

Organized Hamlet of Lone Rock

Board Meeting

Feb 12, 2024

7:00pm

Attendance: Lloyd Ludwig, Donna Woods, Tracy Kashuba, Terry Kashuba

1. Call to Order Welcome & Introductions:

Meeting commenced 7:02PM

2. Opening Remarks from the Chairman:

Oct 13, 2024 Hamlet Board meeting Minutes are adopted as filed
Unanimously adopted

Oct, 20, 2024 AGM Minutes are adopted as filed
Unanimously adopted

Hearing with SMB scheduled for April 28, 2025 the OHB has filed its submission which was accepted by the SMB and we are now waiting to receive the RM submission due Feb 14, 2025 after which we have option for a final reply. Minister of Government relations has informed opposition critic in committee that they are awaiting the outcome of RCMP investigation and the SMB hearing before making determinative decisions. The Crown has recommended a forensic audit of the RM which has been forwarded to both Minister of Justice and Minister of Government Relations. The Ombudsman's office is still reviewing as due to recent events that an email was forwarded from the RM of Wilton purporting to remove hamlet board members. Government Relations Advisory Services advised to ignore as only the Minister has the power to remove hamlet board members and any bylaw that contradicts that authority would be a violation of section 11 of the Municipalities Act which renders it automatically invalid. Ministers Legal advisor is reviewing but has confirmed advisory services advice. The Ministers office indicated if the RM has issues with the hamlet board they have the Municipalities Act 77, 392 SMB process the RM can proceed through which they would be aware of. This raises a number of agreements as per the legislation that the OHB need to consent to or they are illegal. An email has gone out reminding the RM of those legislated obligation and a request for the mandatory meeting dates no response from the RM has been received to date. Federal Minister of Public Safety and the Provincial counterpart have been in contact as well as Federal & provincial Ministers of Justice as to the issues. RCMP Commander for Canada has responded and has advised that the RCMP will undertake all the Civilian Review recommendations... Deputy Commander Blackmore has been updated as to the situation. Any residents that have made payments for utility billing they did not receive or was shut down can either submit them to the RCMP or can forward them to the OHB for submission on their behalf to the RCMP also anyone who also paid the base tax on

any of the previous year's taxes can also submit the same as it was to be approved by the OHB which was not done. The Crown is looking into prosecutions and enforcement fines for transparency failures, under Municipalities Act 114.1 violations ... Federal Minister of Intergovernmental affairs has reached out to the new Provincial Minister of Public Safety. The ongoing atrocity in Lone Rock has been brought up in Legislative session as well as committee and in questions raised to the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign. Incorporation of Organized Hamlets similar to Northern hamlets has been raised in committee which will be further addressed as a PARCS recommendation at next session they have asked for complete details of all the Lone Rock issues which is in progress. We have forwarded to them the Public Conduct Policy Bylaw 03-2024 for review.

New business:

- a. Review of RM minutes & financials which don't coincide Taxpayer federation has reviewed the financials and are still reviewing they have provided a update to their "Weird things Report". There is ongoing issue with RM of Wilton's Minutes & financials on their website there is question as to the validity as they are not the certified minutes. Gov relations have forwarded a report on public accounts which are supposed to be available for viewing at all RM offices which are more in depth than the financial statements.
- b. Any refusal under Municipalities Act 117 can be proceeded on with a MA 114.1 complaint to the RCMP. The Ombudsman is already reviewing those issues as it will be a focus of Transparency for her 2024 year last contact she was doing recommendation report.. OHB has been advised to proceed under presumption that the RM of Wilton actions were illegal.
- c. Karen Crawford the Organized Hamlet of Lone Rock 77 Appeal Board nominee has been updated on changes to the Legislation which removes the local board requirement as matter go straight to SMB without the extra time or steps. She has been asked to be on the roster for the public inquiry panel as well as the Civilian Review board which she has agreed to both.
- d. Metis nation has again reached out they are moving to Fed Gov to grant full self-government and recognition of lands owed. Minister of Government relations has met with them regarding concerns and how the new legislation on consultation will assist regarding Lone Rock as it has heritage attributes provincial & federal governments as SK has restructured consultation requirements. They have indicated they will help any way they can as its part of reconciliation.
- e. Tax exemptions have again been completed & they have been excluded as shown in the budget. There is no reason as indicated by the SMB that these properties would be excluded. We have also included this with the Appeal Board roster. Another issue has been brought up by counsel as there are thousands of dollars missing from hamlet account as each time a property is taken through tax arrears the taxes & fees are supposed to go into the Hamlet Account as well as each property acquired by the RMs taxes. This was raised with provincial auditor

and Government Relations they are reviewing. It has also been forwarded to RCMP as it falls under mismanagement of funds MA 114.1(1).

- f. The 2024 Organized Hamlet of Lone Rock special levy has added another \$89,642 to the OH account for the 2024 year. The RM of Wilton is not providing their audited financials as per the OH operations. Counsel has advised that any of the funds that were not in our budget & used as per the legislation were legislation violations. RM Counsel has agreed there were some legislative violations by the RM of Wilton. Gov Relations are also aware of this as they have a mechanism to stop any future payments or transfers to the RM unless compliance has been met.
- k. The Hamlet Board from all minutes never agreed to a change from the 75% of annual revenue a formal breakdown has been forwarded to Gov Relations auditor as discussed at last meeting previous percentages should have been set at 75% so that will need to be audited from 2015 Also the percentage amount of transfer into Hamlet account for taxation was set at 75% & 85% for the special Levy the amount proposed by the RM wasn't agreed on. The RM of Wilton did not bring it to the Appeal Board so it reverts to Legislated amounts. There has also been a base tax applied to Lone Rock properties which was not consulted on or agreed to by the Organized Hamlet Board. Counsel has advised this is an illegal tax & it will be addressed at the SMB hearing and as stated earlier can be raised with RCMP or brought to OHB to forward to RCMP on their behalf. The new & pending Legislation makes it a requirement that the agreed upon percentage be negotiated for a maximum period of 5 years & that it be included on the RM financials & the OH budget along with the indemnity of the Hamlet Board members as it becomes a debt owing & collectable under employment standards. The OH budget remains the only budget under legislation with any modification or disagreement the RM is to raise through the MA 77 Appeal board process within that year or it nullifies any objection RM may have. Employment standards have reached out as to recent enactments to inquire if the OHB wanted to unsuspend their file with them regarding the indemnity payments. The OHB has followed up and included the current amounts and interest which was also added as a line item in the budget as required under legislative amendments the OHB will follow up after the SMB process as RM counsel has indicated that the RM at the onset of the dispute stopped forwarding funds to the OHB account which was 2018 and that has a number of issues that will have to be rectified.

3. **Government Correspondence:** We have sent in a revised budget as to the increases of special levy amounts & removal of exemptions. As per Justice Meschishnick's ruling the 2015 -2022 budgets are being corrected. Which will also transfer into the court actions that have been stayed pending outcome of the SMB hearing. The RM council has suggested that the RM will undertake an audit of OHB accounts 2015-present and provide a copy to the OHB for dissection. SMB does have the authority to order forensic & management audits which can be addressed in this round of SMB disputes to be heard in April 2025. The RM under the legislation is not allowed to submit a hamlet budget as the budget must come from the Hamlet Board as per the legislation. As per

Justice Zuk until the Appeal Board hears those matters regarding budgets put forward by the RM for the Hamlet those budgets are stayed until the Appeal Board renders their decision. This was confirmed by the ruling last year by Justice Meschishnick which the SMB is required to follow. Counsel has advised that due to the ruling and no appeal that even if the SMB application did not proceed we could still formalize the ruling and proceed through the RCMP under MA 114.1(1) to enforce.

The Minister of Justice is still reviewing Tax Enforcement issues as a number of issues have been brought forward and is part of an ongoing review.

There is another issue as RM employees were paid out of Hamlet funds without approval or within budget which counsel has advised is a Labour & Discrimination issue. We have confirmed same with both Labour & Employment Standards & they will also hold off to see if resolution can be made through SMB process if not there is a fine & penalty process the OHB can proceed with if they choose. There is a further issue as indicated in the RM affidavit materials that a fee of \$60.00 per hour was paid to Jill Parton for general administrative duties & document forwarding under the equality legislation if that is also not equivalent to OHB members with equivalent work that can raise a situation for RM fines & penalties. As the new legislation makes it mandatory to include the hourly rate for OHB members this may clear up some of the issues. The OHB has inquired to the RM as to what the wages are of administrator & assistant as those are supposed to be published public amounts which the OHB has not been able to view.

4. In Camera Session: Legal discussion

Return from in camera session nothing to vote on or report as just a clarification on necessary steps in moving forward as RCMP RM website RCMP will be addressing when they contact the RM after which OHB can decide on how to proceed.

5. SK Water Security Agency: OHB will hold the report for the SMB hearing as it appears there were some errors in the information as somehow someone advised that it was a sanitary system not a potable water system. We are also still in communication with Federal agency in that regard as some legislated changes were made in the fall which will impact.

There are also questions arising as to where the money is going as the money from these invoices is supposed to be placed in an account directed by the Hamlet Board as per the legislation & the RM of Wilton has yet to provide financials & invoices in that regard which are now being looked into as the Federal legislation under the United Nations Conventions as of 2019 placed a very strict policy on any repair or dismantling of a community water system as it was included as a human right. This has now been reaffirmed federally with more consequences for disobedience which have been raised with the SMB. This is an ongoing issue as until there is a resolution it remains a dispute but as informed can also be brought to RCMP under MA 114.1(1) and is part of the RCMP Investigation. Government Relations has also indicated there are no exemptions for Utility billing if connected to RM properties so an audit of those payments will have to be conducted.

6. Rates on Well & Sewage Conversions: This matter has been directed by the Judge to be heard in front of the SMB but as always the Hamlet is still supporting all water /sewer utility remain as

part of annual tax notice. Further follow up with the Ministers office are needed as there seem to be a number of inconsistencies with the budgets provided by the RM & what is being collected. Also the question has been raised why would the RM charge infrastructure costs with the intention of shutting down the system & where are those funds going which were supposed to be audited prior if they intend to decommission the system as per the legislation that would also go into the Hamlet account or into the Utility corps account as that was established in 2017 which was never formally decommissioned as per legislation. Counsel will raise this at the SMB hearing as there was also Federal approvals required which did not seem to materialize.

Septic pump outs have been requested the RM has indicated they do not want to accept our minutes which both the Minister's office & Government Relations Executive have indicated is not an option the OHB has but to send the OHB minutes to the RM & CC Government Relations a review in this regard is being done by the Ombudsman for RM compliance issues.

Amendments to the Legislation requires consent of the OHB for all the expenses of a Utility and the OHB has not had any discussion as to consent of any expenses regarding the utilities.

7. **Tax Rates:** Discussion Hamlet Board still awaiting information that was agreed to by RM Council in mediation & as indicated by the Municipal Board zoning has to follow procedure first being consultation with the Hamlet Board then if not agreed 77 Appeal Board process. The RM has violated the legislation in this regard as the Hamlet Board is supposed to set the rate not the RM. A question was also raised as depreciation being an expense for appearance of deficit which is currently being investigated. The new amendments to legislation makes it mandatory that the RM meet & form agreements with the OHB failing the agreement action of the RM would be considered illegal until it has been resolved through the 77 Appeal Board process as the RM would raise the dispute through the process. Failing the Province could withhold funds or terminate council & administration and the OHB could submit a complaint to the RCMP or in future Marshals service for enforcement.
8. **Hamlet Communications:** Supreme Court had made a recent ruling indicating procedure for Municipalities to purchase property & their liability if not followed. The ruling also included limiting development & how that would also be considered quasi-expropriation of property even if Municipality doesn't receive title it is still compensable for loss of development. Ombudsman's office is also reviewing the RM controlled corporations as to conflict of interest & legislated procedure in funding which is ongoing..

In Camera Session: Legal discussion

Return from Legal discussion nothing of note as the RM numbered company & Swift Net is still matter of review will follow up with justice as to hamlet resident's water sewer billing for services they aren't receiving and fees that are not being deposited to the OH account. Employment standards is continuing to review the applicable amounts to be set for indemnity and agent to be in line with the RM.

An email was sent from Terry Kashuba February 7, 2025 to the RM outlining responsibilities in regard to the legislature as there were some misconceptions as to actual legislation sections the OHB will await a response

9. **RM Tractor & Hamlet Road Maintenance:** Minister of Highways & minister of health have reached out the OHB has responded and are just waiting to hear back.

10. Street Lights: We have contacted Saskpower in this regard as to setting up our own street light system & they have forwarded the grant applications we have been looking into what they recommended.

11. Trees & Buildings: Environmental problems persist with the buildings that were obtained by the RM this also lends to the MA 346 claim as more issues arise & are seeing more effects due to the destruction. This can be initiated after the SMB process concludes.

We were directed to also look into any property devaluations due to RM bylaw or resolution or actions of RM as those can either be determined by the 77 Appeal Board, SMB or Judge. Devaluations have been touched on in the RM affidavits which have been reviewed also a report has been submitted to the Real Estate Board in this regard to confirm historical market value with current to place a figure devaluation. Followed up on this and the devaluation is still being calculated.

12. Policies: In Keeping with the New & pending Legislation the OHB is required to submit policies which will be implemented by the RM.

Organized Hamlet of Lone Rock Meetings Policy:

1. **Lone Rock Organized Hamlet Board** meetings will take place on the following dates unless otherwise changed for reasons of attendance;

February 12, 2025 7PM

April 15, 2025 7PM

June 17, 2025 7PM

October 13, 2025 7PM

Organized hamlet of Lone Rock AGM meeting

October 20, 2025 7PM

2. Meetings will be held in person & through electronic attendance as provided for in legislation
3. Hamlet Board members will be given days' notice of meeting date or change to meeting date so as to accommodate attendance.
4. If a special meeting is required then 7 day notice will be forwarded to the board members requesting the meeting which may be sooner if agreed by consensus.
5. Meeting minutes will be prepared by the Secretary & forwarded to the RM for public inspection.
6. The OHB if determines may have other general community meetings throughout the year with notice as provided by the notice policy or any amendments made within.
7. Minutes will be taken at all meetings which will be forwarded to the RM of Wilton 472 for adoption & public inspection.

Organized Hamlet of Lone Rock Elections Policy:

1. Voters of the Organized Hamlet are eligible to be board members
2. Nominations for any board member can be made at the AGM from any voter & seconded by any voter except for the nominee.
3. Vote will take place by raising of hands or by voice or visual confirmation of those attending by electronic means.
4. The election result will be recorded in the AGM minutes and forwarded to the RM within the minutes to be open for public view as per the legislation.
5. The elected board member will hold their position as board member for a period of 3 years. If a board member resigns prior to the 3 year term an election may be called for a special community meeting to fill the vacancy. If a board member resigns at an AGM a nomination process to fill the vacancy will occur as indicated in paragraph 2 of this Elections policy.
6. Board members will remain until such time as their positions have been filled.
7. A Secretary & Chairman will be decided at the AGM so as to forward the information within the AGM minutes for public review.

Organized Hamlet of Lone Rock Notice Policy:

1. Notice will be given to residents by posting within the community or provided for by electronic notification including Social Media.
2. Notice will be provided as required at minimum of 7 days prior to event.

Organized Hamlet of Lone Rock Minutes Policy:

1. Minutes will be taken at every AGM & Organized Hamlet Board Meeting and forwarded to the RM to be posted for public inspection and adopted as per legislation.
2. In keeping with Privacy and Security legislation the format of minutes will continue as in these minutes & the previous year's minutes as to format.

Organized Hamlet of Lone Rock Hamlet Board and RM of Wilton meeting Policy:

1. The Organized Hamlet Board will request to meet with the RM of Wilton minimum 2 times a year.
2. The Meeting will be in person or through electronic means to accommodate attendance inclusive of legal counsel or agent as may be required.
3. The RM will supply audited financial statements with accompanying receipts for the review of the OHB in contemplation of the yearly budget.
4. Minutes will be taken during the meetings so that they can be open for public inspection as per the legislation.

5. Minimum of 30 days' notice is to be provided to the OHB as to the meeting dates or date of change.
6. Rescheduling of meetings shall be within 30 days of the original date of meeting.

Organized Hamlet of Lone Rock Hamlet Disqualification Policy:

1. Disqualification of Hamlet Board members is in accordance to Municipalities Act and Regulations.
2. As per the Municipalities Regulation disqualification can only occur with the agreement of 2 board members and included in the resolution of the OHB meeting minutes.
3. In keeping with legislation if a hamlet board member is disqualified all owing indemnity payments to the board member must be paid in full to the Board member with a 2% per month interest accruing on all outstanding amounts owing to the Board member till fully paid.

Resolutions: Put forward by Lloyd Ludwig Seconded by Donna Woods

- (1) Follow up with minister with information as to budgets & Tax dollar spending as well as Hamlet Minutes & Water/Sewer billing & the removal of property tax exemptions in the Hamlet. Forward revised revenue amounts to Minister to adjust our budget including 2025 budget & update on the legislative violations as well as the matters forwarded to the RCMP which have been updated.
- (2) RM Directed to pay for legal fees & costs as provided for in the above mentioned legislation at the direction of the Organized Hamlet Board. As well as in the Annual Organized Hamlet of Lone Rock General meeting. Including indemnity of Hamlet Board & budgeted payments. OHB agrees to advise labour & SK Employment to reopen files on fines & orders pending the SMB hearing. The amount adopted for 2025 year is \$30 dollars an hr for indemnity with the same also applying to agent Terry Kashuba which will also include any disbursements. If Employment Standards does conclude the agent amount should be increased to \$60 as included in affidavits of the RM of Wilton Reeve and Administrator it will be increased at employment standards direction.
- (3) 77 Appeal Board issues that follow are herin forwarded to the RM of Wilton to begin the MA 77 Appeal Board :
 1. Copy of all permits, authorizations, Taxations, or permissions by any and all regulatory agencies whether federal or provincial with respect to shutting down municipal sewer and potable water services in the OH, including accounting of infrastructure account.
 2. Budget Deficits (Explanation & documentation).
 3. Forensic Audit be done on Hamlet accounts 2015 to present inclusive of water/sewer utility.
 4. Code of Ethics Complaints to be reviewed by independent 3rd party panel & RM Wilton Code of Ethics bylaw review & amended to comply with legislation & any resolutions made regarding Hamlet Board Members quashed as they are no longer applicable to the amended legislation.

5. Review all building permit approvals & denials in keeping with the "SK growth plan" Removal of all building & development moratorium in accordance with legislation.

- (4) Set that the RM of Wilton as forwarded in past implement the water & sewer Utility remains within the yearly taxes as in previous years & reimbursement or credit be supplied to those that have already paid them along with reimbursement for time periods in which loss of service or Boil water advisory in place. Confirm with SK water & Federal water agency a rate of \$72.00 a day for Boil water & or service disruption & set that as rate for compensation to be reimbursed to each ratepayer after 72 hr is implemented & billing will be corrected with compensation retroactive to 72 hrs after notification is provided to the RM of Wilton or the Lone Rock Utility Board of the utility disruption and up to the present date.
- (5) Approval of legal counsel forwarding letters to ministers & filing matters with the International court that they deem appropriate & provide them with materials that will go out to the media regarding the investigations.
- (6) Follow up with Government Relations suggestion that the OHB create a Code of Ethics and Public Conduct Policy to be included in the next meeting & policy update.
- (7) The Organized Hamlet Board resume operations of the water & sewer utility & any infrastructure assets. In the alternative to raise the issue of the transfer of the utility never took place & is still under investigation.
- (8) The Above Policies be adopted as written.

Resolutions are hereby voted on & unanimously passed.

13. Next Meeting: Next Hamlet Board meeting to be April 15, 2025. 7:00PM

14. Meeting Adjourned: 8:10 PM

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Donna Wood", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.