



The Corporation of the Township of Perry

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING - FIRE DEPARTMENT

Tuesday, October 16, 2018

7:02 p.m.

Council Chambers

(1695 Emsdale Road, Emsdale, ON)

Any and all Minutes are to be considered Draft until approved by Council at a Regular Meeting of Council

In Attendance:

Council Members:

Mayor Norm Hofstetter
Councillors: Jeff Marshall and Margaret Ann MacPhail

Absent:

Councillors: Jim Cushman and Les Rowley

Municipal Staff:

Beth Morton, Clerk-Administrator;
Melinda Torrance, Deputy Clerk
Dan Marshall, Fire Chief

Members of the Public:

Members of the Fire Department - See Sign in sheet

Mayor Hofstetter opened the meeting at 7:02 p.m. No pecuniary interest was declared.

Mayor Hofstetter updated the firefighters on the building status of the new Emsdale Fire Hall. To date the colours have been picked out for the walls, floors, trim, etc. The Project Manager on site still believes that the build is on schedule and are hoping to have the building complete by the end of December.

Mayor Hofstetter opened the floor up for questions or comments.

Mr. Bill Core, a resident in the Township, expressed his frustration about a recent 911 call that was placed for his neighbor and the response time. He was told by dispatch that it would take up to 45 minutes for the fire department to arrive.

Fire Chief Dan Marshall explained that he was in Sundridge at the time and that the call was paged out and no one was available. He started on his way to the residence and advised dispatch to send the page out again within 5 minutes. Other members of the fire department also explained their whereabouts and that they did respond and cleared the house to ensure that there were no fires and the carbon monoxide levels were clear.

The firefighters further explained the difficulties they face. The Perry Fire Department is currently short staffed. In addition, there are only four people

available to respond to calls during the day and they are not allowed to respond to a call unless they have two firefighters to attend a medical call. They must have at least four firefighters to respond to a fire structure fire. There are also difficulties in keeping firefighters. The municipality struggles with no jobs available to keep young people in the area while others work on shifts and the training takes so long to complete. For instance, 200 hours is required for a Level II which can take up to two or more years to complete.

Mayor Hofstetter discussed the status of the Novar Fire Hall and that we have only one volunteer responding out of that hall. Once the new Emsdale Fire Hall is built, Council will have to decide if they want to keep the Novar hall open.

Mayor Hofstetter suggested having an Open House in the Spring 2019 for an official opening of the new Fire Hall. Plans will be made to have a BBQ, media coverage, recruitment, radio ads and games night.

No more questions or comments were brought forward and the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:18 p.m.

Dated this 7th day of November, 2018.

Original Signed by Norm Hofstetter
Norm Hofstetter, *Mayor*

Original Signed by Beth Morton
Beth Morton, *Clerk-Administrator*