



MUNICIPALITY OF MORRIS-TURNBERRY

COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, November 19th, 2024, 7:30 pm

The Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry met in Council Chambers in regular session on the 19th day of November 2024, at 7:30 pm.

Council in Attendance

Mayor Jamie Heffer
Deputy Mayor Kevin Freiburger
Councillor Jamie McCallum
Councillor Jodi Snell
Councillor Sharen Zinn

Staff in Attendance

Trevor Hallam	CAO/Clerk
Kirk Livingston	Chief Building Official / Drainage Superintendent / Property Standards Officer / Zoning Administrator
Sean Brophy	Treasurer

Others in Attendance

Michel Terzian	Headway Engineering
Stephen Brickman	Headway Engineering
Paul Johnston	
Paul Gowing	
Jackie Gowing	
Alyssa Gowing	
Scott Stephenson	The Citizen
Rachel Hammermueller	Wingham Advance Times

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Heffer called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Mayor Heffer noted that Scott Stephenson and Rachel Hammermueller would be recording the meeting for the purpose of writing articles.

2.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion 255-2024

*Moved by Jamie McCallum
Seconded by Sharen Zinn*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby adopts the agenda for the meeting of November 19th, 2024, as circulated.

Carried.

3.0 DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST / POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

4.0 **MINUTES**

Motion 256-2024

*Moved by Jodi Snell
Seconded by Jamie McCallum*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby adopts the November 5th, 2024, Council Meeting Minutes as written.

Carried.

5.0 **ACCOUNTS**

Motion 257-2024

*Moved by Kevin Freiburger
Seconded by Jodi Snell*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby approves for payment the November 19th accounts in the amount of \$ 208,936.08.

Carried.

6.0 **PUBLIC MEETINGS AND DEPUTATIONS**

6.1 MEETING TO CONSIDER ENGINEER'S REPORT – MASSON MUNICIPAL DRAIN

6.1.1 Engineer's Report

A Notice of Request for Drain Construction was received August 24, 2023, for improved outlet to the Masson Municipal Drain at South Part Lot 26, Concession 3, former Morris Ward.

Notice of the meeting to consider the engineer's report was issued to landowners on November 5th, 2024.

Project Coordinator Michel Terzian, and Engineer Stephen Brickman were in attendance to present the Engineer's report to Council and those in attendance.

6.1.2 Questions and Comments

- Council
 - None.
- Landowners in attendance
 - Paul Johnston noted that he was involved as a landowner at the time of the report for the 1997 drain. He explained that he has no problem with the two existing tiles, as in high water only one seems to run water, leaving unused capacity in the other. He went on to provide context on the history of the drain, stating that at the time it was put in in 1997, the previous owner of South Part Lot 26 was asked if the twin tiles would be extended to their lot line for improved outland and they declined. He clarified that his concern is that the landowners paid for the improvement in 1997 and it has not reached its life expectancy. He stated that it is his opinion that the landowner that is asking for the improvement should pay the cost to reach the outlet.
 - Mr. Terzian reiterated that the twin tile does not reach the requesting landowner's property and the available outlet there is too shallow to provide sufficient outlet for subsurface drainage. To get that depth at least the south section needs to be replaced. An option to leave the existing drains in place and put the new drain in was reviewed during the design process. In order to get the current drainage coefficient of 1.5 inches an 18" tile would be required. The older drain is of unknown age and could need replacement or repair in the near future, requiring yet another replacement to provide sufficient capacity. Another option considered was to twin the 1997 drain with a 21" tile, however there would be similar risk with future maintenance and potential replacement of the existing tile.

- Mayor Heffer asked for clarification regarding the comment about one drain running water and one not. Mr. Terzian explained that the newer 1997 drain is installed higher than the older drain.
 - Alyssa Gowing raised concerns about the costs for construction and maintenance assessed to the farms owned by the Gowings. She requested that the catch basin at station 5533 be eliminated, and that the Gowing Branch be capped and reverted to a private drain. She asked that the acceptance of the report be deferred.
 - Mr. Terzian explained that this meeting is focused on design, and the court of revision is the time to deal with the distribution of costs. He went on to clarify that the proposed design does eliminate the catch basin at station 553 and replaces it with a junction box.
- Councillor Snell asked for clarification that the drain in 1997 didn't meet the standard of the day, and if the municipality is being asked to pay more towards this drain, when would that decision be made. Mr. Brickman confirmed that the allocation of costs is a matter for the Court of Revision.
- Mayor Heffer noted that his understanding was that the work done in 1997 as was requested by the landowners at the time. Mr. Terzian confirmed this, noting that in his opinion it seemed that the design was changed based on input from the landowners, and seemed to be based on what the landowners said they could afford. With regard to the depth, it seems to have only been installed for surface water and not subsurface water drainage.

6.1.3 Consideration of Provisional By-Law

Motion 258-2024

*Moved by Jamie McCallum
Seconded by Jodi Snell*

THAT leave be given to introduce By-Law # 54-2024, being a by-law to provisionally adopt the engineer's report for the Masson Municipal Drain 2024, and that it now be read a first and second time this 19th day of November 2024.

Carried.

6.1.4 Date of Court of Revision and instruction to Tender.

Motion 259-2024

*Moved by Jodi Snell
Seconded by Sharen Zinn*

THAT the Court of Revision for the Masson Municipal Drain 2024 be set for December 17th, 2024 at 7:30 pm and the project be tendered with results to be presented on February 4th, 2025, pending no appeals.

Carried.

6.1.5 Appointment of Members to the Court of Revision

Motion 260-2024

*Moved by Kevin Freiburger
Seconded by Jamie McCallum*

THAT the members of the Court of Revision for the Masson Municipal Drain 2024 shall be:

- 1 – Councillor Jodi Snell*
- 2 – Councillor Sharen Zinn*
- 3 – Councillor Jamie McCallum*

Carried.

7.0 STAFF REPORTS

7.1 BY- LAW ENFORCEMENT

7.1.1 By-Law Enforcement Activities – September and October 2024

A report was presented by CBO/By-Law Enforcement Officer Kirk Livingston regarding by-law enforcement activities for September and October.

Discussion followed on dog-related issues in Belgrave. Councillor McCallum raised concerns about dog bites and dogs running at large. Mr. Livingston acknowledged a recent incident, noting that while the municipality is addressing it, their actions are limited. He mentioned that staff are considering hiring a dog counter to reduce the number of unlicensed dogs. Councillor Zinn inquired about preventing dogs from running at large, to which Mr. Livingston explained that aside from education, fines are the municipality's main enforcement tool. Councillor Snell supported the idea of enforcing fines to demonstrate the municipality's commitment to addressing the issue.

7.2 BUILDING

7.2.1 Building Department Activities – September and October 2024

A report was presented by CBO/By-Law Enforcement Officer Kirk Livingston regarding building department activities for September and October.

Mr. Livingston gave an update to council on upcoming information sessions that he and the local chapter of the Ontario Building Officials Association will be hosting to educate contractors on changes to the building code.

8.0 BUSINESS

8.1 COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2025

A report was presented by CAO/Clerk Trevor Hallam in this regard.

Motion 261-2024

*Moved by Sharen Zinn
Seconded by Jamie McCallum*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby approves the proposed meeting date schedule for 2025 as presented.

Carried.

8.2 CONFERENCES 2024

A report was presented by CAO/Clerk Trevor Hallam in this regard.

Motion 262-2024

*Moved by Sharen Zinn
Seconded by Jodi Snell*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby approves the attendance of the following members of Council at the Conferences and events indicated:

- Councillor Snell – Rural Ontario Municipal Association*
- Councillor Zinn – Rural Ontario Municipal Association*
- Mayor Heffer - Rural Ontario Municipal Association*
- Councillor McCallum – Ontario Good Roads Association*
- Deputy Mayor Freiburger – Ontario Good Roads Association*

Carried.

8.3 FEES AND CHARGES 2025

A report was presented by CAO/Clerk Trevor Hallam in this regard.

Councilor Zinn noted a preference for keeping the minimum charge at the landfill at \$10, but was supportive of the increase from \$100 per tonne to \$120 per tonne.

Motion 263-2024

*Moved by Sharen Zinn
Seconded by Jamie McCallum*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby approves an increase to tipping fees at the Morris Landfill from \$100 per tonne to \$120 per tonne for 2025.

Carried.

Discussion followed regarding adjustments to the fees for curbside waste collection.

Motion 264-2024

*Moved by Jodi Snell
Seconded by Kevin Freiburger*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby approves a 10% reduction to curbside collection user fees for 2025.

Carried.

Mr. Hallam noted that since the report was written he had been informed that the increase to planning fees would be 2%. Councillor Snell expressed frustration with the further increases to the planning fee schedule.

Discussion followed regarding the implementation of a deposit for building permits to be returned to the permit holder upon completion of the final inspection.

Motion 265-2024

*Moved by Jamie McCallum
Seconded by Sharen Zinn*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby approves the implementation of a building permit deposit as recommended.

Carried.

Councillor McCallum asked for increased fees for unlicensed dogs or late licensing, and for additional dogs. Mr. Hallam offered to return a report to the next meeting of Council with options with regard to this.

8.4 BELGRAVE SIDEWALKS

Councillor Zinn requested a discussion regarding sidewalks in Belgrave. She explained that she has received complaints about the accessibility of the sidewalks in Belgrave, in particular a set of stairs at John Street. Councillor McCallum noted he had also received complaints regarding the stairs.

Council directed staff to return a preliminary report reviewing possible options for addressing the accessibility options to a future meeting.

9.0 **COUNCIL REPORTS**

Kevin Freiburger

November 11th attended the remembrance day ceremony in Brussels.

Jamie McCallum

November 18th, attended a meeting of the Belmore Arena Board.

Sharen Zinn

November 13th, attended a meeting of the Community Safety and Wellbeing Committee.

Jodi Snell

No report.

Jamie Heffer

November 11th, attended the remembrance day ceremony in Wingham.
November 16th, attended the official opening of the newly renovated Brussels Morris and Grey Community Centre.

10.0 CORRESPONDENCE, MINUTES, ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- 10.1 Project Update – Headway Engineering
- 10.2 Monthly Report – Belgrave Water October 2024
- 10.3 Outstanding Action Items

11.0 ITEMS FOR A FUTURE AGENDA

None.

12.0 BY-LAWS AND AGREEMENTS

None.

13.0 CLOSED SESSION

- 13.1 Enter closed session.

Motion 266-2024

*Moved by Jamie McCallum
Seconded by Jodi Snell*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry enter a closed session at 8:42 p.m., with the CAO/Clerk remaining in attendance, for the purpose of discussing confidential matters pursuant to the following sections of the Municipal Act:

- a) Section 239 (2) (b) regarding personal matters about an identifiable individual.*
- b) Section 239 (2) (k) regarding negotiations to be carried on by the municipality.*

Carried.

- 13.2 Return to open session.

Motion 267-2024

*Moved by Jamie McCallum
Seconded by Sharen Zinn*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry rise from a closed session at 8:57 p.m.

Carried.

- 13.3 Report and Action from Closed Session.

Council received a report regarding staff, Council, and Board remuneration, and reviewed correspondence regarding cross border servicing negotiations.

14.0 CONFIRMING BY-LAW

Motion 268-2024

*Moved by Jamie McCallum
Seconded by Kevin Freiburger*

THAT leave be given to introduce By-Law 55-2024, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry meeting of Council held on November 19th, 2024, and

that it now be read severally a first, second, and third time, and finally passed this 19th day of November 2024.

Carried.

15.0 ADJOURNMENT

Motion 269-2024

*Moved by Jamie McCallum
Seconded by Kevin Freiburger*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry does now adjourn at 8:58 pm.

Carried.

NEXT MEETINGS:

Regular Meeting of Council – Tuesday, December 3rd, 2024, 7:30 pm
Regular Meeting of Council – Tuesday, December 17th, 2024, 7:30 pm

Mayor, Jamie Heffer

Clerk, Trevor Hallam