

BAYFIELD RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEETING 2023

Bayfield Arena, Saturday August 5, 2023

Call to Order: The President, Don Schafheitlin, called the meeting to order at 10.05h with 27 members and Councillor Bill Whetstone in attendance.

Don introduced the Directors who were present: Ian Matthew, Anette Christensen Kalm, Bob Campbell, Godfrey Heathcote, Dave MacLaren and Robin Glenny. Regrets had been received from Brian King and John van Ogtrop.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda had been pre-circulated. A motion to approve was made by Anette, seconded by Ian; *Carried*

Approval of Minutes of the Annual Meeting 2022: The Minutes had been pre-circulated. A motion to approve was made by Lawrence Elliot, seconded by Michael Fredericks; *Carried*

Financial Report: Ian presented the Financial Report for the year ended June 30, 2023:

Income: Membership dues.....	\$907.00
Disbursements.....	\$917.08
Closing balance.....	\$2,858.54

A motion to approve the Financial Report was made by Roger Lewington, seconded by Richard Pierce; *Carried*

Approval of By-Law Amendments: Don reviewed the proposed amendments, which had been pre-circulated. A motion to approve was made by Bob, seconded by Anette; *Carried*

New BRA Website: Anette reviewed the important features of the new website, including Minutes of meetings, a section for questions, renewal of membership and e-transfer capability.

Election of Directors: Don thanked the Directors for their service over the past year and named the three Directors who were stepping down from the Board at this Annual Meeting, Dave MacLaren, Bob Campbell and Ian Matthew. Special thanks were given to Dave who had served the BRA for over 20 years.

Pat Heffernan had previously indicated a willingness to join the Board and, after a call for volunteers, Denise Rishworth offered to become a member.

Don Schafheitlin made the following resolution:

WHEREAS all actions by Officers and Directors from July 1, 2023 to June 2023 have been duly presented to the Members as Member of the meeting duly called and assembled, be it:

RESOLVED that the Members of the Bayfield Ratepayers Association hereby ratify all actions of the Officers and Directors as presented to the Members.

Moved by Lawrence Elliot, seconded by Denise Rishworth; *Carried*

The new Board was approved by acclamation.

Bedrock Proposal: Dave reviewed some of the background information relating to the construction of a Compressed Air Energy Storage facility in Stanley East. It comprises two sites, one at Mill Road and Goshen Line and the other 10 Km further south towards Zurich, connected by a buried pipeline through an industrial facility comprising 8 concrete silos and a 130-acre pad. The sites will utilise underground caverns in porous rock that have been previously used for natural gas storage. (A similar but much smaller facility has been in use in Goderich since 2019 but the compressed air is stored in a disused salt mine.) An environmental assessment is under way but the land where the concrete pad sits has been repurposed through a Ministerial Zoning Order from agricultural to industrial and the owner of that land has agreed to lease the land to Bedrock. It is understood that the facility will cost ~\$1 billion to build and will take four years.

Bill Whetstone commented that he was uncertain if the proposal was a 'done deal' but if Bluewater Council has no choice but to approve the proposal, Council would attempt to get the best financial agreement for the municipality. Not all the lease agreements required for construction of the pipeline are in place.

Councillor Update:

Short-term Rentals: As of August 4, there have been 147 applications for licences in Bluewater (incl. new ones), with 70 in Bayfield. The application deadline for Bayfield was July 4 and any application received after that date will be treated as a new one. Software needs to be purchased to keep track of the new process and a budget for this has been approved; the cost will be covered by the licence fees. The database, once established, will be the property of Bluewater.

Don indicated that BRA will send a letter to Council in support of the software purchase.

Secondary Plan: The plan was passed in February and will now be merged with the official plan. Open houses will be held for further comment, the first on August 25 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. in Bayfield Library. A final meeting will be held on October 2, by which date the new by-laws should be available.

Heritage District: Re-writing of the Heritage District Plan has been approved and consultants have been approached to evaluate potential expansion.

Recreation Plan: A consultant has been hired through a grant to work on a uniform approach to recreational facilities throughout the municipality.

Other Business: Bill Whetstone commented on the low attendance at the meeting and the need for new members to enhance the value of BRA. He will provide a reminder to those residents' who attend Councillor's Corner.

Lawrence Elliot asked people to commit to bringing in new members, either by knocking on the doors or through volunteer groups. Justyne Chojnacka volunteered to hand out BRA pamphlets when she sells Lions Club calendars in the Fall.

Motion to adjourn: Moved by Dave, seconded by Ian; *Carried*. The meeting closed at 11.05h.