

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MATTAWA

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Tuesday, April 11th, 2023 at 7:00 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 Laura Ross
Councillor Garry Thibert

Staff Present: Amy Leclerc, Clerk/Revenue Services Clerk
Brittany Belanger, Executive Assistant
Wayne Chaput, Chief Building Official/By-Law Officer
Paul Lafreniere, Fire Chief (Interim)

*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 by Mayor Bélanger at 7:00 p.m.

Resolution Number 23-92

Moved by Councillor Dexture Sarrazin
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa temporarily suspend the rules of the procedural by-law for the Regular Meeting of Tuesday, April 11th, 2023.

CARRIED – unanimous

2. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and Nature Thereof

- Councillor Levesque declared a conflict of interest on the presentation from the Mattawa Lion's Club

3. Petitions & Delegations

- 3.1 Romeo Sarrazin made a presentation to Council concerning the lack of sidewalks on Brydges Street.

*Councillor Levesque declared a conflict of interest on Item #3.2 and removed himself from his Council seat.

- 3.2 Bob Simmonds and Kerri MacKay of the Mattawa Lions Club made a presentation to Council requesting a donation towards the operation costs for the Lions Club.

*Councillor Levesque returned to his seat.

4. Correspondence

5. Questions/Comments about the Content of the Agenda
6. Municipal Report Number 888

Page No 93

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque
Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Monday, March 27th, 2023, and the Special Meeting of Thursday, March 30th, 2023 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED – unanimous

Page No 94

Moved by Councillor Garry Thibert
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa adopt By-Law Number 23-14 which is a by-law to establish the Property Standards Committee's Terms of Reference.

CARRIED – unanimous

Page No 95

Moved by Councillor Laura Ross
Seconded by Councillor Garry Thibert

WHEREAS the homeless crisis is taking a devastating toll on families and communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the homelessness crisis is the result of the underinvestment and poor policy choices of successive Provincial Governments;

AND WHEREAS homelessness requires a range of housing, social services and health solutions from the Government;

AND WHEREAS homelessness is felt most at the level of local government and the residents that they serve;

AND WHEREAS municipalities and District Social Administration Boards are doing their part, but do not have the resources, capacity or tools to address this complex challenge;

AND WHEREAS leadership and urgent action is needed from the Provincial Government on an emergency basis to develop, resource, and implement a comprehensive plan to prevent, reduce and ultimately end homelessness in Ontario.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa calls on the Provincial Government to urgently acknowledge that homelessness in Ontario is a social, economic and health crisis; commit to ending homelessness in Ontario and work with AMO and a broad range of community, health, Indigenous and economic partners to develop, resource and implement an action plan to achieve this goal. And that a copy of this motion be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, the Minister of Health, to AMO and the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board.

CARRIED – unanimous

Page No 96

Moved by Councillor Dexture Sarrazin

Seconded by Councillor Garry Thibert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa is in agreement to support the City of North Bay's Resolution Number 2023-82 dated February 14, 2023 in regards to the Construction Funding Subsidy (CFS) by the Ministry of Long-Term Care.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be provided to the Ministry of Long-Term Care, Treasury Board, MPP Vic Fedeli and member Municipalities of Cassellholme.

CARRIED – unanimous

Page No 97

Moved by Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner

Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

WHEREAS almost 824,000 students travel in about 16,000 school vehicles every school day in Ontario and according to the Ministry of Transportation's statistics the rate of vehicles blowing by stopped school buses is over 30,000 times every day;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario passed the Safer School Zones Act in 2017 which authorized the use of Automated School Bus Stop Arm Camera Systems to detect incidents where vehicles failed to stop when the school bus was stopped and the stop-arm extended (O. Reg. 424/20);

AND WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities (AMO) working on behalf of all Ontario Municipalities made its submission to the Standing Committee on General Government on May 21, 2019 in support of Administrative Monetary Penalties (AMPs) to be used to collect fine revenue for school bus stop arm infractions and other applications, including Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) technologies deployed in school and community safety zones;

AND WHEREAS police resources can not be spread any thinner to enforce Highway Traffic Act offences throughout municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the administrative and financial costs to establish the required municipal Administrative Penalty program under the Highway Traffic Act, and its regulations, are substantial and maybe out of reach for small or rural municipalities that have insufficient amounts of traffic to generate the required funds to offset the annual operational costs of a municipal administrative Penalty program;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa urges the Provincial Government to require all school buses to have stop arm cameras installed and paid for by the Province for the start of the 2023-2024 school year; and underwrite the costs for the implementation and on-going annual costs for Administrative Monetary Penalties in small and rural municipalities. And that this resolution be circulated to Premier Doug Ford, Attorney General Doug Downey, Minister of Education Stephen Lecce, MPP Vic Fedeli and the Association for Municipalities of Ontario.

DEFERRED – unanimous

Page No 98

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

WHEREAS improved financial stability allows municipal residents to participate, contribute and invest in their local economies and communities;

AND WHEREAS poverty puts additional pressure on municipalities who are responsible for delivering necessary and strained public and social services to support residents who are struggling with the consequences of inadequate income;

AND WHEREAS food insecurity has a detrimental impact on physical and mental health;

AND WHEREAS adequate income is an important social determinant of health that greatly impacts food security and other social determinants of health such as mental health, housing and transportation;

AND WHEREAS the 2022 Cost of Eating Well report shows that households reliant on social assistance do not have enough money for the costs of living, including food;

AND WHEREAS 67% of households in Ontario with social assistance as their main source of income experience food insecurity.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa supports efforts to raise awareness about and work to reduce health inequities including food insecurity.

AND FURTHER THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa endorse the letter from the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit and call on the Province of Ontario to:

- Legislate targets for the reduction of food insecurity as part of the Ontario Poverty Reduction Strategy; and
- Increase social assistance rates to reflect the costs of living and to index Ontario Works rates to inflation going forward; and
- Urge the Province to resume investigating the feasibility of creating a guaranteed living wage (basic income) in the Province of Ontario

AND FURTHER THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa provides correspondence of these resolution to the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, neighbouring municipalities, Nipissing MPP Vic Fedeli, Parry Sound-Muskoka MPP Graydon Smith, Timiskaming-Cochrane MPP John Vanthof, Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, the Minister of Health, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, MP Anthony Rota, MP Scott Aitchison, MP Marc Serre, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

CARRIED – unanimous

Page No 99

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa adopt By-Law Number 23-15 which is a by-law to appoint an Integrity Commissioner.

CARRIED – unanimous

Resolution Number 23-93

Moved by Councillor Dexture Sarrazin

Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

BE RESOLVED THAT the Municipal Report Number 888 be adopted.

CARRIED – unanimous

7. Committee Reports

- 7.1 Wayne Chaput, By-Law Enforcement Officer – Re: Emergency Management Ontario Senior Elected Officials Workshop – Report # 2023-40R

Resolution Number 23-94

Moved by Councillor Laura Ross

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 2023-40R titled Emergency Management Ontario Senior Elected Officials Workshop.

AND FURTHER THAT Council directs the Community Emergency Management Coordinator to provide the Field Officer and surrounding municipalities with the date and time of May 17th, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. to participate in the presentation for emergency management.

CARRIED – unanimous

- 7.2 Amy Leclerc, Clerk/Revenue Services Clerk – Re: Bill 5 – Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act – Report # 2023-41R

Resolution Number 23-95

Moved by Councillor Laura Ross

Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 2023-41R titled Bill 5 – Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act.

CARRIED – unanimous

- 7.3 Amy Leclerc, Clerk/Revenue Services Clerk – Re: Hiring of Temporary Front Counter Clerk– Report # 2023-42R

Resolution Number 23-96

Moved by Councillor Garry Thibert

Seconded by Councillor Dexture Sarrazin

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 2023-42R titled Hiring of Temporary Front Office Clerk.

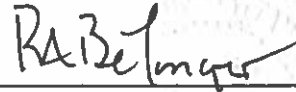
AND FURTHER THAT Council hire Ms. Allison Maxwell on a six month contract beginning April 17th, 2023 as per the terms of the contract provided to Council.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was unanimous

8. Questions from the Floor
9. New/Old Business
10. 2/3 (Special Resolutions – not previously circulated)

11. In Camera (Closed) Session
12. Return to Regular Session
13. Adjournment

The Regular Meeting of Council Monday, April 11th, 2023 adjourned at 8:50 p.m.



RA Betinger

Mayor



Amy Leclerc

Clerk