

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MATTAWA

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, July 10th, 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 Loren Mick
Councillor Laura Ross
Councillor Garry Thibert

Staff Present: Paul Laperriere, Interim CAO/Treasurer
Brittany Belanger, Executive Assistant/Acting Clerk
Barry Jackson, Public Works Supervisor

*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 23-159

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque
Seconded by Councillor Dexture Sarrazin

***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 Monday, July 10th, 2023.*

CARRIED – unanimous

2. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and Nature Thereof

Deputy Mayor Gardiner declared a conflict of interest on Correspondence Item # 4.5 Petitions & Delegations

4. Correspondence
5. Questions/Comments about the Content of the Agenda
6. Municipal Report Number 893

Resolution Number 23-160

Moved by Councillor Loren Mick
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner

***BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council approve the addition to the Agenda for Monday, July 10th, 2023 be amended to add Committee Report # 7.4 by Councillor Gardiner titled Request for Chip Wagon in Sid Turcottes Park*

CARRIED – unanimous

Page 156

Moved by Councillor Dexture Sarrazin

Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Monday, June 26th, 2023, the Special Meeting of Tuesday, July 4th, 2023 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED – unanimous

Page No 157

Moved by Councillor Laura Ross

Seconded by Councillor Loren Mick

WHEREAS the Federal and Provincial Governments need to support their most vulnerable households, the ones who are or are at risk of becoming homeless. Overall, housing and services for low-income, vulnerable, or marginalized people should be a primary consideration moving forward so we help those who need it the most.

AND WHEREAS the Town of Mattawa understands every community across Ontario is impacted by a need for affordable housing and support for people at risk of homelessness. Municipal governments are working in collaboration with all orders of government to invest in permanent solutions to the housing and homelessness crisis in Ontario.

AND WHEREAS the Town of Mattawa understands that the Federal National Housing Strategy allocation formula to provinces and territories for jointly funded housing initiatives, roughly follows their share of the national population. This approach leaves Ontario underfunded because, as per the 2021 Census figures, the number of Ontario households in Community Housing Network as a share of the national total is 44.1 percent, which is well above the provincial share of the national population at 38.5 percent. This is also by far the highest share of national Community Housing Network relative to every other province and territories.

AND WHEREAS receiving a by-population allocation from the federal government hampers Ontario's ability to reach more of those households in need that require assistance with housing.

AND WHEREAS the lack of ongoing federal operating funding for National Housing Strategy initiatives leads to significant underfunding for subsidized housing projects and can undermine the physical and financial viability of the community housing stock.

AND WHEREAS a similar situation occurs with federal homelessness funding to Ontario through Reaching Home, where the share allocated to Ontario is also below the provincial share of Community Housing Network nationally.

AND WHEREAS there is an inequitable distribution of Reaching Home funding in Ontario as only 25 of 47 Service Managers have designated communities receiving funding under the program, despite the prevalence of need across the entire Province.

AND WHEREAS the Town of Mattawa understand the federal government takes the position that its role is to provide capital funding while Provinces and Territories are to fund operating expenses, but this approach does not create an equitable sharing of the burden of funding long-term operating costs, which continue for the life of a project.

AND WHEREAS taken altogether, the underfunding to Ontario for housing and homelessness relative to its share of national Canadian Housing Network amounts to approximately \$480 million over the term of the Federal National Housing Strategy.

AND WHEREAS the federal government previously provided leadership in ensuring the long-term financial and physical viability of the social housing stock under the Social Housing Agreement for several decades through federal social housing operating agreements that provided funding for both mortgages and operating costs.

AND WHEREAS without some flexibility on the part of the federal government, Ontario and its municipalities will be poorly positioned to take advantage of this funding, and this will turn into a significant missed opportunity, leading to a further deterioration in the long-term physical and financial sustainability of the community housing stock.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Mattawa also supports the provincial ask for federal operating funding for National Housing Strategy initiatives.

AND FURTHER THAT would appreciate the federal effort to repurpose this funding quickly from the main National Housing Co-Investment Fund program line, Service Managers across the province have indicated their challenges with meeting the terms of the federal proposal, particularly as they relate to cost matching and meeting the requirements for greenhouse gas emissions, energy efficiency and accessibility.

AND FURTHER THAT the Town of Mattawa would like need-driven indicators incorporated into the funding allocation formulas for all federal programs.

AND FURTHER THAT FONOM appreciates the federal government's commitment to end chronic homelessness and wishes this to be inclusive across all areas of our province by expanding Reaching Home funding to all Service Managers.

AND FURTHER THAT FONOM also supports the provincial position in relation to the provinces and territories Repair Fund under the National Housing Co-Investment Fund.

AND FURTHER THAT FONOM supports the Province of Ontario position on the application-based \$4 billion federal Housing Accelerator Fund. We wish to emphasize the importance of providing municipalities with maximum support in preparing applications to the HAF, understanding that some rural and northern municipalities may face capacity challenges in applying to this program on the anticipated tight timelines.

AND FURTHER THAT the Town of Mattawa wish to request that Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation consider actions taken by municipalities under the province's Housing Supply Action Plans into account when assessing municipal applications, recognizing that these initiatives have the potential to significantly increase the supply of housing in our communities.

AND FURTHER THAT the Town of Mattawa believes the lack of ongoing federal operating funding for National Housing Strategy initiatives leads to significant underfunding for subsidized housing projects and can undermine the physical and financial viability of the community housing stock.

AND FURTHER THAT the Town of Mattawa believe the federal government should heed the precedent of the Social Housing Agreement and recommit itself to funding operating costs that often stretch out over decades for the lifetime of a housing project. As an example, the Rapid Housing Initiative's 20-year affordability requirement and lack of federal operating dollars will very likely result in housing providers asking Service Managers and the provincial government to fund operating expenses to ensure the long-term affordability of units given housing providers' limited revenue-raising capacity.

AND FURTHER THAT this lack of ongoing federal operating funding for National Housing Strategy initiatives leads to significant underfunding for subsidized housing projects and can undermine the physical and financial viability of the community housing stock.

AND FURTHER THAT the Town of Mattawa urges the Federal Government provide additional funding for Ontario so that we can deal with our shortages of safe and affordable housing and at the same time build safer and healthier communities for all our residents.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of the resolution be forward to the individuals listed below for consideration and support, Prime Minister Trudeau, Minister Ahmed Hussen, Anthony Rota, MP of Nipissing, Premier Ford, Minister Clark, Vic Fedeli, MPP of Nipissing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED – unanimous

Page 158

Moved by Councillor Laura Ross
Seconded by Councillor Loren Mick

WHEREAS an announcement was recently made by the Ontario Public School Boards' Association asking for the Government of Ontario to lift the moratorium on pupil accommodation reviews (and school closures) prior to the end of the 2022-2023 school year;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Township of South Glengarry passed a resolution on June 20, 2022 in support of the Community Schools Alliance's Three Point Action Plan designed to improve access to public education in rural and northern communities; namely;

THAT the Province of Ontario increase the Rural and Northern Education Fund (RNEF) to \$50 Million;

THAT should the moratorium be lifted, that the moratorium remains in place for schools that qualify for the RNEF until a thorough review of the education funding formula is completed;

THAT before templates required by the 2018 Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline are developed, there be consultation with school boards and community groups including the Community Schools Alliance;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario, through the Minister of Education, has acknowledged the negative social and economic impact school closures have on Rural and Northern Ontario Communities, and committed to a review of the process to better reflect the needs of Rural and Northern Ontario prior to the lifting of the moratorium;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa respectfully requests that the Province of Ontario, through the Minister of Education, provide an update on the status of any review of rural education funding, including the RNEF and the 2018 Pupil Accommodation Review guidelines;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Premier, the Minister of Education, MPP Vic Fedeli, AMO, ROMA, EOWC and all Ontario municipalities.

CARRIED – unanimous

Resolution Number 23-161

Moved by Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner
Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

BE RESOLVED THAT the Municipal Report Number 893 be adopted.

CARRIED – unanimous

7. Committee Reports

- 7.1 Councillor Garry Thibert – Re: Request for Expression of Interest for Rosemount Valley Suites – Report # 2023-67R

Resolution Number 23-162

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque
Seconded by Councillor Garry Thibert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 2023-67R titled Request for Expression of Interest for Rosemount Valley Suites.

AND FURTHER THAT Council directs the Interim CAO/Treasurer to create an Expression of Interest for the sale of the Rosemount Valley Suites and returns to Council at the next regular meeting of Monday, July 24th, 2023.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was unanimous

- 7.2 Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner – Re: Summer Youth Program – Report # 2023-68R

Resolution Number 23-163

Moved by Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner
Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council Receives Report # 2023-68R and approves the hiring of three summer students and increasing the hours of Chelsey Grant from 25 hours per week to 40 hours per week for a period of 7 weeks.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was unanimous

Mayor Bélanger requested Council approve a switch in the order of Committee Reports to discuss Report # 7.3 before Report # 7.4. Council approved the change in order.

- 7.4 Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner – Re: Request for Chip Wagon in Sid Turcottes Park – Report # 2023-70R

Resolution Number 23-164

Moved by Councillor Garry Thibert
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council Receives Report # 2023-70R and approves the request from Mr. Ian Foster of Sid Turcotte's Park to purchase a Refreshment Vehicle License and to operate as a Legal Non-Conforming Chip Wagon until such a time that the Zoning Bylaw 85-23 can be reviewed and/or updated.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was unanimous

- 7.3 Paul Laperriere, Interim CAO/Treasurer – Re: 2023 Budget– Report # 2023-69R

Resolution Number 23-165

Moved by Councillor Dexture Sarrazin

Seconded by Councillor Garry Thibert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 2023-69R titled 2023 Budget.

AND FURTHER THAT: Council approves the 2023 general taxation levy of \$2,333,123 representing an increase of \$58,680 over 2022 or 2.58%.

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, July 10th, 2023 adjourned at 9:19 p.m.



Mayor



Clerk

