



MINUTES of the REGULAR MEETING of COUNCIL
Held at 7 pm **Thursday, November 14, 2024**
In the Municipal Hall

Called to Order at 7:00 pm

Land Acknowledgement was read by Mayor Peter Murphy

PRESENT: Mayor Peter Murphy
Councillor Beverly Bell
Councillor Michelle Lahaye
Councillor Clwyd Edwards

Regrets: Councillor Don Lemaire

Also Present: Clerk Treasurer JoAnne Montreuil
Road Supervisor Phil Bangs

Public in Attendance:

Delegation: Sheri Wabie requesting a donation for North Bay Cancer Clinic fundraiser.

No Disclosure of Pecuniary interest or the general nature thereof was declared.

Resolution No. 2024-122

Moved by Councillor Edwards
Seconded by Councillor Lahaye

Agenda

BE IT RESOLVED that the agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council being held November 14, 2024 is accepted as presented.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 2024-123 Minutes

Moved by Councillor Lahaye
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

BE IT RESOLVED that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held on October 10, 2024 are accepted as presented.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 2024-124 Donation for the North Bay Cancer Clinic

Moved by Councillor Bell
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

BE IT RESOLVED that a donation of \$250 be donated to the fundraiser co-ordinated by Sheri Wabie, fundraising funds to be donated to the North Bay Cancer Clinic.

CARRIED



Resolution No. 2024-125 Support for the Solve the Crisis Campaign

Moved by Councillor Edwards

Seconded by Councillor Lahaye

Whereas there is a humanitarian crisis unfolding on the streets in our cities, large and small, urban and rural, across Ontario. The time for words is over, we need immediate action at all levels of government, starting with the Province of Ontario;

Whereas the homelessness, mental health and addictions crisis continues to grow with 3432 drug related deaths in Ontario in 2023¹ and over 1400 homeless encampments across Ontario communities in 2023²; and

Whereas the province has provided additional funding and supports, such as the recent investment of \$378 million for HART Hubs and approximately 375 beds with wraparound supports, it does not adequately address the growing crisis and the financial and social impact on municipalities and regions across the province; and

Whereas municipalities and regions are stepping up and working with community partners to put in place community-specific solutions to address this crisis, but municipalities and regions lack the expertise, capacity, or resources to address these increasingly complex health care and housing issues alone; and

Whereas this is primarily a health issue that falls under provincial jurisdiction and municipalities and regions should not be using the property tax base to fund these programs; and

Whereas there is no provincial lead focused on this crisis leading to unanswered questions that span over a dozen ministries, and a lack of support to manage the increasing needs of those who are unhoused.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Corporation of the Municipality of Mattawan supports the SolveTheCrisis.ca Campaign and requests that the Provincial and Federal Governments take Action to Address the Growing Mental Health, Addictions and Homelessness Crisis in Ontario;

And calls on provincial and federal governments to commit to immediate action to solve the Humanitarian Crisis that Ontario is facing as the numbers of unhoused individuals and those suffering with mental health & addictions grows exponentially;

AND that the province officially makes Homelessness a Health Priority;

AND appoints a responsible Minister and Ministry with the appropriate funding and powers as a single point of contact to address the full spectrum of housing needs as well as mental health, addictions and wrap around supports;

AND that the provincial government strike a task force with broad sector representatives including municipalities, regions, healthcare, first responders, community services, the business community and the tourism industry to develop a *Made in Ontario Action Plan*;

AND that this provincial task force reviews current programs developed by municipalities, regions and community partners that have proven successful in our communities, to ensure that solutions can be implemented quickly and effectively to tackle this crisis.

AND that the federal government is included in these conversations.

AND that both levels of government provide adequate, sufficient and sustainable funding to ensure that municipalities have the tools and resources to support individuals suffering with mental health and addictions, including unhoused people and those from vulnerable populations that may be disproportionately impacted;

And that this Council calls on the residents of the Municipality of Mattawan to join us in appealing to the provincial and federal governments for support by visiting SolveTheCrisis.ca and showing your support;

AND further that a copy of this motion be sent to:

- The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada
- The Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada
- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
- The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health
- The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- The Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
- The Honourable Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions
- Local MPs
- Local MPPs and
- Ontario's Big City Mayors



¹ Office of the Chief Coroner, Ontario (2024). OCC *Opioid Mortality Summary Q4 2023*. [PDF] .

<https://odprn.ca/occ-opioid-and-suspect-drug-related-death-data/>

² Homeless Encampments in Ontario, A Municipal Perspective, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, July 2024 -

CARRIED

Resolution No. 2024-126 Support for Ontario's Forest Sector Strategy

Moved by Councillor Edwards

Seconded by Councillor Lahaye

WHEREAS, the success of the forest sector is critical to the economic and social prosperity of Ontario communities, employing 137,000 people;

WHEREAS, the forest industry has invested over \$3.8 billion in Ontario since 2018;

WHEREAS, Ontario has an opportunity to market global investment in the bioeconomy, similar to critical minerals and electric vehicle manufacturing, and become a leading international jurisdiction;

WHEREAS, over the last 20 years, the North American pulp and paper sector has seen a significant rationalization in production capacity, with investment dollars going to competing international jurisdictions;

WHEREAS, in the last year, Ontario has seen three pulp, paper, and containerboard mills idle or close, negatively impacting communities and the solid wood mills that depend on these facilities as markets for mill by-products and pulpwood;

WHEREAS, U.S. tariffs on softwood lumber are expected to double in 2025, to approximately 30%;

WHEREAS, Ontario should work with federal colleagues to pursue a softwood lumber settlement that works in the best interests of Ontario lumber producers and advocate for a financial backstop;

WHEREAS, Ontario has an opportunity to procure greater amounts of energy (i.e., electricity, heat, fuels, biochar, etc.) from forestry by-products and forests to assist in heavy industry decarbonization and Ontario's forecasted electricity demands;

WHEREAS, Ontario's successful and oversubscribed *Forest Biomass Program* should continue post-2027;

WHEREAS, Ontario will actively seek investment to restart idled softwood kraft lines in Ontario and Quebec to provide immediate relief for some sawmill producers;

WHEREAS, Ontario's \$10 million *Sawmill Chip Program*, ending March 25, 2025, will likely need to continue and expand in the absence of an immediate restart of a currently idled pulp mill to avoid curtailments at solid wood facilities;

WHEREAS, 5-year bilateral power purchase agreements (PPAs) with forest biomass-fired electrical generation facilities are insufficient and should be expanded both in terms of length and volume to provide communities, industry, and workers with a certain future;

WHEREAS, the public *Forest Access Roads Funding Program*, which provides for the public use of Ontario's forests, should be increased to \$75 million/year to reflect inflationary pressures and support legacy infrastructure upgrades (i.e., roads, bridges, and water crossings).

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Corporation of the Municipality of Mattawan support the implementation of the Ontario Forest Industries Association's 2025 Ontario Budget Recommendations in support of attracting investment and maintaining forest operations and employment in Ontario.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to Minister Vic Fedeli, Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Minister Graydon Smith, Natural Resources, Associate Minister Kevin Holland, Forestry and Forest Products, Minister Andrea Khanjin, Environment, Conservation and Parks, Minister Todd McCarthy, Environment, Conservation and Parks, Minister George Pirie, Mines, Minister Steven Lecce, Energy and Electrification, Associate Minister Sam Oosterhoff, Energy Intensive Industries, Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy, Finance, Minister Vic Fedeli, MPP District of Nipissing, the leaders of the Opposition Parties, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, AMO, ROMA, and OFIA.

CARRIED



Resolution No. 2024-127 Police Services Board Operating Budget Levy

Moved by Councillor Lahaye

Seconded by Councillor Edwards

BE IT RESOLVED that Resolution number 2024-111 be rescinded and that the Council for the Municipality of Mattawan accept the 2024-2025 Operating Budget of \$5,000.00 and authorize the Mattawan levy payment of \$225.00.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 2024-128 Donation Request for the Mattawa & Area Food Bank

Moved by Councillor Lahaye

Seconded by Councillor Bell

BE IT RESOLVED that a donation of \$50.00 be paid to the Mattawa and Area Food Bank.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 2024-129 Donation Request for the 2024 Poppy Campaign.

Moved by Councillor Edwards

Seconded by Councillor Lahaye

BE IT RESOLVED that a \$50.00 donation be sent to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 254, in support of the 2024 Poppy Campaign.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 2024-130 Donation Request for the Voyageur Curling Club Poster Campaign

Moved by Councillor Bell

Seconded by Councillor Lahaye

BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipality of Mattawan participate in the Voyageur Curling Club Poster Campaign, at a cost of \$250.00.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 2024-131 Support for the Redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST

Moved by Councillor Lahaye

Seconded by Councillor Edwards

Whereas municipalities face growing infrastructure needs, including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services, which are essential to community well-being and economic development; and

Whereas the current sources of municipal revenue, including property taxes and user fees, are insufficient to meet these increasing demands for infrastructure investment; and

Whereas the Province of Ontario currently collects the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions in municipalities across the province, generating significant revenue that is not directly shared with municipalities; and

Whereas the Federal Government collects the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on property transactions, a portion of which could be directed to municipalities to address local infrastructure needs; and

Whereas redistributing a portion of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to municipalities would provide a predictable and sustainable source of funding for local infrastructure projects without creating a new tax burden on residents or homebuyers; and



Whereas a redistribution of a portion of the existing Land Transfer Tax and GST would allow municipalities to better plan and invest in long-term infrastructure initiatives, supporting local economic growth and improving the quality of life for residents;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Corporation of the Municipality of Mattawan Council formally requests the Provincial Government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to municipalities; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That the Corporation of the Municipality of Mattawan Council calls on the Federal Government to allocate a percentage of the GST collected on property sales to municipalities; and
3. Be It Further Resolved That this redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST should be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs; and
4. Be It Further Resolved That copies of this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs); and
5. Be It Further Resolved That copies of this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 2024-132 Support for the Good Roads ON Rural Roads Safety Program

Moved by Councillor Edwards

Seconded by Councillor Lahaye

WHEREAS official statistics from the Government of Ontario confirm that rural roads are inherently more dangerous than other roads;

AND WHEREAS, despite only having 17% of the population, 55% of the road fatalities occur on rural roads;

AND WHEREAS, rural, northern, and remote municipalities are fiscally strained by maintaining extensive road networks on a smaller tax base;

AND WHEREAS, preventing crashes reduces the burden on Ontario's already strained rural strained health care system;

AND WHEREAS, roadway collisions and associated lawsuits are significant factors in runaway municipal insurance premiums. Preventing crashes can have a significant impact in improving municipal risk profiles;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Corporation of the Municipality of Mattawan requests that the Government of Ontario take action to implement the rural road safety program that Good Roads has committed to lead. It will allow Ontario's rural municipalities to make the critical investments needed to reduce the high number of people being killed and seriously injured on Ontario's rural roads; and

FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation, Hon. King Surma, Minister of Infrastructure, Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Lisa Thompson, Minister of Rural Affairs, Hon. Trevor Jones, Associate Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response, and Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health, and Good Roads; and
FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario requesting their support.

CARRIED



Resolution No. 2024-133 Consent Items

Moved by Councillor Lahaye
 Seconded by Councillor Edwards

BE IT RESOLVED that the following correspondence/reports are marked received and filed in the Municipal Office.

| CONSENT ITEMS | | |
|----------------------|--|---|
| October 15 | Rebecca Morrow, Human Resources Coordinator/ Executive Assistant/ Deputy CA), North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority (NBMCA) | NBMCA Board Minutes September 11, 2024 |
| October 15 | Ashley Lecappelain, Executive Assistant, Office of the Medical Officer of Health/ Executive Office, North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit (NBPSDHU) | NBPSDHU Board of Health Agenda for October 16, 2024 meeting |
| October 15 | Ashley Lecappelain, Executive Assistant, Office of the Medical Officer of Health/ Executive Office, North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit (NBPSDHU) | NBPSDHU September 25, 2024 Board of Health Minutes |

CARRIED

Resolution No. 2024-134 Cheque Registers 11438- 11472

Moved by Councillor Lahaye
 Seconded by Councillor Edwards

BE IT RESOLVED that cheque registers for 11438- 11472 are approved as paid in October 2024 totalling \$64,301.06.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 2024-135

Moved by Councillor Edwards
 Seconded by Councillor Lahaye

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Municipality of Mattawan accepts the quote provided from VS Municipal Solutions, a Division of VS Group for a two-years extension of the IT contract as covered by By-Law 2024-04. For their services, the monthly charge will increase \$21.00 per month to \$570.00 per month for the years 2025 and 2026. The contract will end December 31, 2026.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 2024-136 Updated Version of the Emergency Response Plan

Moved by Councillor Edwards
 Seconded by Councillor Lahaye

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Municipality of Mattawan accepts the updated version of the Emergency Response Plan.

CARRIED



Resolution No. 2024-137

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Lahaye

Seconded by Councillor Edwards

BE IT RESOLVED that this regular meeting of Council held October 10, 2024 is adjourned.
Time: 8:30 pm.

CARRIED

The next Regular Council Meeting will be December 12, 2024 at 7 pm.

Mayor Peter Murphy

**Clerk Treasurer, JoAnne Montreuil
Approved by Resolution No. 2024-**

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