

The minutes of the regular meeting of Dawson Township Council, held on Wednesday March 1st 2023 at 7 pm in the Municipal Office.

PRESENT Mayor D Hartnell. Councillors: B Langner, L Kempf, C Larocque & B Sands.
Clerk-Treasurer: P W Giles. Road Supt/Fire Chief on vacation.

MINUTES #23-15 LANGNER & SANDS & CARRIED that the minutes of the regular meeting of Council and the in-camera minutes both held February 1st 2023, be approved as printed.

ACCOUNTS #23-16 LAROCQUE & KEMPF & CARRIED that the accounts in the amount of \$78,933.81 and representing disbursements for the month February 2023, be approved for payment.

LOCUM #23-17 SANDS & LANGNER & CARRIED that Council agrees that the necessary repairs to the Locum House should proceed to tenders. Council further agrees to share in these costs with 1/2 of the repair cost coming from reserve funds and Dawson will pay up to 1/3 of the remaining balance. Authorization is given to our representative to authorize acceptance of prices on the repairs as long as the costs are in line with the estimate. And further that a letter be sent to our two neighboring First Nations to invite their participation in the funding of the repairs.

BY-LAW 459 #23-18 LAROCQUE & LANGNER & CARRIED that By-law No 459, being the Tax Ratio and Tax Capping By-law, be enacted.

OTHER The Rd Supt is on vacation, the new employee for the roads department started today and was being given orientation. Council discussed the required repairs to the Locum House and alternative funding models for the repairs. Mayor Hartnell suggested that our communities reach out to our neighbouring First Nation communities to seek to co-operate on area issue of joint concern and he will discuss this with Rainy River & LOW Mayors. Councillor Langner reported on the 9.98% increase in the RRDSSA budget and the levy will be adjusted for a refund of a surplus. The Clerk-Treasurer updated Council on various matters including the OCIF allocation for 2023 of \$100,000.00, MNRFC fire rates increase, the new website is now operational, there was a deficit in POA for 2022 and \$162.62 was returned, the 2023 Court Security rebate is \$264.00. Council held extensive discussion on potential budget and tax rate increases for 2023 and beyond, with the increase alone from RRDSSAB the taxes will need to increase 3% to 4%. The Clerk-Treasurer is to prepare a report on revenue increases from a potential increase in the minimum tax billing amount. The engineer for the Campbell Drain has not yet submitted a report that was due by Dec 15 2022. The sharing ratio for commercial taxes in 2023 is 80.761% public and 19.239% separate.

ADJOURN #23-19 LANGNER & SANDS & CARRIED that the meeting be adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

_____ Mayor _____ Clerk