

The Corporation of the Township of Mattice – Val Côté

Meeting 25-10 (regular)

September 3rd, 2025

Minutes of the regular meeting of Council held on September 3rd, 2025, at 7:30 pm, in the Municipal Council Chambers at the Town Hall, 500 Highway 11, Mattice, Ontario.

Present:

Mayor – Marc Dupuis

Councilor – Steve Brousseau

Councilor – Sophie Gagnon

Councilor – Joyce Malenfant

Councilor – Réginald Manning

Staff

CAO/Clerk – Guylaine Coulombe

Treasurer – Annie Plamondon

Others

Renée-Pier Fontaine - Hearst Medias, Lynn Malenfant, Claudine Brunelle (all three left prior to caucus)

1. Opening of meeting

The Mayor opened the meeting at 7:32 pm

2. Approval of the Order of Business

The following items were added:

6.1 Financial report – to August 31st, 2025

6.2 Verbal report

11.1 To adopt the minutes of a closed meeting

- Resolution 25-125

3. Pecuniary interest

Councilor Brousseau declared an interest at item 7.1 i) and left the room during the discussion

Councilor Manning declared an interest at item 11.3

4. Delegation, Presentation, Meeting requested by Council

Nil

5. Adoption of minutes of previous Council meetings

- Resolutions 25-126 and 25-127

6. Treasurer's report

6.1 Financial report – to August 31st, 2025

- Resolution 25-128

6.2 Verbal report – informed Council of the need to excavate in order to address a water leak issue on Balmoral Avenue

- Filed

7. CAO's report

7.1 Resolutions/requests for support:

a) FONOM – maintenance and expansion of the NORDS program

- Resolution 25-129

c) Town of Kingsville – opposition to Bill 17

- Resolution 25-130

d) FONOM – adoption of a 2+1 highway system on Highways 11 and 17

- Resolution 25-131

f) City of St. Catharines – Elect Respect pledge

- Resolution 25-132

i) Township of Armour – governance model for Family Health Teams boards

- Resolution 25-133

m) Township of Moonbeam – aerial spraying of glyphosate

- Resolution 25-134

The following requests were received and filed:

b) Township of Otonabee – South Monaghan – cash transactions

e) Township of Nairn and Hyman – transportation and placement of niobium tailings

g) Town of Cochrane – revocation of NeCN non-disclosure agreements

h) Town of The Blue Mountains – battery storage by TC Energy

j) City of Kingston – heritage designation impact on insurance premiums

k) Township of Rideau Lakes – V.O.I.C.E. event

l) Township of West Lincoln – human trafficking in the Niagara Region

7.2 Hearst – Moosonee Diocese – sponsorship request

- Deferred

7.3 TFO – rejection of our funding request – explanations provided

- Filed

7.4 MMAH – invitation to the first Northeastern Municipal Council Workshop

- Filed

7.5 Report on various items

a) Training/meetings attended

b) Complaints

- c) Information provided to Council
 - Filed
- d) For Council's consideration
 - i) 50th anniversary festivities – NOHFC requirement re: overruns
 - Resolution 25-135
 - ii) Future of the ice rink
 - Deferred

8. Mayor's report

- 8.1 Verbal report on the visit of the Honourable George Pirie, Minister of Northern Economic Development and Growth, on July 21st last
- 8.2 Mayor Dupuis questioned the source of the 911 E text message recently received by members of the MVC Fire Department, as there was no emergency at the designated location
- 8.3 Mayor Dupuis will address the Legislative Assembly on October 30th with respect to commercial driving licences

9. Councilors' reports

A. Councilor Brousseau

- Nil

B. Councilor Gagnon

- Verbal report of the Hearst Forest Management board meeting held in Hearst on July 24th last
- Inquiry on the status of letters to Val Côté truck drivers – they have yet to be sent
- Noted that residents are worried about the passing lanes within the village of Val Côté – CAO to send letter to MTO with respect to the road markings

C. Councilor Malenfant

- Verbal report of the Planning Board meeting held in Hearst on July 30th, 2025
- Verbal report of a meeting held with the Librarian in Chief on August 19th, 2025
- Verbal report of the MVC Public Library Board meeting held in Mattice on August 27th, 2025
- Verbal report of the Foyer des Pionniers Board meeting held in Hearst on August 28th, 2025

C. Councilor Manning

- Nil

10. By-laws

Nil

11. Caucus

- a) Caucus – Resolution 25-136
- b) Regular meeting – Resolution 25-137

12. Minutes/Periodic reports/Correspondence

The following documents were received and filed:

- 12.1 Hours of work – July 2025
- 12.2 Municipality of Tweed – copy of letter sent to the Premier (repatriation of OPP costs; providing interest-free loans to developers)
- 12.3 National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation – release of new research
- 12.4 MNEDG, MI – feasibility study of building a new oil and gas pipeline
- 12.5 MNR – operational policies on aggregates
- 12.6 MNR – geologic carbon storage regulations
- 12.7 NWOnewswatch.com article – niobium rock tailings not transported to Agnew Lake

13. Resolutions

Agenda

Resolution 25-125: Réginald Manning – Joyce Malenfant
THAT the agenda, as amended, be hereby accepted.

Carried

Minutes

Resolution 25-126: Sophie Gagnon – Réginald Manning
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of Council's regular meeting 25-08, held on July 16th, 2025, be hereby adopted.

Carried

Minutes

Resolution 25-127: Joyce Malenfant - Sophie Gagnon
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of Council's extraordinary meeting 25-09, held on July 25th, 2025, be hereby adopted.

Carried

Financial Report

Resolution 25-128: Steve Brousseau – Réginald Manning
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the financial report ending August 31st, 2025, be hereby approved as circulated.

Carried

NORDS Program

Resolution 25-129: Sophie Gagnon – Réginald Manning
WHEREAS the Northern Ontario Resource Development Support (NORDS) pilot program was introduced to help Northern Ontario municipalities address infrastructure pressures resulting from natural resource sector activities, and;

WHEREAS the funding provided through the NORDS pilot project was very well received by the municipal sector, as it delivered timely and much-needed financial support to many communities across the North, and;

WHEREAS the program has allowed municipalities to strategically stack multi-year allocations in order to support large-scale infrastructure initiatives critical to community development and economic growth, and;

WHEREAS the NORDS pilot program has clearly demonstrated its value and effectiveness in helping Northern municipalities address the infrastructure challenges tied to resource development and extraction;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté strongly urges the Government of Ontario to make the Northern Ontario Resource Development Support (NORDS) program a permanent fixture of its support to northern municipalities, and to consider expanding program eligibility, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT municipalities be encouraged to continue utilizing the ability to stack NORDS allocations over multiple years to support the planning and delivery of major infrastructure projects, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Northern Economic Development and Growth, the Minister of Infrastructure, the Minister of Natural Resources, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA) and our local MPP, Guy Bourgouin, for their awareness and support.

Carried

Opposition to Bill 17

Resolution 25-130: Réginald Manning – Joyce Malenfant

WHEREAS on May 12, 2025, the Government of Ontario (hereinafter the "Province") enacted Bill 17, also known as the *Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act*, 2025 (hereinafter the "Act"), which will defer development charge revenues and increase collection efforts and costs, and;

WHEREAS the development charges collected from developers are necessary to help municipalities fund the capital costs of infrastructure and services provided to support new housing;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby supports Resolution 122-07142025 made by Council for the Town of Kingsville, requesting that the Province provide municipalities with clarity on how they should fund the capital costs of infrastructure and services required to support new growth, given the impacts to overall development charge revenue, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council also believes that the constant changes to the Province planning and development framework is creating uncertainty and is ultimately reducing housing construction, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Town of Kingsville, to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and to our local parliament representatives MPP Guy Bourgouin and MP Gaetan Malette.

Carried

2 + 1 Highway system

Resolution 35-131: Steve Brousseau – Joyce Malenfant

WHEREAS Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté supports the adoption of a 2+1 Highway System on Highways 11 and 17;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council hereby authorizes Mayor Dupuis to sign a letter of support in this regard which shall be forwarded to both the Prime Minister and the Premier of Ontario.

Carried

Elect Respect pledge

Resolution 25-132: Steve Brousseau – Sophie Gagnon

WHEREAS democracy is healthy when everyone is able to participate fully and safely and contribute to the well-being of their community, and;

WHEREAS we are witnessing the dissolution of democratic discourse and respectful debate across all levels of government and in neighbouring jurisdictions, and;

WHEREAS Ontario's municipally elected officials are dealing with increasingly hostile, unsafe work environments, facing threats and harassment, and;

WHEREAS social medial platforms have exacerbated disrespectful dialogue, negative commentary and toxic engagement which disincentivizes individuals, especially women and candidates from diverse backgrounds, from running for office;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby support the motion made by Council for the City of St. Catharines on July 14th, 2025 and hereby supports the Elect Respect pledge and commits to:

- Treat others with respect in all spaces – public, private and online;
- Reject and call out harassment, abuse and personal attacks;
- Focus debate on ideas and policies, not personal attacks;
- Help build a supportive culture where people of all backgrounds feel safe to run for and hold office;
- Call on relevant authorities to ensure the protection of elected officials who face abuse and threats, and;
- Model integrity and respect by holding one another to the highest standards of conduct, and;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council calls on elected officials, organizations and community members to support the Elect Respect campaign and sign the online pledge at www.electrespect.ca and;

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

Carried

Governance model for Family
Health Team boards

Resolution 25-133: Réginald Manning – Joyce Malenfant

WHEREAS the governance models for Family Health Teams in Ontario do not follow mandatory standards, and;

WHEREAS the lack of a standard and balanced governance model means that the needs of the local communities are not necessarily fully represented;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby support Motion no. 248 made by Council for the Township of Armour, urging the Province of Ontario to implement a standard and mandatory governance model for the boards of Family Health Teams across the province, which ensures that community members make up 50% of the overall board membership to ensure appropriate representation for the communities which use and support healthcare in their local area, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Township of Armour, to the Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health and to our local parliament representatives, MPP Guy Bourgouin and MP Gaetan Malette.

Carried

Aerial spraying of glyphosate

Resolution 25-134: Steve Brousseau – Sophie Gagnon

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby support Resolution 125-2025 made by Council for the Township of Moonbeam, urging the federal and provincial governments to take immediate action to end the aerial spraying of glyphosate, and;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council calls for the Province to form and fund an expert stakeholder advisory committee to advise on the best courses of action to protect the land, vegetation, wildlife, waterways, air and humans from the harmful effects of aerial spraying of glyphosate, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council commits to working with the Province of Ontario and other municipalities to advocate for stronger provincial leadership on aerial spraying of glyphosate, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Township of Moonbeam, to the Honourable Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, to the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change and to our local parliament representatives, MPP Guy Bourgouin and MP Gaetan Malette.

Carried

Cost overruns – 50th

Resolution 25-135: Joyce Malenfant – Steve Brousseau

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby undertakes to cover cost overruns of the upcoming Municipality's 50th anniversary celebrations, should they occur.

Carried

Caucus

Resolution 25-136: Steve Brousseau – Réginald Manning

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council go into a closed meeting at 8:46 pm to adopt the minutes of a closed meeting and to discuss labour relations and litigation or potential litigation.

Carried

Regular meeting

Resolution 25-137: Marc Dupuis – Steve Brousseau
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the regular meeting of Council resume
at 9:21 pm.

Carried

Minutes

Resolution 25-138: Réginald Manning – Joyce Malenfant
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of Council's closed
meeting 25-08, held on July 16th 2025, be hereby adopted.

Carried

Dispensing fees

Resolution 25-139: Steve Brousseau – Réginald Manning
BE IT RESOLVED THAT all medication dispensing fees be
reimbursed to Annie Plamondon as the Municipality does not
pay any premiums for her medical coverage.

Carried

Temporary access

Resolution 25-140: Sophie Gagnon – Steve Brousseau
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CAO obtain an estimate from
Villeneuve Construction with respect to installing a temporary
bridge or building a temporary passage in order to provide
access to and from Gagnon Road during the culvert
replacement project.

Carried

14. Next regular meeting: Tuesday, September 30th, 2025, at 7:00 pm

15. Confirmatory by-law

Resolution 25-141: Steve Brousseau – Joyce Malenfant
BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 1027, being a By-law to
confirm the proceedings of Council on Wednesday, September
3rd, 2025, be hereby adopted.

Carried

16. Adjournment: 9:36 pm

Resolution 25-142: Joyce Malenfant – Sophie Gagnon
BE IT RESOLVED THAT this regular meeting of Council held
on September 3rd, 2025, be adjourned at 9:36 pm.

Carried

Read and confirmed on September 30th, 2025

Mayor

CAO/Clerk