

The Corporation of the Township of Mattice – Val Côté

Meeting 23-11 (regular)

August 30th, 2023

Minutes of the regular meeting of Council held on August 30th, 2023, at 7:00 pm, in the Municipal Council Chambers at the Town Hall, 500 Highway 11, Mattice, Ontario.

Present:

Mayor – Marc Dupuis
Councilor – Sophie Gagnon
Councilor – Joyce Malenfant
Councilor – Réginald Manning

Absent:

Councilor – Steve Brousseau

Staff

CAO/Clerk – Guylaine Coulombe
Treasurer – Annie Plamondon (left at 8:15 pm)

1. Opening of meeting

The Mayor opened the meeting at 7:01 pm

2. Approval of the Order of Business

The following items were added to the agenda:

6.2 ii) Square transaction fees

7.8 d) Request to plant trees

8.1 Media release – PHU merger

- Resolution 23-173

3. Pecuniary interest

Councilor Manning declared a pecuniary interest at item 7.9

4. Delegation and Presentation

Nil

5. Adoption of minutes of previous Council meeting

- Resolution 23-174

6. Treasurer's report

6.1 Financial report – to July 31st, 2023

- Resolution 23-175

6.2 Verbal report

i) Meeting owl – equipment

- Resolution 23-176

ii) Square transaction fees

- Resolution 23-177

7. CAO's report

7.1 Resolutions/requests for support

e) Township of Emo – black ash tree classification as endangered species

- Resolution 23-178

g) Municipality of Chatham-Kent – changes to MFIPPA

- Resolution 23-179

The following resolutions/requests for support were received and filed:

a) City of Woodstock – homelessness and opioid crisis

b) City of Toronto – proposed Provincial Planning Statement

c) City of Ottawa – donation of an ambulance to Ukraine

d) Township of Severn – climate emergency

f) NEOMA – letter to EMO on road closures

7.2 Lot measurements – improving the practice

- Resolution 23-180

7.3 Strategic Plan proposals

- Resolution 23-181

7.4 Volunteer recognition ceremony – Councillor Malenfant to represent Council

- Agreed

7.5 ONR – train design speed increases – Mayor to sign letter expressing Council's concerns to the ONR, copy to our local parliament representatives

- Agreed

7.6 Greenstone Dental hygienists – the Missinaibi Medical Clinic staff will attempt to find a replacement – municipal follow-up required

- Agreed

7.7 Local Government Week – while it does not fall within this specific week, Council members will be present at the September 10th Parish brunch to meet with local citizens

- Agreed

7.8 Report on various items

a) Training/meetings

b) Information provided

c) Complaints received

- Filed

d) For Council's consideration

i) Comfort station – given the number of canoeists that used the park this summer, we never did lock it up in the evenings

- Filed

ii) Val Côté Fire Hall – snow removal – given the need for WSIB and liability coverage, consider inhouse alternatives

- Deferred

iii) Complaint 310723 – advise the complainant that we have no contact with the rightful owners of the property. If possible, Council to consider the establishment of a reserve for building demolitions.

- Agreed

iv) CIMCO services: postpone their services until a decision is made

- Deferred

v) Municipal by-law officer: Council confirmed the CAO's understanding of the "on-call" process

- Filed

v) Mattice Sno Devils Snowmobile Club: a new fuel tank will replace the Club's existing one behind the arena. If the Corridor wishes to install a fuel tank behind the municipal complex at a future date, a rental agreement will be required.

- Agreed

vi) Sign at Brisson Park : when graphic design is important, the services of Signé Sigouin will be sought

- Agreed

vii) Request to plant trees from the school: authorization granted - in a designated area of Brisson Park

- Agreed

7.9 Reesor Road – excavation work

- Resolution 23-182

8. Mayor's report

8.1 PHU merger – reasoning behind the proposed merger with the Timiskaming Health Unit

8.2 Verbal report: Mattice – Val Côté reported to be the "most" francophone community in Ontario

8.3 Inquired as to whether the Municipality has ever honored its citizens with keys to the community

9. Councilors' reports

A. Councilor Gagnon

- Verbal report of the Hearst FMA meeting held on July 24th, 2023
- Verbal report: i) tombstone in the Val Côté cemetery; ii) pump for the Val Côté fire truck is not in proper working order – CAO to follow-up

B. Councilor Malenfant

- Verbal report of the Planning Board meeting held in Hearst earlier today

C. Councilor Manning

- Inquired about the raised culverts (eg. corner of Gagnon and 1st Street North)

10. By-laws

Nil

11. Caucus

- a) Caucus – Resolution 23-183
- b) Regular meeting – Resolution 23-184

12. Minutes/Periodic reports/Correspondence

The following documents were received and filed:

- 12.1 Hours worked – July 2023
- 12.2 Ministry of Energy – provincial plan to meet the rising demand for electricity
- 12.3 Scholarship recipient – thank you note
- 12.4 PHU – i) need for air quality monitoring station; ii) report on the health impacts of climate change
- 12.5 Ministry of Infrastructure – i) broadband projects; ii) AMP it Up 3.0
- 12.6 MMAH – Building Faster Fund
- 12.7 AMO – conference highlights

13. Resolutions

Agenda

Resolution 23-173: Réginald Manning – Sophie Gagnon
THAT the agenda, as amended, be hereby accepted.

Carried

Minutes

Resolution 23-174: Joyce Malenfant - Réginald Manning
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of Council's regular meeting
23-10, held on July 19th, 2023 be hereby adopted.

Carried

Financial report

Resolution 23-175: Réginald Manning – Sophie Gagnon

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the financial report ending July 31st, 2023 be hereby approved as circulated.

Carried

Meeting owl – equipment

Resolution 23-176: Joyce Malenfant – Sophie Gagnon

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council hereby authorizes the purchase of a meeting owl with an 8 feet expansion microphone at a cost of ONE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-NINE (\$1,679.00) DOLLARS, plus taxes.

Carried

Square transaction fees

Resolution 23-177: Réginald Manning – Joyce Malenfant

WHEREAS the transaction fees associated with the Square payment terminal will soon be increasing significantly (from 10 cents per transaction to 0.75% of the transaction amount, plus 7 cents), and;

WHEREAS while the Municipality wishes to continue to offer debit as a payment option, it cannot assume the costs of such a fee increase, and;

WHEREAS in light of the amount that would have to be charged, passing on the increase to the user will likely result in he or she choosing another payment method;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Municipality purchase a new payment terminal from Caisse Alliance, with the transaction fee set at five cents per transaction, at a cost of SEVEN HUNDRED AND FORTY-NINE (\$749.00) DOLLARS, plus taxes, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the remaining Covid funds be used to cover said purchase.

Carried

Black ash tree classification

Resolution 23-178: Marc Dupuis – Sophie Gagnon

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté support Resolution June 14, 2023 No. 16 made by Council of the Township of Emo, urging the Provincial Government to: a) rescind the Ontario Black Ash Recovery Strategy, at least as it concerns the Rainy River District and Northwestern Ontario; b) seek further understanding of the health of the Black Ash in the Rainy River District and Northwestern Ontario and c) complete a

provincial study regarding the socio-economic impact on this part of Northwestern Ontario, in consultation with stakeholders, BEFORE any policies are passed and enacted upon, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Township of Emo and to our local parliament representatives, MP Carol Hughes and MPP Guy Bourgouin.

Carried

Changes to MFIPPA

Resolution 23-179: Marc Dupuis – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté support the resolution made by Council of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent on June 26th, 2023, requesting that the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services review the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA) and consider the following recommendations: 1. That MFIPPA assign the Municipal Clerk, or designate, to be the Head under the Act; 2. That MFIPPA be updated to address current and emerging technologies; 3. That MFIPPA regulate the need for consistent routine disclosure practices across institutions; 4. That the threshold for frivolous and/or vexatious actions be reviewed and take into consideration the community and available resources in which it is applied; 5. That the threshold for frivolous and/or vexatious also consider the anonymity of requesters, their abusive nature and language in requests, to ensure protection from harassment, as provided for in the Occupational Health and Safety Act; 6. That the application and scalability of fees be designed to ensure taxpayers are protected from persons abusing the access to information process; 7. That administrative practices implied or required under the Act, including those of the IPC, be reviewed and modernized; 8. That the integrity of the Act be maintained to protect personal privacy and transparent governments, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Municipality of Chatham-Kent and to our local parliament representatives, MP Carol Hughes and MPP Guy Bourgouin.

Carried

Lot measurements

Resolution 23-180: Sophie Gagnon – Réginald Manning
BE IT RESOLVED THAT going forward, a written request, containing an acknowledgement and indemnification clause similar to the one used in Hearst, be signed by the property owners who request lot measurements, and;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT said request form be available in both French and English.

Carried

Strategic Plan proposals

Resolution 23-181: Réginald Manning – Joyce Malenfant
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council hereby authorizes the CAO/Clerk to obtain clarifications from the consulting firm Espaces Stratégies with respect to the financial costs of their services and, if possible, to thereafter negotiate the terms of a contractual agreement with said firm to assist Council in a strategic plan exercise.

Carried

Reesor Road

Resolution 23-182: Marc Dupuis – Joyce Malenfant
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the 40 to 50 hours of excavation work required on Reesor Road be performed on an hourly basis by LT Construction Plus Inc.

Carried

Caucus

Resolution 23-183: Sophie Gagnon – Réginald Manning
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council go into closed meeting at 9:25 pm to adopt the minutes of a closed meeting.

Carried

Regular meeting

Resolution 23-184: Joyce Malenfant – Marc Dupuis
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the regular meeting of Council resume at 9:26 pm.

Carried

Minutes

Resolution 23-185: Sophie Gagnon – Réginald Manning
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of Council's closed meeting 23-10, held on July 19th, 2023, be hereby adopted.

Carried

14. Next meeting: Monday, September 25th, 2023 (tentative)

15. Confirmatory by-law

Resolution 23-186: Joyce Malenfant – Réginald Manning

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 964, being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council on Wednesday, August 30th, 2023, be hereby adopted.

Carried

16. Adjournment: 10:00 pm

Resolution 23-187: Sophie Gagnon – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this regular meeting of Council held on August 30th, 2023, be adjourned at 10:00 pm.

Carried

Read and confirmed on September 21st, 2023

Mayor

CAO/Clerk