

The Corporation of the Township of Gillies

Minutes of the special meeting of the Gillies Council of the 2006/2010 term held on April 7, 2009 at 7 PM at the Gillies Municipal Office.

Present:	Reeve -	Rick Kieri
	Councillors -	Rudy Buitenhuis
		William Groenheide
		David Smelow
		Linda Turk
	Administration -	Karen Caren, Clerk/Treasurer
	Visitor -	John Rafferty, MP, Thunder Bay-Rainy River

1. Call to Order

Resolution 09/77:

Moved by David Smelow

Seconded by William Groenheide

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the special meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Gillies, called by Council for the purposes of discussing municipal and federal issues with John Rafferty, MP, Thunder Bay-Rainy River and the preliminary draft budget for 2009, be called to order at 7 PM.

CARRIED

2. Discussion with John Rafferty, MP – Municipal/Federal Issues

Mr. Rafferty provided an update as to what has been happening with the federal government since the election on October 14, 2008.

He indicated that he currently has 4 offices; Thunder Bay, Atikokan, Fort Frances and Ottawa. The one in Ottawa is slated for closure this summer.

He is currently the NDP critic for forestry, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) and International Projects.

He has held many Town Hall meetings, where funding for small infrastructure projects has been identified as a priority in the communities within his riding. Federal funding for infrastructure projects has been geared toward larger infrastructure projects to which municipalities must contribute a 1/3 share of the cost of the project, often which they cannot afford. Council added that often the funding programs require municipalities to perform extensive studies prior to applying for the funding; the cost of the studies which often exceeds the cost or benefit of the funding being applied for.

Council voiced a need for sustainable federal funding programs, such as the Federal Gas Tax Program.

Council indicated their concerns about securing infrastructure money for a proposed new municipal office and fire hall that can house the larger fire trucks. They also indicated a concern about the restricted access to the Hymers Museum due to the realignment of the bridge at the Whitefish River. Mr. Rafferty invited council to submit a letter to him indicating their concerns of these issues so that he would be able to act upon them on behalf of council.

Other topics discussed were the gun registry and the future of FedNor.

3. Preliminary 2009 Budget Review – Draft

The Clerk-Treasurer reviewed the preliminary 2009 Budget figures with council. Council will have a further discussion of the Budget at the regular council meeting being held on April 14, 2009.

4. Adjournment

Resolution 09/78:

Moved by Rudy Buitenhuis

Seconded by Linda Turk

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the time being 9:05 PM, we do now adjourn the special meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Gillies.

CARRIED

Reeve _____

Clerk _____