

Calvin Meeting Minutes Inaugural Council Meeting November 15, 2022 - 07:00 PM

Council Chambers

Attendance:

Council: Mayor Gould

Councillor Adams Councillor Grant Councillor Latimer

Others: Councillor Elect Moreton (Electronically)

Elections Clerk

Staff: Jacob Grove, Municipal Administrator

Peggy Young-Lovelace, Interim Municipal Clerk

Members of the Public

1 Call To Order

The Elections Clerk, Barbara Major called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M..

2 Declarations of Elected Office

MAYOR

Richard Gould

COUNCILLORS

- Debra Adams
- William Moreton

- Dean Grant
- Robert (Kim) Latimer

Councillor Elect Moreton attended the meeting electronically (Zoom). The Election Clerk declared that Councillor Elect Moreton could not be sworn in as a Councillor because those in attendance were unable to see him.

3 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None were disclosed.

4 Comments By Incoming Mayor Richard Gould

Comments as provided by Mayor Gould:

Good evening. It is wonderful to see you all here tonight and I would like to thank Jacob Grove, Penny Young Lovelace and Barbara Major for organizing this evening. I would also like to thank the previous council for their contributions. Although we may not have shared the same philosophy, I know in my heart, that their efforts were based on a desire to serve the community.

We now have an entirely new council and we all have much to learn, but I know that these new council members are also here because of an honest desire to serve and to leave Calvin a better place. Moving forward we have many challenges to face, but make no mistake, we have an excellent council. Debbie Adams will not tolerate any nonsense and she will be quick to make sure council is not fooled by those pretending to have good intentions. Bill Moreton will be the calming voice and will keep us on balance. Dean Grant will be the voice of idealism and will push us forward. And Robert Latimer will be the realist making sure we avoid hasty and ill-thought-out policies. Together this council has the expertise and skill to take control of the township.

This entire council has been given a clear mandate. In the recent elections across Ontario, the average voter turnout was 36%, but in Calvin it was over 54%. This should tell everyone here that there are expectations. We have an obligation to answer to the citizens who have shown us their confidence and their support.

It would be easy to fall into the old habits of poor communication and keeping things status quo. But most of the newly elected councillors have stated that they would work toward inperson meetings, public involvement better communication. If we don't do this, we will not fix the division, anger and hatred that has become all too common in Calvin.

Some have suggested that social media is the creator of hatred and division. I don't believe this to be true. I believe hatred is a human condition that comes from people feeling isolated, disenfranchised, and alienated. And this often comes from lack of communication. It's true that social media allows hatred to be spread more easily, but hatred can be spread putting letters into people's mailboxes, by making disparaging comments out in public, or even flipping the bird to people as they pass or drive by in vehicles. My beloved Granny, born and raised in Belfast, Ireland told me how destructive this tribalism and hatred for one or another group can be. All of this must stop. Inuendo, accusation and revenge must be a thing of the past. Social media is a place to tell people about a missing dog, a community event, or a road hazard. Mail is for greeting cards and sharing information. And a hand gesture is for waving hello to a neighbour as they pass. I have no doubt that one day I will see on social media a caricature of a fuddy duddy mayor with the label mayor Gouldfinger and that is alright, as long as it is not done in hatred. In the new year I hope to set up office hours in the township office to meet members of the public and hear their concerns. There may be people who will not like the

decisions of council, but in advance we will always be willing to listen with an open ear. However, if someone comes to me with hatred in their heart looking for revenge or retribution, they will find that I am not sympathetic.

We have a great staff to work with. Our roads have always been top notch and our fire department is staffed by hard working and dedicated volunteers. And finally, our admin department and public works have been working very hard given the turmoil and disruption they have faced. We applaud all the efforts of staff.

We all must learn to work together, so that we can face new challenges of the future. The deteriorating hydro electric delivery systems, global warming and the changes being introduced by the federal and provincial governments, poor internet and cell phone coverage, a lack of commercial services, increased costs of downloaded government programs, and even Cassellholme are all items we will have to deal with. I would hope that before the end of this year, as we work on uniting the township, all members of council will work on a council term plan. Early in the new year we will come up with a long-term plan of what we hope to accomplish. In the coming weeks, I ask each councillor to create a list of some of the things they want to see happen during their term in office. We will then have an open meeting with the public to gain input. And then we will move forward.

Finally, I want to repeat something one of our constituents said to me. I was speaking with Ted Myers and he told me he supported the idea of bringing an end to the division in the township. He suggested that if we really want to be successful at ending hatred and vengeance, we have to make decisions just 18 inches away from our heads – we have to start making decisions also based on our hearts.

So, lets work heart and soul, with openness and dedication and make this a memorable four-year term. Thank you for your involvement.

5 Approval of Agenda

Resolution No: 2022-355 Moved By: Councillor Latimer Seconded By: Councillor Grant

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

"Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of Calvin hereby adopts the Agenda as presented."

CARRIED

6 Appointment of Deputy Mayor

Resolution No: 2022-356
Moved By: Councillor Grant
Seconded By: Councillor Latimer

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

"Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of Calvin hereby appoints Debra Adams as Deputy Mayor for the Municipality of Calvin, for the term of Council, to act in place of the Mayor/Head of Council, to preside at meetings when the Mayor/Head of Council is absent or refuses to act or the office is vacant, and shall have all of the powers and duties of the Mayor/Head of Council."

CARRIED

7 **Appointment of Council Members to Committees**

Resolution No: 2022-357 Moved By: Councillor Adams Seconded By: Councillor Grant

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES BE APPROVED FOR THE TERM OF

COUNCIL OR UNTIL SUCH TIME AS COUNCIL MAKES ANOTHER APPOINTMENT: East Nipissing Planning Board (2 appointees): Mayor Gould and Councillor Grant;

North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority and Source Protection Authority: Councillor (1

appointee) Councillor Moreton;

Voyageur Multi-Use Trail System Authority (1 appointee): Councillor Adams;

Committee of Adjustment: Mayor Gould, Councillors Adams, Moreton, Grant and Latimer.

CARRIED

8 **Confirmatory Bylaw**

Resolution No: 2022-358 Moved By: Councillor Adams Seconded By: Councillor Grant

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

"Bylaw 2022-067 being a By-Law to confirm the proceedings of Council, its Inaugural Meeting of November 15, 2022 be read and adopted."

CARRIED

9 Adjournment

Resolution No: 2022-359 Moved By: Councillor Latimer Seconded By: Councillor Adams

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

"The Inaugural Council Meeting of November 15, 2022, be adjourned at 7:33 P.M.."

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			CARRIE
9.1	Social to follow		
Mayor		Municipal Clerk	