

Municipality of Central Manitoulin
Safety, Security and Health Committee Minutes
March 17th, 2020

Attending: Chairperson Councillor S. Shaffer, Mayor. R. Stephens, Councillors D. Stephens, R. Diebolt, A. Johnston, D. Scott and A. Tribinevicius, Fire Chief John Reid, CEMC Sarah Bowerman and one staff member.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

MOTION: D. Stephens and R. Stephens

That the agenda be approved with the following amendments:

- 7 e) Mayor update regarding teleconference with Provincial Officials regarding COVID-19
- 7 f) Discussion on teleconferencing for all Municipal Committee and Council meetings during Emergency situations.

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

MOTION: R. Stephens and D. Stephens

That the minutes of the last regular meeting of the Safety, Security and Health Committee held on February 18th, 2020 be approved...carried.

Delegations

CEMC (Community Emergency Management Coordinator) Sarah Bowerman came to speak to the Committee with updates and best practices regarding the COVID-19 virus. Ms. Bowerman gave everyone present a handout with as much up-to-date information regarding numbers of cases in Canada, Ontario and our local area, that she was privy to at the time. There was further discussion about the responsibility of the Municipality to the community and to its employees. The consensus in the room was that the situation is serious and that the Municipality and Emergency Management Committee would make sure that they are informed and prepared to act if necessary. The main concern at this time is to use all the best practice methods to flatten the curve and slow down the spread of the disease. Methods such as social distancing, washing hands properly and not touching one's face were discussed at length.

Old Business

The Strategic Plan Priorities were discussed. Nothing new arose from the discussion.

The follow up to the Emergency Health Services Seminar on Rural Health Care was discussed. Staff gave a detailed account of what the Power Point presentation from the Seminar contained and what topics were covered. As the presentation contained very specific details regarding funding, modernization and ambulance services the presentation was made available again in a hard copy format and digital copies.

MOTION: R. Stephens and R. Diebolt

That we recommend that to Council the verbal summary given by staff on the Emergency Health Services Seminar on Rural Health Care Power Point presentation be accepted...carried.

New Business

The letter from Public Health Sudbury and Districts regarding Public Health Roles and Responsibilities in Emergency Response was discussed for information purposes.

MOTION: R. Diebolt and D. Stephens

We recommend to Council that the minutes from Manitoulin Island Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee Meeting dated December 4th, 2019 be accepted...carried.

MOTION: D. Stephens and R. Stephens

That we recommend to Council that the Community Policing Advisory Committee statistics for January and February 2020 be accepted... carried.

MOTION: A. Johnston and R. Stephens

That we recommend to Council that the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board letter regarding Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit resulting from February 27th, 2020 meeting be accepted... carried.

MOTION: D. Stephens and R. Stephens

That we recommend to Council that the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board letter regarding Child Care Funding resulting from February 27th, 2020 meeting be accepted... carried.

MOTION: D. Stephens and A. Johnston

That we recommend to Council that the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board letter regarding Emergency Dispatch Services resulting from February 27th, 2020 meeting be accepted... carried.

Mayor Richard Stephens gave a detailed account of the teleconference with Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier of Ontario, Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and other officials. The discussion emphasized that the Province is in an Emergency situation due to the COVID-19 virus. Delivery of foods and services will be maintained and that the current situation is ongoing and fluid. There was discussion of a relief package that is being created by the Province. There is potential for teleconferencing for Municipal meetings to maintain municipal governance and services.

The possibility of using teleconferencing to conduct Committee and Council meetings was discussed at length. It was decided that once the Municipalities have the approval through Provincial legislation to conduct any and all municipal meetings via teleconferencing that Council would implement that method immediately. Direction was given to staff to prepare for teleconferencing. Due to the emergency, teleconferencing will be used to conduct all Committee and Council meetings effective immediately and until further notice.

The Fire Chief reported that since the last Safety, Security and Health Committee there was only one lift assist to report. A lengthy discussion involving options for volunteer and new recruit training took place.

MOTION: D. Stephens and R. Stephens

That we accept the Fire Chief's verbal report...carried.

MOTION: D. Stephens and L. Farquhar

That we recommend to Council to accept the year to date financial report for the Safety, Security and Health Committee for the period ending on February 29th, 2020...carried.

The meeting was adjourned by Councillor Derek Stephens at 8:30 p.m.