

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF TAY  
PUBLIC MEETING OF MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**

**WARD BOUNDARY REVIEW**

**SEPTEMBER 24, 2009**

**7:00 P.M.**

**MUNICIPAL OFFICE COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
MINUTES**

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**PRESENT:** Mayor Scott Warnock  
Deputy Mayor Michael Ladouceur  
Councillor Axel Frandsen  
Councillor Bill Rawson  
Councillor Rick Black \*  
Councillor Nelson Baumgardner

**STAFF PRESENT:** Simone Latham, CAO/Deputy Clerk  
Alison Thomas, Clerk  
Nick Colucci, Director of Public Works  
Brian Thomas, Fire Chief

**REGRETS:** Councillor James Pearsall

\* arrived at 7:20 p.m.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**2. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION**

Mayor Warnock called for a moment of silent reflection.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

At this point, Mayor Warnock turned the meeting over to the Councillor Axel Frandsen, Chair of the General Government & Finance Committee.

The Chair advised that the purpose of this Public Meeting is to give the public opportunity to have input on the proposed Ward Boundary review and change options as outlined in the Preliminary Report tabled at Council on September 9, 2009.

The Chair reported that all persons present will be given the opportunity to ask questions and comment on the proposed options. This is the opportunity for Council to hear from residents who wish to express their comments and/or concerns on the proposed ward boundary change options. Everyone who wishes to speak and ask a question or comment will be given the opportunity.

The Chair noted that following this meeting, public comments may still be submitted in writing to the Clerk until 12:00 noon on Wednesday, September 30, 2009. Council will reconvene for a Special General Government & Finance Committee meeting on Wednesday, September 30, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. to have final consideration of the options and provide direction to staff.

The Chair inquired to the Clerk how notice of this meeting was posted.

**4. STATEMENT OF PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Clerk advised that notice of this public meeting was posted on the Township's website and presented as part of the Council Agenda Package on September 9, 2009. In addition, notice of this meeting was advertised in the Midland Mirror on Thursday, September 10 & 17, 2009.

**5. STATEMENT OF CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

The Chair inquired to the Clerk as to whether or not any correspondence has been received.

The Clerk advised that the following correspondence has been received:

5.1 Staff Report from the Clerk, dated September 9, 2009, re: Preliminary Report – Ward Boundary Review.

**6. PRESENTATION OF A REPORT BY TOWNSHIP STAFF**

6.1 Staff Report from the Clerk, re: Preliminary Report – Ward Boundary Review.

**7. QUESTION & CLARIFICATION PERIOD – PUBLIC**

The Chair inquired if there were any questions from the audience in regards to this matter.

None were received.

**8. SPEAKERS IN SUPPORT & OPPOSITION**

The Chair inquired if there were any speakers in support or opposition in regards to this matter.

None were received.

**9. QUESTION & CLARIFICATION PERIOD – COUNCIL**

The Chair inquired if there were any questions from Council in regards to this matter.

Councillor Black inquired as to what notice was given for the public meeting. The Clerk advised that notice of the meeting was posted on the Township's website and as well as advertised in the Midland Mirror on Thursday, September 10 & 17, 2009. In addition, Councillor Black expressed his concern with the lack of public interest in the review and questioned whether or not changes should be made if there is no public interest in the matter.

Councillor Rawson commented that he believes that the review time-period was unreasonable and not enough to ensure there is sufficient time for public comments to be generated, which are important to the process.

Deputy Mayor Ladouceur made note that he believes the existing system is fine and provides adequate representation.

Mayor Warnock inquired as what impact a change in the voting system may have on ward boundary and distribution of electors. The Clerk advised that it is anticipated that a report will be coming forward to the November COAC meeting regarding potential voting system. In addition, Mayor Warnock made note that in his opinion the existing system with multiple ward councillors provides electors with the flexibility to approach the councillor who they feel best represents their interests.

Councillor Baumgardner commented that he likes existing system.

Chair Frandsen expressed his concerns with retaining 2 votes in 2 wards and only 1 in Ward 3 due to the resulting influence not just during election but regularly during council votes. In addition, he noted that with the existing system, on occasion, as the Mayor and Deputy Mayor are elected at large, the problem of too much representation in one area may be compounded.

As there were no more comments, questions or items for clarification, Chair Frandsen turned the meeting over to the Mayor Warnock.

#### **10. FINAL STATEMENT BY THE MAYOR**

Mayor Warnock reminded all those present, that this will be the only public meeting respecting the proposed options before Council gives final consideration to the matter at the Special General Government to be held on Wednesday, September 30, 2009.

Mayor Warnock advised that Council will consider the Preliminary Report and all comments received at the Special General Government on September 30. You are invited to attend and listen to Council deliberations, it is an open meeting, but no further opportunity for public comments will be provided.

#### **11. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED BY: DEPUTY MAYOR MICHAEL LADOUCEUR**

**SECONDED BY: COUNCILLOR AXEL FRANSEN**

**THAT THIS PUBLIC MEETING OF COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 7:45 P.M.**

**CARRIED.**

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**MAYOR**

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**CLERK**