

The minutes of the regular meeting of Dawson Township Council, held on Wednesday October 5th 2022 at 7 pm in the Municipal Office.

- PRESENT** Mayor B Langner. Councillors: B Jodoin, D Hartnell, C Larocque & B Sands.
Clerk-Treasurer: P W Giles. Road Supt/Fire Chief Randy Asselin.
A public meeting was held to consider a consent application Valio Office Support Services Ltd. The Clerk-Treasurer outlined the public notices for the application and reviewed the application for Council, no public comments have been received.
- 34B2205** #22-66 HARTNELL & JODOIN & CARRIED that Council grants provisional approval to consent application 34B2205 Valio Office Support Services Ltd subject to the attached 5 conditions.
Mayor Langner declared the public meeting closed at 7:05p.m.
- MINUTES** #22-67 LAROCQUE & SANDS & CARRIED that the minutes of the regular meeting of Council held August 3rd 2022, be approved as printed.
- ACCOUNTS** #22-68 HARTNELL & LAROCQUE & CARRIED that the accounts in the amounts of \$219,825.94 & \$149,908.05 and representing disbursements for the months August & September 2022, respectively, be approved for payment.
COUNCILLOR JODOIN DECLARED AN INTEREST AS HER SPOUSE HAD A PAYMENT IN THE SEPTEMBER DISBURSEMENTS.
- DUMP** #22-69 HARTNELL & LAROCQUE & CARRIED that Council authorizes the landfill site to be open 10 to 3 on Monday year around.
- EDO** #22-70 LAROCQUE & HARTNELL & CARRIED that Council authorizes a letter to the Town of Rainy River to advise that Dawson does not wish to participate in the next term of the Economic Development Officer project.
- BOUNDARY** #22-71 HARTNELL & JODOIN & CARRIED WHEREAS the Township of Dawson has been represented since 2004 by the MP for Thunder Bay-Rainy River; And whereas the riding of Thunder Bay-Rainy River has a rough length by road of 440km, measured from the intersection of the Harbour Expressway and Fort William Road in Thunder Bay to the Rainy River-Baudette Border Crossing in the Town of Rainy River; and whereas the riding of Thunder Bay-Rainy River currently contains 16 municipalities and 10 First Nations; and whereas the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for Ontario has proposed the elimination of the riding of Thunder Bay-Rainy River and the creation of a Kenora-Thunder Bay-Rainy River riding; and whereas the Kenora-Thunder Bay-Rainy River riding would contain 20 municipalities and 21 First Nations, with a rough length by road of 541km, measured from the intersection of Atlantic Avenue and Island Drive in Thunder Bay to the intersection of Shoal Lake Road and Highway 17 near Kenora; and whereas this expansion in size and number of communities would dilute the representation of the Township of Dawson; and whereas the Kenora-Thunder Bay-Rainy River riding would dramatically limit the amount of time its Member of Parliament could spend

in the Township of Dawson due to the extraordinary scale of the riding and distance between communities, potentially harming the community's access to federal services; and whereas the MP for Kenora-Thunder Bay-Rainy River riding will have to manage the complex and unique urban interests of Thunder Bay with the complex and unique interests of an equally important, but dramatically expanded, rural region composed of smaller communities; now therefore be it resolved that this Council urges the Federal Electoral Commission to withdraw its proposal to eliminate the Thunder Bay-Rainy River riding and replace it with the Kenora-Thunder Bay-Rainy River riding; and further that the Thunder Bay-Rainy River riding be kept geographically similar to its current boundaries within the Rainy River District and the Thunder Bay District, so as to protect the Township of Dawson representation and access to federal services.

BOUNDARY #22-72 SANDS & LAROCQUE & CARRIED that whereas, the proposed Electoral Boundary Commission has proposed to remove one electoral district from Northern Ontario; and whereas, the proposal to diminish Northern Ontario's voice in Parliament will have a detrimental effect on participatory democracy and regional development as the issues in Northern Ontario are significantly different than the issues facing the urban south; and whereas, the Federal Boundary Commission proposal to cut representation in the north is contrary to the 2017 electoral boundary changes for Ontario that recognized the need to add two seats to ensure fair participation for northern residents; and whereas, many of the existing ridings in Northern Ontario are already larger than many European countries, a situation that will only be worsened by the addition of massively new regions to service; and whereas, the proposed new super ridings will force municipalities to compete for a limited amount of riding funding which will further exacerbate inequities in the north; and whereas, Northern Ontario's population per riding is already much higher than many other rural and isolated regions in Canada's north; and whereas, any changes to electoral boundaries should be based on the principles of maintaining communities of interest within boundaries that are equitable in terms of population and geography; now therefore be it resolved that this Council calls on the Electoral Boundary Commission to maintain the electoral representation of Northern Ontario and ensure that any boundary changes are done in a manner that responds to regional and local need.

OTHER The Rd Supt reported on road work including grading operations, brushing on roads and drains, he reported on a recent meeting for a mutual agreement drain across a part of the SW1/4 Sec 3 Curran to tie into Branch 5 Gov't Rd Drain and cleanout of Branch 5. A work plan for the water system for the Dawson South Fire Station has been created and the Clerk-Treasurer is to provide the information to NOHFC in order to get final approval for the project. The on-site meeting for the petition drain improvements to the Brumwell Hanson drain was held on Sept 28th and field survey work has started on possible routes for the project. Council discussed the Economic Development Officer project while we still wait for financial reports on the past project and proposed costing the extension project (see motion #22-70). The Clerk-

Treasurer updated Council on various matters including the budget, the advance and regular poll dates for the upcoming municipal election, the recent fire meeting, receipt of letters from Rainy River First Nation advising that they are applying to turn certain lands in Dawson into reserve lands. Dawson once again received the FIR Award for being among the first 15 to file our FIR, a petition was received to improve the river access at the west end of Wilson Creek Road, the matter is to be investigated, a letter was received from V & M Murray requesting an update on improvements to protect against flooding on Main Street & Hanson Drive, the Clerk-Treasurer will advise that we are awaiting the land survey to ensure the location of the roadway in order to raise the road base. Work on the Blue garage addition has commenced and the contractor is awaiting delivery of the door. The CBO monthly report was circulated to council members.

ADJOURN #22-73 HARTNELL & JODOIN & CARRIED that the meeting be adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

_____ Mayor _____ Clerk