

The Corporation of the Township of Mattice – Val Côté

Meeting 24-08 (regular)

May 1st, 2024

Minutes of the regular meeting of Council held on May 1st, 2024, 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 8:26 pm)

1. Opening of meeting

The Mayor opened the meeting at 7:00 pm

2. Approval of the Order of Business

- Resolution 24-82

3. Pecuniary interest

Nil

4. Delegation, Presentation, Meeting requested by Council

Nil

5. Adoption of minutes of previous Council meetings

- Resolutions 24-83, 24-84 and 24-85

6. Treasurer's report

6.1 2024 Budget - adoption

- Resolution 24-86

7. CAO's report

7.1 Resolutions/requests for support

- a) City of Sault Ste. Marie – Bill C-332 - coercive control
 - Resolution 24-87

- b) City of Peterborough – particulars of Ombudsman investigations
 - Resolution 24-88

- d) Municipality of West Perth – Minister's permit & review powers under the Conservation Authorities Act
 - Resolution 24-89

- e) Hastings County – sustainable infrastructure funding for small rural municipalities
 - Resolution 24-90

- f) City of St. Catharines – provincial regulations pertaining to non-native (exotic) wild animals
 - Resolution 24-91

- g) Loyalist Township – need to re-evaluate funding for small municipalities
 - Resolution 24-92

The following requests for support were received and filed:

- c) Municipality of St. Charles – household food insecurity
- h) Town of Smiths Falls – basic income guarantee for working-age adults

7.2 Other requests

- a) St-François Xavier Parish – 100 years
 - i) Event designation
 - Resolution 24-93
 - ii) Camping trailers – not allowed in the Missinaibi Municipal Park. Options include lake campgrounds, private landowners and behind the arena.
 - Agreed

- b) Request for Proclamation – Hope Air Day
 - Resolution 24-94

- c) Hearst High School scholarship
 - Resolution 24-95

- d) Property owner – observation site for the 1954 solar eclipse
 - Resolution 24-96

7.3 Workshop to create a tourism itinerary in the region

- Resolution 24-97

7.4 Tenders - Sports Complex renovations

- a) Repairs to the area that housed the gym
 - Resolution 24-98
- b) New kitchen cupboards
 - Resolution 24-99

7.5 Annual revision of policies

- Resolution 24-100

7.6 Name the Community Park contest – once every member of Council has voted in round 1, CAO will proceed with the round 2 vote (top 3). Chantale Vaillancourt wins the participation prize.

- Deferred

7.7 Follow-up on various matters

- a) Lakeshore Capacity Assessment
 - Resolution 24-101
- b) Municipality's 50th anniversary
 - i) promotional items: fridge magnets, give away; playing cards, for sale; envelope stickers - order now
 - Agreed
 - ii) celebrations: a Committee will be formed – call upon Ontario francophone artists to provide entertainment (eg. Swing)
 - Agreed
- c) Future of the ice rink – CAO to obtain information about the pros and cons of building a natural ice surface over the existing cement pad and refrigeration pipes
 - Deferred

8. Mayor's report

8.1 Verbal report of the Board of Health meeting held in Timmins on April 25th, 2024

9. Councilors' reports

A. Councilor Gagnon

- Verbal report of the Long Term Care committee meeting held in Hearst on April 18th, 2024
- Wildfire Resilient Futures Initiative: Council confirmed its interest to collaborate with HFMI to obtain funding under this program, provided no municipal financial contribution is required
- Agreed

B. Councilor Malenfant

- Verbal report of the Planning Board meeting held in Hearst on April 10th, 2024
- Verbal report of the Foyer des Pionniers Board meeting held in Hearst on April 15th, 2024
- Verbal report of the Public Library Board meeting held in Mattice on April 30th, 2024
- Inquiry on the FoodCycler Program - expecting delivery of the appliances in the coming days

C. Councilor Manning

- Nil

10. By-laws

10.1 By-law no. 984 – agreements with Northern 911

- Resolution 24-102

11. Caucus

- a) Caucus – Resolution 24-103
- b) Regular meeting – Resolution 24-104

12. Minutes/Periodic reports/Correspondence

The following documents were received and filed:

- 12.1 EMO – 2023 compliance with the EMCPA
- 12.2 MAFRA – stormwater fees, impacts on agriculture
- 12.3 MNRF – insect pest management

13. Resolutions

Agenda

Resolution 24-82: Réginald Manning - Joyce Malenfant
THAT the agenda be hereby accepted.

Carried

Minutes

Resolution 24-83: Sophie Gagnon – Joyce Malenfant
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of Council’s regular meeting
24-06, held on April 8th, 2024 be hereby adopted.

Carried

Resolution 24-84: Sophie Gagnon – Joyce Malenfant
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the notes taken during the Finance
Committee meeting, held on April 17th, 2024, be hereby
approved.

Carried

Resolution 24-85: Sophie Gagnon – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of Council's extraordinary meeting 24-07, held on April 17th, 2024 be hereby adopted.

Carried

Adoption of the 2024 Budget

Resolution 24-86: Réginald Manning – Sophie Gagnon

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2024 Budget, with revenues and expenditures totaling \$2,801,314.00, be hereby approved as circulated.

Carried

Bill C-332 – coercive control

Resolution 24-87: Marc Dupuis – Sophie Gagnon

WHEREAS Bill C-332 is a private member's bill to amend the Criminal Code to create an offence of exercising coercive control of an intimate partner, by engaging in a pattern of conduct that consists of any combination, or any repeated instances, of any of the following acts: using, attempting to use or threatening to use violence against certain persons, coercing or attempting to coerce the intimate partner to engage in sexual activity or engaging in other conduct that could reasonably be expected to cause the intimate partner to believe that their safety, or the safety of a person known to them, is threatened;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté support the resolution made by Council for the City of Sault Ste. Marie on April 8th, 2024, expressing its support for Bill C-332 and calling on the Government of Canada to support Bill C-332 and to enact the necessary amendments to the *Criminal Code* of Canada to include coercive control of an intimate partner, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the City of Sault Ste. Marie and to our local parliament representatives, MPP Guy Bourgoquin and MP Carol Hughes.

Carried

Ombudsman investigations

Resolution 24-88: Marc Dupuis – Réginald Manning

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté support the resolution made by Council for the City of Peterborough on April 8th, 2024, approving the recommendations outlined in Report LSOCS24-005, dated April 2, 2024 of the Commissioner, Legislative Services, as follows:

- a) That the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, be requested to introduce a Bill to amend the *Ombudsman Act* to require the Ontario Ombudsman to provide each municipality, if requested by the municipality, sufficient particulars of each investigation, matter or case respecting the municipality that is referred to in each of the Ombudsman's annual reports, to permit the municipality to fully understand and address the subject matter of each such investigation, matter or case, including:
- i) a copy of each complaint, as applicable, redacted only to the extent of individuals' personal information contained therein;
 - ii) the identities of the municipality's employees, officers and members of Council with whom the Ombudsman was consulting in respect of the investigation, matter or case, and;
 - iii) particulars of the outcome of the investigation, matter or case, including the Ombudsman's findings, conclusions and recommendations, if any, and;

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

Carried

Minister powers under the
Conservation Authorities Act

Resolution 24-89: Sophie Gagnon – Réginald Manning

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice - Val Côté hereby support Resolution no. 122/24 made by Council for the Municipality of West Perth in response to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry proposal entitled "Regulation detailing new Minister's permit and review powers under the *Conservation Authorities Act*, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté recommends to the province that any proposed changes contemplated by the province be put on hold until the planning statement is finalized by the province and communicated to the municipalities, and;

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

Carried

Funding for small rural municipalities

Resolution 24-90: Marc Dupuis – Sophie Gagnon

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby support the resolution made by Hastings County Council on March 28th, 2024, calling on the Ontario and Federal Government to implement sustainable infrastructure funding for small rural municipalities, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT small rural municipalities not be overlooked and disregarded on future funding applications, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT both the Federal and Ontario Governments begin by acknowledging that there is an insurmountable debt facing small rural municipalities, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT both the Federal and Ontario Governments immediately commission a Working Group to develop a plan on how to deal with the impending debt dilemma, and;

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

Carried

Exotic animals

Resolution 24-91: Réginald Manning – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby support the resolution made by St. Catharines City Council on April 8th, 2024, petitioning the provincial government to implement provincial regulations to restrict the possession, breeding and use of non-native (“exotic”) wild animals and license zoos, in order to guarantee the fair and consistent application of policy throughout Ontario for the safety of Ontario’s citizens and the non-native (“exotic”) wild animal population, and;

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

Carried

Funding for small municipalities

Resolution 24-92: Marc Dupuis – Réginald Manning

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté support Resolution 2024-95 made by Council for Loyalist Township, calling on the Federal Government to re-evaluate their lack of funding for municipalities with a population of less than

50,000 in rural Ontario and to make available funding for infrastructure programs to help build infrastructure, to help build much-needed new homes, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario be asked to prioritize funding from the \$825M Housing Enabling Water Systems Fund to municipalities without housing targets that are not eligible for funding under the Building Faster Fund, and;

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

Carried

Event designation

Resolution 24-93: Marc Dupuis – Sophie Gagnon

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby confirms that it recently delegated the authority to the CAO/Clerk to designate the 100th anniversary of the Parish as an event of municipal significance.

Carried

Proclamation – Hope Air Day

Resolution 24-94: Joyce Malenfant – Réginald Manning

WHEREAS access to health care is a fundamental right for all citizens, regardless of their geographic location, and;

WHEREAS Hope Air, a charitable organization, has been tirelessly dedicated to providing access to health care by facilitating free flights and other services for patients living in rural and underserved communities in Ontario, ensuring they can receive vital medical treatment regardless of distance or financial means, and;

WHEREAS Hope Air has been instrumental in bridging the gap between smaller communities and hospitals far from home, reducing the barriers that often prevent individuals from reaching medical care, and;

WHEREAS the impact of Hope Air extends beyond the individual patients served, positively affecting families, communities and the health care system as a whole, by promoting wellness and reducing the burden of untreated medical conditions, and;

WHEREAS the compassion, dedication and commitment demonstrated by Hope Air and its volunteers embody the spirit of community and the belief in the inherent value of every individual's well-being;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED by Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté that June 7th, 2024, shall be known as "Hope Air Day" in the Municipality of Mattice-Val Côté, in recognition of the invaluable contributions made by Hope Air to the health and well-being of individuals in Ontario's remote and rural communities.

The Municipality urges all citizens to join us in celebrating Hope Air Day and to reflect on the significance of ensuring equitable access to health care for all members of our society. Let us reaffirm our commitment to supporting initiatives that promote health equity and extend our gratitude to Hope Air for their unwavering dedication to serving those in need.

Carried

Hearst High School scholarship

Resolution 24-95: Marc Dupuis – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Municipality contribute an annual amount of ONE HUNDRED (\$100.00) DOLLARS to the Hearst High School Scholarship Committee provided that said amount be given to a graduating student from Mattice – Val Côté.

Carried

Observation site – 1954 solar eclipse

Resolution 24-96: Réginald Manning – Sophie Gagnon

WHEREAS a property in Mattice had been chosen as an observation site for the 1954 solar eclipse by the Milwaukee Astronomical Society (MAS), and;

WHEREAS the current owner of the property is willing to allow people to see the marker left behind by members of the MAS and asked the Municipality to provide or to seek financial assistance in this regard;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, while the Municipality will not be contributing financially to this endeavour, municipal staff is hereby directed to write a piece about this interesting historical anecdote and to post the same on the municipal website.

Carried

Workshop – tourism

Resolution 24-97: Marc Dupuis – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CAO/Clerk attend the Tourism Excellence North workshop that will be held in Cochrane on May 22nd and 23rd next.

Carried

Tenders – repairs

Resolution 24-98: Marc Dupuis – Réginald Manning

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the contract for the repairs needed in the community hall area that housed the gym be awarded to Au Lac Construction for the amount of TEN THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED (\$10,200.00) DOLLARS, plus taxes.

Carried

Tenders – cupboards

Resolution 24-99: Joyce Malenfant – Marc Dupuis

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the contract to build the kitchen cupboards at the Sports Complex be awarded to Fern’s Cabinet Shop for the amount of FIFTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FORTY-THREE (\$15,843.12) DOLLARS and TWELVE CENTS, plus taxes.

Carried

Annual policy revision

Resolution 24-100: Sophie Gagnon – Joyce Malenfant

WHEREAS the Health & Safety Policy, the Workplace Violence Policy and the Workplace Harassment Policy must be revised by Council on an annual basis;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Health & Safety Policy, the Workplace Violence Policy and the Workplace Harassment Policy are hereby approved, as circulated.

Carried

Lakeshore Capacity Assessment

Resolution 24-101: Joyce Malenfant – Marc Dupuis

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Hutchinson Environmental Services Ltd. be retained to perform in the coming months a Lakeshore Capacity Assessment on Shallow Lake, including field investigations, for the sum of THIRTEEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND TEN (\$13,710.00) DOLLARS, plus taxes.

Carried

By-law no. 984

Resolution 24-102: Joyce Malenfant – Réginald Manning

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 984, being a By-law to authorize the execution of agreements with Northern Communication Services Inc., operating as Northern 911, to provide Emergency Response Center Services, be hereby adopted.

Carried

Caucus

Resolution 24-103: Réginald Manning – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council go into a closed meeting at 9:02 pm to discuss personal matters about an identifiable individual.

Carried

Regular meeting

Resolution 24-104: Marc Dupuis – Sophie Gagnon

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the regular meeting of Council resume at 9:04 pm.

Carried

Fire Department

Resolution 24-105: Réginald Manning – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council hereby approves the application submitted by Jesse Hoch to become a member of the Mattice – Val Côté Fire Department.

Carried

14. Next regular meeting: Tuesday, May 21st, 2024 at 7:00 pm

15. Confirmatory by-law

Resolution 24-106: Joyce Malenfant – Réginald Manning

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 985, being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council on Wednesday, May 1st, 2024, be hereby adopted.

Carried

16. Adjournment: 9:20 pm

Resolution 24-107: Sophie Gagnon – Marc Dupuis

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this regular meeting of Council held on May 1st, 2024, be adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Carried

Read and confirmed on May 21st, 2024

Mayor

CAO/Clerk