

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MATTAWA

The minutes of the Regular Meeting held Monday April 28, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Dr. S.F. Monestime Council Chambers.

Council Present: Mayor Raymond A. Bélanger
Councillor Mathew Gardiner
Councillor Fern Levesque
Councillor Loren Mick
Councillor Laura Ross
Councillor Garry Thibert

Staff Present: Amy Leclerc, Clerk/Revenue Services Clerk
Dexture Sarrazin, Director of Community Services

*When a recorded vote is requested and the minutes indicate the recorded vote was "Unanimous" it means all Councillors present and noted above voted in favour unless otherwise indicated.

1. Meeting Called to Order

Meeting Called to Order by Mayor Bélanger at 6:00 p.m.

2. Announce Electronic Participants

Clerk announced that Councillor Thibert was participating online.

3. Adoption of Agenda

3.1 To Adopt the agenda as presented or amended

Resolution Number 25-77

Moved by Councillor Laura Ross

Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting agenda dated Monday April 28, 2025 be adopted.
CARRIED – unanimous

4. Disclosures of a Conflict of Interest

Mayor Bélanger declared a conflict of interest on agenda items 8.1 and 10.1

5. Presentations and Delegations

5.1 Vala Monestime Belter & Gib Wood – Newly Formed Non Profit Corporation to Foster Economic & Tourism Growth, Support Local Businesses

6. Adoption of Minutes

6.1 Regular Meeting of April 14, 2025

6.2 To adopt the minutes as presented or amended

Resolution Number 25-78

Moved by Councillor Mathew Gardiner

Seconded by Councillor Loren Mick

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 14, 2025.

CARRIED – unanimous

7. Notice of Motions

7.1 Declare May as Community Living Month

Resolution Number 25-79

Moved by Councillor Councillor Mathew Gardiner

Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

WHEREAS Community Living Mattawa has provided supports and services to people with developmental disabilities and their families in the Town of Mattawa since 1969.

AND WHEREAS Community Living Mattawa goal is that people with developmental disabilities have every opportunity to participate fully in our community with dignity, independence and acceptance;

AND WHEREAS Community Living Month is a province-wide annual awareness campaign to promote true inclusion for people who have a developmental disability and their families.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa does hereby proclaim the month of May 2025 as Community Living Awareness Month in the Town of Mattawa.

CARRIED – unanimous

7.2 2025 FONOM Executive Award Nomination

Resolution Number 25-80

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

WHEREAS Council of the Town of Mattawa received correspondence from the City of North Bay with a 2025 FONOM Executive Award nomination.

AND WHEREAS the City of North Bay nominated Victor Fedeli for the 2025 FONOM Executive Award.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa supports the City of North Bay's nomination of Vic Fedeli for the 2025 FONOM Executive Award.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to FONOM and the municipalities in the Nipissing Electoral District.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was unanimous

8. Correspondence

Mayor Bélanger declared a conflict of interest on correspondence item # 8.1

8.1 Various Municipalities (Town of Kingsville, Town of Aylmer, Town of Tillsonburg, Town of Amherstburg, Township of Rideau Lakes, Town of Saugeen Shores, Town of Greater Napanee) – Opposition to Proposed Amendments to Expand Strong Mayor Powers

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.1.

Mayor Bélanger returned to council chambers

8.2 AMO – Speech from Throne & Launch of Health Sector Survey

8.3 Municipality of Mattawan – Nomination for 2025 FONOM Executive Award

8.4 Webster Family – Request to Rename Section of Hurdman Street to Chick Webster Way

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.4 and directed staff to respond to request.

8.5 Ontario Clean Water Agency – Quarterly Operations Report of Mattawa Water & Wastewater Systems

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.5.

8.6 Falun Dafa Association of Canada – Proclaim May 13th as Falun Dafa Day

8.7 VMUTS – Request for Donation for Bridge Repair

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.7 and directed staff to send support for both bridges.

8.8 VMUTS – Financial Statement for 2024

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.8.

8.9 Moe McGuinty – Resignation Letter from Library Board

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.9.

9. Standing Committee Recommendations/Reports – Motions

10. Staff Reports – Motions

Mayor Bélanger declared a conflict of interest on report item 10.1 and removed himself from chambers

10.1 Strong Mayor Powers – Report # 25-23R
Report from Paul Laperriere, CAO/Treasurer

Resolution Number 25-81

Moved by Councillor Garry Thibert

Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 25-23R titled Strong Mayor Powers.

AND FURTHER THAT Council directs staff to return with a motion to oppose the proposed amendments to expand strong mayor powers.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was as follows:

For: Councillors Levesque, Mick, Ross, Thibert

Against: Councillor Gardiner

Mayor Bélanger returned to council chambers

Councillor Ross left the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

10.2 Administrative Policies & Procedures Review – Report # 25-24R
Report from Paul Laperriere, CAO/Treasurer

Resolution Number 25-82

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Councillor Loren Mick

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 25-24R titled Policies & Procedures Revisited.

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the increase in section 1.11 procurement allowing for CAO/Treasurer approved for non-budgeted emergency expenditures of \$10,000 to \$50,000.

AND FURTHER THAT Council directs the Clerk to return at the next regular meeting with a formal by-law for adoption of the Administrative Policies and Procedures.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was unanimous

- 10.3 Mattawa Train Station – Report # 25-25R
Report from Paul Laperriere, CAO/Treasurer

Resolution Number 25-83

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Councillor Mathew Gardiner

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 25-25R titled Mattawa Train Station as long as CPKCR agrees to support the Town in acknowledging and celebrating the rail heritage and share the cost of this acknowledgement.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was as follows:

For: Mayor Bélanger, Councillors Gardiner, Levesque, Thibert

Against: Councillor Mick

- 10.4 Food Cycler – Report # 25-26R
Report from Paul Laperriere, CAO/Treasurer

Resolution Number 25-84

Moved by Councillor Mathew Gardiner

Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 25-26R titled Food Cycler.

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the launch of a municipal food cycler program to a maximum of 50 residents on a first come first served basis.

AND FURTHER THAT this initiative be subsidized from landfill reserves.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was as follows:

For: Mayor Bélanger, Councillors Gardiner, Levesque, Thibert

Against: Councillor Mick

- 10.5 ROMA 2025 Conference Report – Report # 25-27R
Report from Councillor Loren Mick & Councillor Spencer Bigelow

Resolution Number 25-85

Moved by Councillor Mathew Gardiner
Seconded by Councillor Loren Mick

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 25-27R titled ROMA 2025 Conference Report

CARRIED – unanimous

11. By-Laws

11.1 By-Law 25-06 – 2025 Operating Budget

BEING a by-law to adopt the 2025 Municipal Operating Budget.

Resolution Number 25-86

Moved by Councillor Loren Mick
Seconded by Councillor Garry Thibert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa adopt By-Law 25-06 being a by-law to adopt the 2025 Municipal Operating Budget.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was as follows:

For: Mayor Bélanger, Councillors Levesque, Mick, Thibert

Against: Councillor Gardiner

11.2 By-Law 25-07 – Tax Ratios for 2025

BEING a By-law for establishing tax ratios for the current taxation year.

Resolution Number 25-87

Moved by Councillor Loren Mick
Seconded by Councillor Garry Thibert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa adopt By-Law 25-07 being a By-law for establishing tax ratios for the current taxation year.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was as follows:

For: Mayor Bélanger, Councillors Levesque, Mick, Thibert

Against: Councillor Gardiner

11.3 By-Law 25-08 – Rate of Taxation for 2025

BEING a by-law to fix the tax rates and to provide for the levy and collection of municipal and education taxes for the year 2025.

Resolution Number 25-88

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque
Seconded by Councillor Garry Thibert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa adopt By-Law 25-08 being a by-law to fix the tax rates and to provide for the levy and collection of municipal and education taxes for the year 2025.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was as follows:

For: Mayor Bélanger, Councillors Levesque, Mick, Thibert

Against: Councillor Gardiner

12. Old Business

12.1 Council – Food Cycler Municipal Solutions

12.2 Beautification Committee Terms of Reference & Committee Structure

13. New Business

14. Questions from Public Pertaining to Agenda

15. In Camera (Closed) Session

Resolution Number 25-89

Moved by Councillor Loren Mick

Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves the continuation of the regular meeting past the 9:00 p.m. hour.

CARRIED – unanimous

15.1 Rosemount Valley Suites Update

In accordance with the Municipal Act, 2001 Section 239 (2)(c)

c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board

15.2 Business Opportunity Update

In accordance with the Municipal Act, 2001 Section 239 (2)(c)

c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board

15.3 Voyageur Days Funding Update

In accordance with the Municipal Act, 2001 Section 239 (2)(h)

h) information explicitly supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them

15.4 Library Board Members

In accordance with the Municipal Act, 2001 Section 239 (2)(b)

b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees

Resolution Number 25-90

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Councillor Loren Mick

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council proceed in Camera at 8:32 pm in order to address a matter pertaining to b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees; c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board and h) information explicitly supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them.

CARRIED – unanimous

16. Return to Regular Session

16.1 That the regular session reconvene

Resolution Number 25-91

Moved by Councillor Mathew Gardiner

Seconded by Councillor Loren Mick

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the regular meeting reconvene at 9:03 p.m.

CARRIED – unanimous

Mayor Bélanger advised the closed session was pertaining to Rosemount Valley Suites, a business opportunity, Voyageur Days funding and library board members.

17. Motions Resulting from Closed Session

18. Adjournment

18.1 Adjournment of the meeting

Resolution Number 25-92

Moved by Councillor Loren Mick

Seconded by Councillor Mathew Gardiner

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the April 28, 2025 meeting adjourn at 9:04 p.m.

CARRIED – unanimous

Mayor

Clerk