

MINUTES of a Special Meeting of Council for the Township of North Frontenac, held Friday, November 21, 2008 at 9:30 a.m., at the Upstairs Meeting Room above the Fire Hall, 6648 Road 506, Plevna, Ontario

PRESENT: Mayor Ron Maguire; Councillor Fred Perry and Councillor Wayne Good – Ward 1; Councillor Elaine Gunsinger and Councillor Lonnie Watkins – Ward 2; Deputy Mayor Jim Beam and Councillor Bob Olmstead – Ward 3.

ALSO PRESENT: Cheryl Robson, CAO/Treasurer; Brenda Defosse, Clerk/Planning Coordinator; John Ibey, PWM; Steve Riddell, Fire Chief; Angela Miller, Administrative/Financial Coordinator; and Corey Klatt, Community Liaison/Property Building Coordinator.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order. The Mayor advised the purpose of this Special Meeting was to consider one issue alone, the ‘governance issue’ specifically to the County Council compliment.

2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

None declared.

3. DELEGATION

The Mayor introduced Doug Armstrong from Armstrong Associates. Armstrong confirmed his firm had been contracted by the County to review the governance of the County of Frontenac; thus interviewing people from each of the Townships as to how they see the problems and solutions within the County Council make-up. He confirmed his contract had been reduced in the requirements and thus the cost of same.

Armstrong provided a history of his background, advising he had been the Administrator for the County of Peterborough for many years, leaving 10 or 12 years earlier.

He advised he wanted to hear from each member of Council and the Management Staff as to what they were thinking about (i.e., options/issues) then he will report back to the County. He wanted to hear the good and bad comments.

He confirmed he had met with MPP Hillier earlier in the day and over the next couple of weeks he planned to meet with the Council and Management Staff of each of the four Councils and with Minister Garretson.

He was looking for amalgamation information which reformed the government structure 10 years ago. He felt it was good business to have such a review at this time and should be asking “are we where we thought we were going to be at this time”. He complimented the County on their initiative to have such a review, especially as it has been 10 years since amalgamation. He confirmed at this point he had no specific format. He wanted to hear what works and what does not; what can be done to make things better; and he asked to try to keep the discussion positive.

He advised his Report would be generic and would be driven by personal opinions at the end of the day. He advised he would be sending a survey questionnaire to all upper tier municipalities in the province having a similar structure as Frontenac County. (i.e., rural areas; small Cities and Towns) He stated this is not a service delivery or a reform/restructuring review.

He confirmed four Mayors making up County Council are quite unique and that Frontenac County is different than any other County in the Province. He stated if after today's meeting anyone remembered something they wished to add they should call him or send a note. Individual names will not be noted in the Report, just the Municipalities names.

All politicians and staff members were given an opportunity to voice their concerns and ask questions. A lengthy discussion followed.

Armstrong thanked everyone and advised the Draft Report should be to the County by January 30th and the surveys received from other Upper Tier Municipalities within the Province will be part of the Report to County Council.

The Mayor thanked Armstrong, Council and Staff for their participation.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Good, Seconded by Councillor Olmstead #552A-08

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting adjourns at 10:30 p.m., until January 15, 2009 or at the call of the Chair.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk