

January 7, 2009

Special Meeting

6:30 PM

The Council for the Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards met on the above date with Councillors Isabel O'Reilly, Kathy Marion, Ernie Cybulski, Stanley Pecoskie, Carl Kuehl and Debbie Peplinskie present. Mayor Janice Visneskie chaired the meeting, which she opened and called to order.

Pecuniary/Financial Interest: None declared by any of the council members present.

Purpose of Meeting: To review notices of applications for re-zoning and Official Plan Amendments from Madawaska Valley Township and Brudenell, Lyndoch & Raglan Townships, and to review correspondence received by the municipality relating to wind energy farms.

Several members of the public were in attendance at the meeting and were welcomed by Mayor Visneskie. She explained that she had visited wind farms in Shelburne and Sault Ste. Marie, and has reported back to council on this issue. She advised that Council is currently in the process of reviewing the township's by-law for issuing permits to move heavy loads on municipal roadways. Although the township has not been made aware of wind energy proposals for Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards, municipal roadways could still be used as haul routes to other municipalities where they are being installed. Council reviewed the applications for re-zoning and Official Plan amendments that had been received from Madawaska Valley Township and Brudenell, Lyndoch & Raglan Township.

Correspondence was reviewed and filed as follows:

SOS: Copy of Draft Green Energy Act

SOS: Copy of Resolution by Township of Dawn-Euphemia asking for a moratorium on wind farms

Township of Bonnechere Valley: Resolution asking for moratorium on all proposed wind turbine projects currently being considered until Ministry of Health, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Tourism and Ministry of Economic Development have time to review new medical, economic and environmental studies and undertake additional studies or reviews that are necessary to create realistic guidelines relating to health and economic impacts for those living in proximity to industrial wind turbine developments.

M.L. Anderson: Copy of correspondence from Shelburne property owner to Minister of Environment, outlining the detrimental effects of wind farms on their health and property.

M.L. Anderson: Information relating to what other Ontario Rural Municipalities are doing regarding the wind turbine issue.

Several members of the public expressed concerns regarding the impact from wind farms on health and safety, property values, tourism, the local economy and the local road system. SOS representatives at the meeting indicated that their organization has collected over 400 signatures on a petition objecting to the approval of wind farms in Renfrew County until provincial and municipal governments review the impact and ramifications of these projects. Council members expressed concern relating to the financial stability and sustainability of the wind farm projects, and how this could impact municipalities and private property owners at a later date, once government funding and financial incentive programs have been discontinued. Council took a short break, then reconvened with the same members present.

Moved by: Debbie Peplinskie

Seconded By: Carl Kuehl

THAT WHEREAS the Council for the Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards has concerns about issues relating to adverse effects on health, economic losses to tourism and to the devaluation of the private property in proximity to wind farms;

AND WHEREAS issues relating to the location of wind farms in areas that have been used traditionally for agricultural, residential and recreational purposes have not been addressed by the Province of Ontario;

AND WHEREAS there have not been adequate studies or reviews completed that would address the health, environmental, economic and other concerns that have been expressed by concerned residents and ratepayers;

AND WHEREAS there has not been satisfactory disclosure of the responsibilities that could vest with municipalities and private property owners should the wind farms fail;

AND WHEREAS municipalities and private property owners could incur exorbitant costs relating to the construction and future maintenance of the wind farms and road accesses to them;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards requests that the Province of Ontario impose a ten-year moratorium on all industrial wind turbine projects currently being considered until such time as the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Economic Development, and Ministry of Tourism have adequate time to review new medical, economic and environmental studies relating to industrial wind turbine development and undertake any additional studies or reviews necessary to create realistic guidelines to assure the health and economic well-being of those living in proximity to industrial wind turbine developments.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT local municipalities retain the authority to control and direct industrial wind turbine development in their individual municipalities.

Recorded Vote Requested by Councillor Marion:

- Councillor Marion – yes
- Councillor O’Reilly – yes
- Councillor Pecoskie – yes
- Councillor Peplinskie – yes
- Mayor Visneskie – yes
- Councillor Cybulski – yes
- Councillor Kuehl - yes

Carried X

Not Carried

Council instructed the CAO/Clerk-Treasurer to send a copy of the resolution to the Township of Madawaska Valley, the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch & Raglan, Minister of Environment, Minister of Health, Minister of Economic Development, Minister of Tourism, MPP John Yakabuski, MP Cheryl Gallant, Health Canada and all municipalities in Renfrew County.

Moved by Stanley Pecoskie
Seconded by Isabel O’Reilly

That this meeting adjourn. Carried.

Mayor

CAO/Clerk-Treasurer