

The Corporation of the Township of Mattice – Val Côté

Meeting 26-01 (regular)

January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Minutes of the regular meeting of Council held on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 7:00 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

Others

Lynn Malenfant & Claudine Brunelle, left prior to caucus

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1. Opening of meeting

The Mayor opened the meeting at 7:00 pm

2. Approval of the Order of Business

The following item was added:

7.9 d) iv) Fire Education Conference

- Resolution 26-01

3. Pecuniary interest

Nil

4. Delegation, Presentation, Meeting requested by Council

Nil

5. Adoption of minutes of previous Council meeting

- Resolution 26-02

6. Treasurer's report

Nil

7. CAO's report

7.1 Resolutions/requests for support:

a) Township of Nairn and Hyman – support for steel and lumber sectors

- Resolution 26-03

- c) Municipality of Moonbeam – rethinking NeCN
  - Resolution 26-04
- g) Northwatch – transportation of nuclear waste
  - Resolution 26-05
- i) Town of Aylmer – sexual offences against children – call to action
  - Resolution 26-06

The following requests were received and filed:

- b) City of Brantford – sexual offences (register, sentencing, parole)
- d) Town of Cobourg – elbows up for climate action
- e) Township of Hornepayne – new small northern residential property tax class
- f) NEOMA – i) Timmins Airport; ii) survival of Kap Paper
- h) Town of Smooth Rock Falls – contribution toward the NeCN EDO position

7.2 FONOM Conference – Mayor Dupuis and Councillor Malenfant will be attending the Conference in Timmins in May

- Agreed

7.3 NEOMA AGM – two members of Council, including Mayor Dupuis, will be attending the meeting in Smooth Rock Falls on February 27<sup>th</sup>

- Agreed

7.4 Rally demanding safer highways – residents will be invited to attend the rally being held in Hearst on January 24<sup>th</sup>

- Agreed

7.5 Environmental consultants – the list of firms working in neighbouring communities was provided to Council; the services of Pinchin will be retained

- Resolution 26-07

7.6 MECP – inspection of the Mattice drinking water system

- Resolutions 26-08

7.7 2026 Membership fees

- Resolution 26-09

7.8 Regional promotion – Council is interested in taking part in a regional social media marketing project with Yolo Nomads – the final decision will depend on the actual costs required from the Municipality

- Agreed

7.9 Report on various items

- a) Training/meetings attended
- b) Complaints
- c) Information provided to Council
- Filed

- d) For Council's consideration
  - i) Manulife shares: for the time being, Council is not interested in selling the 280 municipal shares
    - Agreed
  - ii) Long-term rental of municipal property - construction of a garage for the benefit of the Mattice Sno Devils Snowmobile Club: Council is prepared to entertain this possibility
    - Agreed
  - iii) Future of the ice rink: nothing to report
  - iv) Fire Education Conference
    - Resolution 26-10
8. Mayor's report
- 8.1 Discussed with Chief Allen the possibility of using the rink surface as part of Constance Lake First Nations' prefab project. CAO to provide dimensions.
  - 8.2 Verbal report on the Board of Health meeting held on January 12<sup>th</sup> last, wherein Dr Catton tendered her resignation.
  - 8.3 Mentioned the picture recently taken with the OPP vehicle celebrating Franco-Ontarians and asked that it be shared on the municipal face book page.
  - 8.4 Verbal report of the meetings held in Mattice and in Val Côté with most members of the Fire Department to discuss the commitment required from each one of them.
9. Councilors' reports
- A. Steve Brousseau
    - Verbal report of the MVC Public Library Board meeting held on January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026
  - B. Sophie Gagnon
    - Asked whether the snowbanks could be pushed back to enlarge Desfossés Road before taking the Highway
  - C. Joyce Malenfant
    - Nil
  - D. Councilor Manning
    - Verbal report of the Kap LCC meeting held on January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026
    - Highway 11 maintenance: mentioned complaints made by former operators of the contractor
10. By-laws
- 10.1 By-law no. 1035 – Fire Protection Grant
    - Resolution 26-11
  - 10.2 By-law no. 1036 – Interim tax bill
    - Resolution 26-12

- 10.3 By-law no. 1037 – Compensation for members of Council  
- Resolution 26-13
- 10.4 By-law no. 1038 – Reimbursement of expenses for employees  
- Resolution 26-14

11. Caucus

- a) Caucus – Resolution 26-15
- b) Regular meeting – Resolution 26-16

12. Minutes/Periodic reports/Correspondence

The following documents were received and filed:

12.1 Hours of work – December 2025

Councilor Malenfant questioned the overtime worked on Sunday, January 11th

Councilor Manning questioned the fact that the services of a contractor were retained for snow removal without prior approval from Council

12.2 MNR – amendments to the *Forest Fires Prevention Act*

12.3 MNR – CLFN Community-Based Land Use Plan

12.4 FONOM – homelessness crisis in northern Ontario

13. Resolutions

Agenda

Resolution 26-01: Réginald Manning – Joyce Malenfant  
THAT the agenda, as amended, be hereby accepted.

Carried

Minutes

Resolution 26-02: Steve Brousseau – Sophie Gagnon  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of Council's regular meeting 25-14, held on December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025, be hereby adopted.

Carried

Steel and lumbers sectors

Resolution 26-03: Steve Brousseau – Sophie Gagnon  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby support Resolution no. 2025-14-247 made by the Township of Nairn and Hyman, commending the Government of Canada for its leadership and for implementing substantial measures to support Canada's steel and softwood lumber industries during this period of trade volatility, and;  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council respectfully urges the Government of Ontario to introduce additional financial, regulatory and policy-based supports to ensure that Ontario's steel, forestry and lumber sectors remain competitive, resilient and able to withstand ongoing international trade pressures, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council specifically calls upon the Province of Ontario to work directly with industry stakeholders, including municipalities and major employers, to create programs and investments that will help protect jobs, maintain production capacity and support long-term industry growth in Northern Ontario, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Township of Nairn and Hyman and to our local parliament representatives, MPP Guy Bourgouin and MP Gaetan Malette.

Carried

Rethinking NeCN

Resolution 26-04: Steve Brousseau – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby support Resolution no. 195-2025 made by Council for the Township of Moonbeam and affirms its continued membership in NeCN and its continued participation in meetings when possible, in the spirit of constructive regional cooperation, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council will not commit to new financial contributions toward NeCN-led initiatives or projects until such time as the NeCN engages all thirteen member municipalities in the development of a shared regional economic development vision and undertakes a review of its governance and leadership structure, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council encourages the NeCN to enhance transparency, improve communication with member municipalities and ensure that future regional initiatives reflect the collective will and priorities of its members, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Township of Moonbeam and to the NeCN Executive.

Carried

Transportation of nuclear waste

Resolution 26-05: Steve Brousseau – Joyce Malenfant

WHEREAS a federal review of the Nuclear Waste Management Organization's (NWMO) plan to transport, process, bury and eventually abandon all of Canada's high-level nuclear waste in northwestern Ontario was launched in early January and;

WHEREAS the NWMO is seeking to exclude the transportation of the high-level radioactive wastes from the impact assessment process;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté will provide comments on the Initial Project Description by February 4<sup>th</sup>, stating that we fully expect transportation to be assessed in the federal review process.

Carried

Sexual offences against children

Resolution 26-06: Réginald Manning – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté support the resolution made by Council for the Town of Aylmer on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026, urging all levels of government to review and strengthen legislation and policies related to violent and sexual offences against children, including, but not limited to: 1) Bail and Sentencing Provisions - ensuring that individuals charged with or convicted of violent sexual offences against children are subject to the strictest possible bail conditions and sentencing outcomes that reflect the severity of these crimes; 2) Parole and Early Release – limiting parole eligibility, statutory release or other forms of early release for offenders convicted of sexual offences against children who pose ongoing risks to public safety; 3) Sex Offender Monitoring – strengthening the National Sex Offender Registry and related provincial tools to improve accuracy, enforcement and timely access to information for law enforcement, and; 4) Victim and Community Safety – prioritizing the protection of children and community safety within the justice system above administrative or procedural efficiencies, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Town of Aylmer, to the Attorney General of Ontario, to the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada and to our local parliament representatives, MPP Guy Bourgouin and MP Gaetan Malette.

Carried

Environmental consultants

Resolution 26-07: Joyce Malenfant – Marc Dupuis

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the services of Pinchin Ltd. once again be retained to prepare the 2023-2025 Groundwater monitoring report for the Mattice – Val Côté landfill site at a cost of FIVE THOUSAND AND FORTY-FIVE (\$5,045.00) DOLLARS, plus taxes.

Carried

Inspection of the Mattice drinking water system

Resolution 26-08: Réginald Manning – Joyce Malenfant  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive and file the annual inspection report prepared for 2025 by the Water Compliance Officer of the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks with respect to the Mattice Drinking Water System.

Carried

Membership fees

Resolution 26-09: Steve Brousseau – Réginald Manning  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the membership fees paid last year to the following associations once again be paid in 2026: AMO, FCM, FONOM, MEPCO, MFOA, NEOnet and NeCN.

Carried

Fire Education Conference

Resolution 26-10: Steve Brousseau – Réginald Manning  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council authorizes two members of the Mattice – Val Côté Fire Department, including the Fire Chief, to attend the Northeastern Fire Education Conference that will be held at the Deerhurst Resort from March 26<sup>th</sup> to March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026, and;  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council wishes that the member accompanying the Fire Chief to said Conference be a different person than last year, and;  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council hereby acknowledges the possibility that 2 individuals will claim milage expenses (one way for the Fire Chief and both ways for the other member).

Carried

By-law no. 1035

Resolution 26-11: Steve Brousseau - Réginald Manning  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 1035, being a By-law to authorize the execution of an agreement with His Majesty the King in right of Ontario, as represented by the Solicitor General, for funding under the Fire Protection Grant, be hereby adopted.

Carried

By-law no. 1036

Resolution 26-12: Steve Brousseau – Joyce Malenfant  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 1036, being a By-law authorizing a tax levy before the adoption of the estimates for the year 2026, be hereby adopted.

Carried

By-law no. 1037

Resolution 26-13: Steve Brousseau – Sophie Gagnon  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 1037, being a By-law to establish the remuneration and allowances for expenses of members of Council and its officers for 2026, be hereby adopted.

Carried

By-law no. 1038

Resolution 26-14: Steve Brousseau – Sophie Gagnon  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 1038, being a By-law to establish compensation and allowances for expenses of municipal employees for 2026, be hereby adopted.

Carried

Caucus

Resolution 26-15: Réginald Manning – Joyce Malenfant  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council go into a closed meeting at 8:14 pm to adopt the minutes of a closed meeting and to discuss the disposition of land and labour relations.

Carried

Regular meeting

Resolution 26-16: Steve Brousseau - Joyce Malenfant  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the regular meeting of Council resume at 8:45 pm.

Carried

Minutes

Resolution 26-17: Réginald Manning - Sophie Gagnon  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of Council's closed meeting 25-14, held on December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025, be hereby adopted.

Carried

Labour relations

Resolution 26-18: Steve Brousseau – Marc Dupuis  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT, going forward, half of the remaining sick days accumulated based on the years of service be paid out to municipal employees when they leave their employment or retire.

Carried

14. Next regular meeting: Monday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 7:00 pm

15. Confirmatory by-law

Resolution 26-19: Réginald Manning – Sophie Gagnon  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 1039, being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council on Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026, be hereby adopted.

Carried

16. Adjournment: 9:16 pm

Resolution 26-20: Joyce Malenfant – Steve Brousseau  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT this regular meeting of Council held  
on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026, be adjourned at 9:16 pm.

Carried

Read and confirmed on February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026

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Mayor

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CAO/Clerk