

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MATTAWA

The minutes of the Regular Meeting held Monday February 26, 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 Dexture Sarrazin
Councillor Fern Levesque
Councillor Loren Mick (online)
Councillor Garry Thibert

Staff Present: Paul Laperriere, Interim CAO/Treasurer
Amy Leclerc, Municipal Clerk/Revenue Services Clerk
Sabrina Poullas, Deputy Clerk
Barry Jackson, Public Works Supervisor
Paul Lafreniere, Interim 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 Councillor Mick was participating virtually.

3. Adoption of Agenda

3.1 To Adopt the agenda as presented or amended

Resolution Number 24-41

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Councillor Garry Thibert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda dated Monday February 26, 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 February 12, 2024

6.2 Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 20, 2024

6.3 To Adopt the minutes as presented or amended

Resolution Number 24-42

Moved by Councillor Dexture Sarrazin
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Monday February 12, 2024 and the Committee of the Whole Meeting of Tuesday February 20, 2024.

CARRIED – unanimous

7. Notice of Motions

7.1 988 Crisis Line Support

Resolution Number 24-23

Moved by Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner
Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

WHEREAS Canada has adopted 988, a National three-digit suicide and crisis hotline; and

WHEREAS the Council of the Town of Mattawa recognizes that it is a significant and important initiative to ensure critical barriers are removed to those in a crisis and seeking help.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa continues to endorse the 988 crisis line initiative and will display the 988 information poster in all municipal buildings.

CARRIED – unanimous

7.2 Social & Economic Prosperity Review Support

Resolution Number 24-44

Moved by Councillor Garry Thibert
Seconded by Councillor Loren Mick

WHEREAS current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life; and

WHEREAS nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility, and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year; and

WHEREAS municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation; and

WHEREAS unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure; and

WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crisis; and

WHEREAS inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity; and

WHEREAS property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need; and

WHEREAS the province can and should invest more in the prosperity of communities; and

WHEREAS municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Mattawa asks the Province of Ontario to commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Finance, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Leaders of the Opposition, and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED – unanimous

8. Correspondence

8.1 Community Living Mattawa – Request to Hold BBQ Fundraisers on Main Street

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.1.

8.2 Mathieu Lacoste – Mattawa Train Station

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.2.

8.3 NBMCA – Request to Waive Hall Rental for Mattawa River Canoe Race

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.3.

8.4 Luce Zeus – Water Rates History

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.4.

8.5 OCWA – Mattawa 2023 Fourth Quarter Operations Report

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.5

8.6 MECP – Modernize Ontario's Environmental Assessment Program

9. Standing Committee Recommendations/Reports – Motions

10. Staff Reports – Motions

10.1 Library Update & 2024 Budget Proposal – Report # 24-13R

Resolution Number 24-45

Moved by Councillor Loren Mick

Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 24-13R titled Library Update and 2024 Budget Proposal.

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves a one-time payment of \$68,213.94 to the John Dixon Public Library.

AND FURTHER THAT Council include the John Dixon Public Library 2024 Budget Allocation in Old Business for each agenda until such time that a decision is made.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was as follows:

For: Councillors Sarrazin, Levesque, Mick, Thibert

Against: Mayor Bélanger, Deputy Mayor Gardiner

10.2 2023 Annual Sewage Report – Report # 24-14R

Resolution Number 24-46

Moved by Councillor Dexture Sarrazin

Seconded by Councillor Garry Thibert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 24-14R titled 2023 Annual Sewage Report.

CARRIED – unanimous

10.3 Confirmation of Assignment – Report # 24-15R

Resolution Number 24-47

Moved by Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner

Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 24-15R titled Confirmation of Assignment.

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the Confirmation of Assignment from Jp2g Consultants Inc. for the Land Bank Area # 1, Brook Street Preliminary Engineering and the Official Plan.

AND FURTHER THAT Council directs the Interim CAO/Treasurer to execute all 3 confirmations of assignment with Jp2g Consultants Inc.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was unanimous

10.4 Police Services Board - Report # 24-16R

Resolution Number 24-48

Moved by Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner

Seconded by Councillor Dexture Sarrazin

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 24-16R titled Police Services Board.

CARRIED – unanimous

10.5 Mattawa Voyageur Days Festival – Update # 2 – Report # 24-17R

Resolution Number 24-49

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Councillor Dexture Sarrazin

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 24-17R titled Mattawa Voyageur Days Festival – Update # 2.

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves an increase of the original \$450,000 budget in the amount of \$25,000 for a total budget of \$475,000 for the 2024 Mattawa Voyageur Days Festival.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was as follows:

For: Mayor Bélanger, Councillors Sarrazin, Levesque, Mick

Against: Deputy Mayor Gardiner, Councillor Thibert

11. By-Laws

- 11.1 By-Law 24-05 – Establish Water Rates for 2024
BEING a by-law to establish water rates for 2024

Resolution Number 24-50

Moved by Councillor Dexture Sarrazin

Seconded by Councillor Garry Thibert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa adopt By-Law Number 24-05 which is a by-law to establish the water rates for 2024.

CARRIED – unanimous

- 11.2 By-Law 24-06 – Establish Standing Committees of Council
BEING a by-law to establish the Standing Committees of Council

Resolution Number 24-51

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Councillor Dexture Sarrazin

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa adopt By-Law Number 24-06 which is a by-law to establish the standing committees of Council.

CARRIED – unanimous

- 11.3 By-Law 23-25 – Franchise Agreement with Enbridge Gas Inc.
BEING a By-law to authorize a franchise agreement between the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa and Enbridge Gas Inc.

Resolution Number 24-52

Moved by Councillor Dexture Sarrazin

Seconded by Councillor Loren Mick

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves the third and final reading of by-law number 23-25 which is a By-law to authorize a franchise agreement between the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa and Enbridge Gas Inc.

CARRIED – unanimous

12. Old Business

13. New Business

- 13.1 Appointment of Standing Committee Members

Resolution Number 24-53

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque
Seconded by Councillor Garry Thibert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council appoints the following Councillors to the Standing Committees of Council:

Corporate Services Committee

Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner
Councillor Loren Mick
Councillor Laura Ross

Community Services Committee

Councillor Dexture Sarrazin
Councillor Fern Levesque
Councillor Garry Thibert

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was unanimous

14. **Questions from Public Pertaining to Agenda**
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 24-54

Moved by Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner
Seconded by Councillor Dexture Sarrazin

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the February 26, 2024 meeting adjourn at 7:24 p.m.

CARRIED – unanimous

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

