

TOWNSHIP OF KERNS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of JULY 2ND, 2024
Held at the Kerns Community Hall

Present: **Reeve:** Terry Phillips
 Councillors: Loren Runnalls
 Dennis Jibb
 Mark Lenover
 Carter Seymour
 Staff: Krystle Seymour, Clerk-Treasurer
 Others: William Colucci – EDF Renewables
 Toby Shepherd – EDF Renewables
Regrets: Guy Godmaire, Road Superintendent

1. Call Meeting to Order & Adoption of Agenda

2024-089 **Moved:** Mark Lenover **Seconded:** Dennis Jibb
That we, the Council of the Township of Kerns do hereby, open the Regular Meeting of Council of July 2nd, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.
“CARRIED”

2024-090 **Moved:** Loren Runnalls **Seconded:** Carter Seymour
That we, the Council of the Township of Kerns do hereby, accept the agenda as presented.
“CARRIED”

2. Adoption of Minutes

a. Regular Meeting of June 4th, 2024

2024-091 **Moved:** Dennis Jibb **Seconded:** Mark Lenover
That we, the Council of the Township of Kerns do hereby, adopt the following minutes:
 a. Regular Meeting of June 4th, 2024 as presented.
“CARRIED”

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None

4. Delegations:

a. William Colucci – EDF Renewables – Project Developer

William Colucci provided Kerns Township Council with an overview of their proposal for a wind turbine project in Kerns Township. EDF is a large renewable energy company that deals with wind, solar and battery storage energy projects. They have been developing in Canada for over fifteen (15) years. Their company is committed to ensure projects are done safely and they have a control centre which monitors and can control all EDF assets at all times. Their safety measures also defend against cyber attacks.

The provincial government sees a need for Ontario to have more renewable energy sources and is accepting project proposals in the near future.

EDF is proposing a wind turbine project in Kerns Township that would produce approximately 150 mega watts (mw). A project of this size would produce about 200 jobs during construction and would include some ongoing maintenance jobs. EDF offers the host community compensation of roughly \$1000/mw as well as community funds which

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are also set up on a per mw basis to put money back into the local community. In some cases, a community group is formed to direct these funds so that tangible benefits are seen by the community. These funds may be used for recreation facilities, scholarships etc. There are many provincial regulations that need to be met before proceeding such as wind tests, environmental surveys, landowner discussions, public consultations, etc.

Council was then given the opportunity to ask questions.

Questions/Answers:

Q: What is the life expectancy of the project?

A: A typical project will last for twenty (20) years, at which time the host community can renew or not. If not renewed, all land is returned to pre-existing condition as written in the contracts with individual landowners. To ensure compliance, EDF can set aside funds for rehabilitation in the form of a bond should the company dissolve during the contract.

Q: Has EDF ever decommissioned sites before?

A: Yes, EDF is just now seeing the first project site being decommissioned.

Q: What are the transmission capabilities in our area right now?

A: 150mw available in our area, which may increase.

Q: How does battery storage work?

A: Batteries are stored in sea containers, but the project proposal for Kerns Twp does not include battery storage.

Q: Areas such as Chatham have been used before because wind data results were favorable there. What sort of wind conditions are in Kerns?

A: Preliminary data shows the wind here is good also but further testing would be done by the installation of a tower to measure that.

Q: How do the agreements between landowners and farmers work?

A: Agreements are between EDF and the landowner exclusively. The contract would state a monetary compensation for the use of a small piece of land to host a wind turbine. A larger footprint of land would be used during construction, but once completed, the overall footprint used to host a turbine would be small. Landowner contracts would still be in place and payment would continue even if issues arise with a particular turbine that is found to be faulty. Contracts are registered on title of the land, so if land is sold the contract remains with the parcel of land. The contracts would be written in such a way that EDF has no say in who or when land may be sold. EDF has approached several locals already and the feeling is generally supportive.

Q: Where is the energy transferred to?

A: The energy produced would be transferred to equipment in Dymond.

Q: What sort of public input is required?

A: EDF would host several open houses for the public before moving forward.

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Q: What size are the turbines and how are they installed?

A: The typical height is 80m plus the turbine. (an additional 20m) and cranes are used for the installation.

Q: Have you ever done a project in a small community such as Kerns?

A: EDF has done projects in communities with as low as 6,000 people.

Q: There were many discussions around noise from turbines when wind energy was first tried. How or has that changed?

A: Noise from the wind turbines back in 2014 & 2015 was a large problem. Ontario now has some of the most stringent noise rules. Turbines cannot produce more than 40 decibels on the outside wall of any building near it. This is less than a typical refrigerator. Noise testing would be done, and corrective measures would be implemented as required.

Q: How flexible are the community funds? Can they be used for aging infrastructure such as roads?

A: The funds are very flexible and could be used for paving roads etc.

In order to move forward, EDF needs a letter of resolution from council in support of the project.

2024-092 **Moved: Mark Lenover** **Seconded: Dennis Jibb**

That we, the Council of the Township of Kerns do hereby, acknowledge presentation by William Colucci, Project Developer from EDF Renewables regarding a proposed wind turbine project.
“CARRIED”

5. Payment of Accounts – Voucher No. 2024-06

2024-093 **Moved: Dennis Jibb** **Seconded: Mark Lenover**

That we, the Council of the Township of Kerns, do hereby, approve the payment of accounts as presented:

Roads	\$81,049.33
Fire	\$1,800.92
Admin	<u>\$79,062.82</u>
Total Voucher 2024-06	\$161,913.07

“CARRIED”

6. Reports from Staff & Others

a. Road’s Department Report

The Road report stated that the McCool Road washout has been repaired and the road is now re-opened. Roadside grass cutting has also been completed and Miller is done crushing in the Pit. The Clerk-Treasurer also notified council that the claim of the McCool Road washout has been submitted to the Ministry for approval under the MDRA program and we are currently awaiting their decision on our claim.

b. Fire’s Department Report

The Fire Chief reports that there were no calls in the month of June.

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c. Others

- i. **Eco-Logix's Landfill Report – May 2024**
- ii. **Earlton-Timiskaming Airport – March 7th, 2024**
- iii. **Porcupine Health Unit-Timiskaming Health Unit – Merger
Community Update June 2024**
- iv. **Timiskaming Health Unit – Minutes May 1st, 2024**
- v. **TMSA-Board Minutes – March 15th, 2024**
- vi. **Treasurer's Report – June 2024**

2024-094 **Moved: Loren Runnalls Seconded: Carter Seymour**
That we, the Council of the Township of Kerns do hereby, acknowledge receipt and accept the following reports/minutes, and that it be filed along with the minutes of the regular meeting:

- a. Road's Department Report
- b. Fire's Department Report
- c. Others
 - i. Eco-Logix's Landfill Report – May 2024
 - ii. Earlton-Timiskaming Airport – March 7th, 2024
 - iii. Porcupine Health Unit-Timiskaming Health Unit – Merger
Community Update June 2024
 - iv. Timiskaming Health Unit – Minutes May 1st, 2024
 - v. TMSA-Board Minutes – March 15th, 2024
 - vi. Treasurer's Report – June 2024

“CARRIED”

7. Correspondence for Council's Consideration:

a. Municipality of Tweed – OPP Costs

2024-095 **Moved: Dennis Jibb Seconded: Mark Lenover**
That we, the Council of the Township of Kerns do hereby, support the Municipality of Tweed's resolution calling on the Province of Ontario to immediately implement sustainable funding for small rural municipalities by reabsorbing the cost of the Ontario Provincial Police Force back into the provincial budget with no cost recovery to municipalities; and

Direct municipal staff to issue a copy of this resolution to the Municipality of Tweed.

“CARRIED”

b. Township of Loyalist – Public Health Ontario Labs

2024-096 **Moved: Loren Runnalls Seconded: Carter Seymour**
That we, the Council of the Township of Kerns do hereby, support the Township of Loyalist's resolution regarding Public Health Ontario Labs, urging the Provincial government to take caution against acting on the recommendations stated in the aforementioned audit report; and

Direct municipal staff to issue a copy of this resolution to Loyalist Township.

“CARRIED”

**c. Memo 24-010 – Timiskaming District Search and Rescue Team –
Request for Letter of Support**

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2024-097 **Moved: Carter Seymour** **Seconded: Loren Runnalls**
That we, the Council of the Township of Kerns do hereby, support the Timiskaming District Search and Rescue Team's application to the Ontario Search and Rescue Volunteer Association (OSARVA) to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of search and rescue efforts in our district; and

Direct municipal staff to prepare and send a letter of support to the Timiskaming District Search and Rescue Team.
"CARRIED"

8. Correspondence for Council's Information:

None

9. Other Business:

a. Community Risk Assessment – Draft for Council's Review

2024-098 **Moved: Mark Lenover** **Seconded: Dennis Jibb**
That we, the Council for the Township of Kerns do hereby, acknowledge receipt of the Township of Kerns's Community Risk Assessment as provided by the Kerns Fire Department; and

Do hereby adopt the Community Risk Assessment to meet the requirements of Ontario Regulation 378/18.
"CARRIED"

b. Memo 24-009 – Fuel Tender Joint RFQ

2024-099 **Moved: Mark Lenover** **Seconded: Dennis Jibb**
That we, the Council for the Township of Kerns do hereby, acknowledge receipt of Memo-24-009; and

Agree to release a joint fuel tender pending support from the Townships of Hudson, Harley and Casey.
"CARRIED"

10. By-Laws

a. By-Law 2024-10 Being a by-law to authorize the execution of an agreement with other municipalities for the cost sharing sum for the joint operation and maintenance of a fire department communication system
[three readings]

2024-100 **Moved: Loren Runnalls** **Seconded: Carter Seymour**
That **By-Law 2024-10**, being a by-law to authorize the execution of an agreement with other municipalities for the cost sharing sum for the joint operation and maintenance of a fire department communication system, be received and read a first and second time.
"CARRIED"

2024-101 **Moved: Dennis Jibb** **Seconded: Mark Lenover**
That **By-Law 2024-10**, being a by-law to authorize the execution of an agreement with other municipalities for the cost sharing sum for the joint

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operation and maintenance of a fire department communication system, be received and read a third time and hereby engrossed in the By-Law book.
“CARRIED”

- b. By-Law 2024-11** Being a by-law to authorize an agreement for the transfer of federal gas tax revenues under the Canada Community-Building Fund with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario
[three readings]

2024-102 **Moved: Carter Seymour** **Seconded: Loren Runnalls**
That **By-Law 2024-11**, being a by-law to authorize an agreement for the transfer of federal gas tax revenues under the Canada Community-Building Fund with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, be received and read a first and second time.
“CARRIED”


2024-103 **Moved: Mark Lenover** **Seconded: Dennis Jibb**
That **By-Law 2024-11**, being a by-law to authorize an agreement for the transfer of federal gas tax revenues under the Canada Community-Building Fund with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, be received and read a third time and hereby engrossed in the By-Law book.
“CARRIED”

11. Resolution to Move to Closed Session:

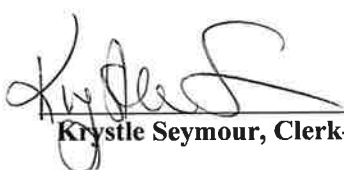
None

12. Adjournment:

2024-104 **Moved: Mark Lenover** **Seconded: Dennis Jibb**
That we, the Council of the Township of Kerns do hereby adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:00 pm and will meet again on August 6th, 2024 or at the call of the Reeve.
“CARRIED”



Terry Phillips, Reeve



Krystle Seymour, Clerk-Treasurer