



“Serving the Municipality of South Bruce”

Monday October 4, 2021 at 7:00AM

Virtual Zoom Meeting

Minutes

Attendance: Rhonda Niesen, Adam Ireland, Les Nichols, Matt Grant, Aaron Armstrong, Jim Gowland, Patti Weiler, and Marcie Gowland.

Guest Speaker: Paul Jackson from VPI Working solutions

1. Welcome
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Les Nichols Motioned – Matt Grant second - Passed
3. Treasurers’ Report – Patti Weiler \$24952.08 balance with Nicole K Social Media Bill of \$300
4. Guest Speaker: Paul Jackson - VPI Working solutions
 - a. VPI assists in helping businesses access training programs offered by the Ontario Government.
 - b. Businesses can access up to \$10,000 to help cover training costs for employees. This can be used to cover up to 83% of the cost to train.
 - c. They have worked extensively to help companies train individuals to get their AZ trucking license as well as many other programs.
 - d. VPI also offers employment services and has a list of job seekers who are available to fill positions at your company.
 - e. Check them out at vpi-inc.com
5. Municipal Report – Rhonda Niesen
 - a. Business Networking Meeting with Daniel Lewis – Virtual format on wed October 20th from 7pm – 8:30pm. Free but must pre-register by October 18th on our website. Presentation will be from 7-8pm and then a Q&A period after that.
 - b. Regional application for Digital Main Street Grant was approved. Hiring for a Digital Squad member – applications open until Oct 8th. Hiring 4 people to cover the region for a 6 month contract. Our squad members will cover South Bruce & Brockton. Squad members will cover all digital needs for all SB businesses, not just main street. Businesses can apply for the Digital Transformation Grant - \$2,500 and ShopHere Grants. I’m sitting on the hiring committee for the 4 squad members with Huron Kinloss and Brockton.



“Serving the Municipality of South Bruce”

- c. Working on our 2022 budget – earlier this year. Would like taxpayers input by completing the online survey at www.southbruceswitchboard.ca
 - d. Before and After School Care Program in Teeswater – has been put on hold until the 2022-23 school season. Lots of interest and registrations, but had difficulty finding a Before and After School Instructor even after extending the deadline.
 - e. Reminder that we have the free job posting service on our website for South Bruce residents to use. Simple form on the Municipal website under Grants and Resources.
 - f. Lots of Free Business webinars available through the county – such as: Digital Marketing, Bookkeeping, Human resources, starting up a business etc. Available on our Municipal website under Grant and Resources.
 - g. Hired Shaun Mabb for Facilities Supervisor in Mildmay, in the interview process of hiring a PT Landfill Attendant for Mildmay and hiring Firefighters for both stations (Deadline Oct 8th). 2 retirees in PW department Dec 31/21 – hiring 2 Full time Public Works Operator/labourers
6. Committee Reports
- a. Agriculture – Les Nichols
 - i. Harvest is underway
 - b. Tourism – Rhonda Niesen
 - i. Photo contest – submissions deadline was Sept 30th, all posted on Tourism website www.visitsouthbruce.ca to vote on your favourite picture – most votes win \$40 gift basket of South Bruce products.
 - ii. Pumpkin Carving/Decorating Contest begins mid October. Submit photos to our email address Oct 10-31st and then all will be posted on our tourism website to vote until Nov 10th.
 - c. Outreach - Adam Ireland
 - i. Lisa Thompson has gotten back to him, will setup a time to meet with her (try before the next meeting)



“Serving the Municipality of South Bruce”

7. Old Business

- a. Nuclear Innovation institute speaker
 - i. Adam has briefly talked to Leanne and is going to follow up
- b. Update on search for Marcie’s replacement
 - i. May have to change the meeting time
 - ii. Local applicants have now applied

8. New Business

- a. In person and Zoom meetings - have a hybrid meeting so both options can work?
will discuss at next meeting.

9. Next meeting – Monday November 1, 2021 - 7:00AM

10. Motion to Adjourn - Jim Gowland