

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MATTAWA

The minutes of the Regular Meeting held Monday August 12, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the Dr. S.F. Monestime Council Chambers.

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

Staff Present: Amy Leclerc, Municipal Clerk/Revenue Services Clerk
Paul Laperriere, Interim CAO/Treasurer
Dexture Sarrazin, Director of Community Services
Shawn Hongell, Fire Chief

*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 no members of the public were online.

3. Adoption of Agenda

3.1 To Adopt the agenda as presented or amended

Resolution Number 24-165

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting agenda dated Monday August 12, 2024 be adopted.

CARRIED – unanimous

4. Disclosures of a Conflict of Interest

5. Presentations and Delegations

6. Adoption of Minutes

6.1 Regular Meeting of July 8, 2024

6.2 To adopt the minutes as presented or amended

Resolution Number 24-166

Moved by Councillor Garry Thibert

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the minutes of the Regular meeting of Monday July 8, 2024.

CARRIED – unanimous

7. Notice of Motions

7.1 Government Funding OPP Services for Small Rural Municipalities

Resolution Number 24-167

Moved by Councillor Laura Ross

Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

WHEREAS it is apparent that the Ontario government has overlooked the needs of small rural Ontario;

AND WHEREAS Ontario's small rural municipalities face insurmountable challenges to fund both upfront investments and ongoing maintenance of their capital assets including roads, bridges, water/wastewater and municipally owned buildings including recreational facilities, libraries and other tangible capital assets;

AND WHEREAS small rural Ontario's operating needs consume the majority of property tax revenue sources;

AND WHEREAS small rural municipalities, of 10,000 people or less, are facing monumental infrastructure deficits that cannot be adequately addressed through property tax revenue alone;

AND WHEREAS in 2015 the Provincial Government moved to standardized billing for all non-contract Ontario Provincial Police locations;

AND WHEREAS the Ontario Government has committed \$9.1 billion to Toronto alone to assist with operating deficits and the repatriation of the Don Valley Parkway and Gardiner Expressway; and \$534 million to Ottawa for the repatriation of Highway 174;

AND WHEREAS the annual cost of the Ontario Provincial Police, Municipal Policing Bureau for small rural non-contract municipalities is approximately \$428 million;

AND WHEREAS this annual cost is significantly less than the repatriation costs of the Gardiner Expressway, the Don Valley Parkway and Highway 174 (Ottawa Region) but provides a greater impact to the residents of the province overall;

AND WHEREAS this will afford relief to small rural municipalities for both infrastructure and operating needs while having a minimal impact on the Provincial budget.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Mattawa call on the Ontario Government to immediately implement sustainable funding for small rural municipalities by reabsorbing the cost of the Ontario Provincial Police back into the Provincial budget with no cost recovery to municipalities.

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of Solicitor General, Minister of Finance, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all municipalities in Ontario.

CARRIED – unanimous

8. Correspondence

8.1 Various Municipalities – Request for Provincial Government to Recognize the Physician Shortages

8.2 OPP Municipal Policing Bureau – New Collective Agreements for Term January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2026

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.2.

8.3 AMO – Policy Updates

8.4 AMO & OMA – Joint Health Resolution Campaign

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.4.

8.5 FONOM – Sustainable Northern Ontario Economic Development Course

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.5.

8.6 Royal Canadian Legion Branch 254 – Request for Support Resolution for Roof Project

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.6 and directed staff to bring back a support resolution at the next regular meeting.

8.7 Shawn Fortier – Request for Better Internet Services in North Ontario Community

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.3 and directed the CAO to respond.

8.8 Various Municipalities – Solutions to Resolve Significant Financial & Budgetary Pressures Relating to Infrastructure Development, Maintenance & Repairs

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.8 and directed staff to bring back a support resolution at the next regular meeting.

8.9 North Bay & District Chamber of Commerce – Request for Resolution to Support OINP in Northern Ontario

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.9 and directed staff to bring back a support resolution at the next regular meeting.

8.10 Mattawa Wellness Life Enrichment – Update on Seniors Fitness Community Programs & Formal Notification

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.3 and directed staff to bring back for approval.

Councillor Mick arrived at 6:24 p.m.

8.11 Various Municipalities – Resolutions for Accessible Ontario by 2025

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.11 and directed staff to bring back a support resolution at the next regular meeting.

8.12 NBMCA – Meeting Agenda & Minutes of May 8, 2024

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.12.

8.13 The Labour Market Group – July Labour Focus

8.14 OCWA – Mattawa Water & Wastewater System Quarterly Operations Report

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.14.

9. Standing Committee Recommendations/Reports – Motions

10. Staff Reports – Motions

10.1 General Updates – Report # 24-42R

Resolution Number 24-168

Moved by Councillor Loren Mick

Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 24-42R titled General Updates.

CARRIED – unanimous

10.2 Standing Committee Meetings – Report # 24-43R

Resolution Number 24-169

Moved by Deputy Mayor Gardiner

Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 24-43R titled Standing Committees vs Committee of the Whole.

CARRIED – unanimous

11. By-Laws

12. Old Business

13. New Business

14. Questions from Public Pertaining to Agenda

A member of the audience posed questions on the future of the wellness program that is stated to stop at the end of the year, the Mattawan Street project paving with regards to grates and the John Dixon Public Library and its need in the town.

15. In Camera (Closed) Session

16. Return to Regular Session

17. Motions Resulting from Closed Session

18. Adjournment

18.1 Adjournment of the meeting

Resolution Number 24-170

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the August 12, 2024 meeting adjourn at 7:45 p.m.

CARRIED – unanimous

**Approved Minutes as Certified by
the Municipal Clerk**

Amy Leclerc