income; and

Whereas, food insecurity has a detrimental impact on physical and mental health; and

Whereas, adequate income is an important social determinant of health that greatly impacts food security and other social determinants of health such as mental health, housing and transportation; and

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Whereas, the 2022 Cost of Eating Well report shows that households reliant on social assistance do not have enough money for the costs of living, including food; and

Whereas, 67% of households in Ontario with social assistance as their main source of income experience food insecurity.

Therefore Be It Resolved, That the Council for the Township of Strong hereby support efforts to raise awareness about, and work to reduce, health inequities, including food insecurity; and

Furthermore Be It Resolved, That the Council for the Township of Strong endorse the letter from the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit and call on the Province of Ontario to:

- legislate targets for the reduction of food insecurity as part of the Ontario Poverty Reduction Strategy; and
- increase social assistance rates to reflect the costs of living, and to index Ontario Works rates to inflation going forward; and
- urge the province to resume investigating the feasibility of creating a guaranteed living wage (basic income) in the Province of Ontario; and

Furthermore Be It Resolved, That the Council for the Township of Strong provide correspondence of these resolutions to the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, neighbouring municipalities, Victor Fedeli, MPP (Nipissing), Graydon Smith, MPP (Parry Sound-Muskoka), John Vanthof, MPP (Timiskaming-Cochrane), the Honourable Doug Ford (Premier), the Honourable Merrilee Fullerton (Minister of Children, Community and Social Service), the Honourable Sylvia Jones (Minister of Health) and the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (aLPHa), MP Anthony Rota, MP Scott Aitchison, MP Marc Serre, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM).

Carried

**6.7 FONOM Media Release – Bail Reform
R2023-176**

Moved By: Jeff McLaren

Seconded by: Kevin Noaik

WHEREAS the cost of Policing and Emergency Services in Northern Communities is harming a community's ability to support local Social and Health issues; and

WHEREAS a small percentage of those affected by an Addiction in the communities of Northern Ontario are committing crimes; and

WHEREAS many of those committing crimes are not housed in the correctional system, therefore, remain in our communities, often those that do require treatment for their Addiction issue receive none; and

WHEREAS some committing crimes become violent, but are released back into the community, due to the negative impacts Federal Bill C75; and

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WHEREAS the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) believes that more must be done by the Federal Government on Bail Reform

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Township of Strong as one of the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) requests the Federal Government make these Legislative changes

1. Create a Designation of a chronic persistent offender.
2. Allow community impact statements at bail and at bail hearings.
3. Creating reverse onus in bail for all firearms offences.
4. All bail-related gun charges go to the superior court for bail release.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Prime Minister, Federal Justice Minister, Premier of Ontario, The Attorney General, the Solicitor General, Minister of Infrastructure, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Northeastern MPs and MPPs, Leaders of the Opposition, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Defeated

6.8 CN Rail – 2023 Vegetation Program
Received

**6.9 Women's Own Resource Centre – Request for Financial Support
R2023-177**

Moved By: Jeff McLaren Seconded by: Kevin Noaik

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong hereby receive the letter from the Women's Own Resource Centre dated April 11, 2023; and

Further that a contribution to of \$100.00 be approved and included in the 2023 Township budget.

Carried

6.10 Comment Form – Apr 11 - 19
Received

7.0 Report of Committees

7.1 Central Almaguin Planning Board – March 1
Received

7.2 SSJ Arena Committee – April 5

**7.2.1 Approve 2023 Proposed SSJ Arena Budget
R2023-178**

Moved By: Marianne Stickland Seconded by: Kevin Noaik

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong have reviewed the Sundridge Strong Joly Arena Budget for 2023 in the

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amount of \$463,396.93 with the Township's share being \$231,698.47;

And that the Township of Strong accept this budget as presented.

Carried

Recorded Vote:	For	Against
Tim Bryson	X	
Jeff McLaren		X
Kevin Noaik	X	
Marianne Stickland	X	

7.3 SSJ Recreation Committee – April 6
Received

7.4 Almaguin Highlands Health Council – April 6
Received

7.5 Sundridge & District Medical Centre Committee – April 18
Received

8.0 Discussion Items

**8.1 MAHC Local Share Contribution
R2023-179**

Moved By: Jeff McLaren Seconded by: Kevin Noaik

Whereas the Almaguin Highlands Health Council has set a long-term fund-raising target for healthcare in the Almaguin Highlands of \$12-million over 12 years starting in 2023, and

Whereas 80%, or \$9.5-million, would be apportioned to the build costs for the Muskoka Algonquin Health Care (MAHC) hospital build, and

Whereas 20%, or \$2.5-million, would be apportioned toward a healthcare fund to be kept in the Almaguin Highlands to fund healthcare related activities in our area;

Therefore be it resolved that the Township of Strong will set aside \$_____ per year toward the MAHC build and \$_____ per year for healthcare services in the Almaguin Highlands beginning_____. Total contribution is estimated to be \$_____ for the MAHC build
And \$_____ for healthcare services in the Almaguin Highlands over 12 years.

Defeated

8.2 Phragmites Working Group – Invasive Species Summer Technician

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R2023-

Moved By: Seconded by:

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong hereby receive correspondence from the Phragmites Working Group regarding two summer students for the Invasive Species Summer Technician – Hit Squad; and

That the Township of Strong is not able to receive funding as the lead municipality at this time.

Deferred

9.0 Staff Reports

9.1 Braden Bradford, Municipal Law Enforcement Officer – Clean Yards By-law

Discussed after item 5.2

9.2 Brian Dumas, CBO – March 2023 Permit Report

Received

10.0 Council Member Reports

None.

11.0 Public Meeting/Notice

R2023-170

Moved By: Marianne Stickland

Seconded by: Jeff McLaren

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong Close the regular meeting of Council and commence the public meeting of Council at 7:00 p.m.

Carried

Guests in attendance (virtually): Greg Wilson

Conflict of Interest Declared: Kevin Noaik

11.1 Official Plan Amendment/Zoning By-law Amendment - Part of Lots 24 and 25, Concession 14 (Tower Rd)

The Mayor opened the meeting pursuant to Section 22 and 34 of the Planning Act. The Clerk provided the method of notice of which the meeting was given and confirmed that zero written comments were received and there were zero requests for a verbal submission.

The proposed amendments have been requested by the owner of lands located at Tower Road on lands located in Part Lots 24 and 25, Concession 14 in the Township of Strong.

The purpose of the amendments is summarized:

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1. The proposed official plan amendment would redesignate approximately 14.5 ha of the subject lot from the Commercial Employment designation to the Rural designation and would also create a special policy to authorize the creation of a new lot that would separate the lands in the Rural designation from lands in the Commercial Employment designation.
2. The proposed zoning by-law amendment would rezone approximately 14.5 ha of the subject land from the General Industrial Exception (M1-6)(H) Zone to the Rural (RU) Zone.

The owner of the property, Greg Wilson did not provide any comments. There were no further questions or comments from the public. Council raised no questions on the proposed amendment.

R2023-171

Moved By: Jeff McLaren

Seconded by: Marianne Stickland

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong Close the Public meeting of Council and resume the regular meeting of Council at 7:04 p.m.

Carried

**At conclusion of the public meeting, Council proceeded to Item 6.0
Comments/Communications/Correspondence.**

12.0 By-Laws

**12.1 By-law 2023-018 Official Plan Amendment – Part of Lots 24 and 25,
Concession 14 (Tower Rd)**

R2023-180

Moved By: Marianne Stickland

Seconded by: Jeff McLaren

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong have read By-law 2023-018 being a by-law to Being a by-law to adopt Amendment No. 3 to the Official Plan 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

Conflict of Interest Declared and Seat Vacated: Kevin Noaik

Greg Wilson left the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

13.0 Closed Session

R2023-181

Moved By: Jeff McLaren

Seconded by: Kevin Noaik

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Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong enter into a Closed Session of Council as per the Municipal Act, C. 25, S.O. 2001 as amended, Section 239(2)(b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees; Landfill Matter; and Section 239(2)(d) labour relations or employee negotiations; Administrative Staffing Matters; at 8:11 p.m.
Carried

The Council for the Township of Strong resumed the regular meeting of Council at 8:31 p.m. The Mayor reported that Council discussed the matters they were permitted to under the resolution authorizing the public exclusion.

R2023-182

Moved By: Kevin Noaik

Seconded by: Marianne Stickland

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong hereby waive Landfill #1 tipping fees pursuant Tariff of Fees By-law 2021-011 associated with clean up of the property known as 80 Cheryl Crescent; and

That staff be directed to keep record of number and type of loads for information purposes only.

Carried

14.0 Adjournment

R2023-183

Moved by: Kevin Noaik

Seconded by:

Be it resolved that the Council for the Township of Strong hereby adjourn the regular meeting at 8:34 p.m. until the regular meeting scheduled on May 9, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. or at the call of the Mayor.

Carried

Mayor, Tim Bryson

Clerk, Lois O'Neill-Jackson