

The Corporation of the Township of Mattice – Val Côté

Meeting 23-04 (regular)

March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Minutes of the regular meeting of Council held on March 14th, 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

Staff

CAO/Clerk – Guylaine Coulombe

Absent:

Councilor – Steve Brousseau

Treasurer – Annie Plamondon

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1. Opening of meeting

The Mayor opened the meeting at 7:00 pm

2. Approval of the Order of Business

- Resolution 23-60

3. Pecuniary interest

Nil

4. Delegation and Presentation

Gérald Dion and Erik Peltonen explained to Council why they believe that the grader should initially go from west to east to remove the snow on Mgr Proulx Avenue.

5. Adoption of minutes of previous Council meeting

- Resolution 23-61

6. Treasurer's report

Nil

7. CAO's report

7.1 Resolutions/requests for support

- a) Town of Grimsby – political environment free from misogyny and harassment
  - Resolution 23-62
- c) Town of Grimsby – municipal heritage register
  - Resolution 23-63
- d) Municipality of Trent Lakes – municipal oath of office
  - Resolution 23-64
- e) Town of Cobourg – homelessness
  - Resolution 23-65
- f) Township of Moonbeam – extension of the moratorium on pupil accommodation reviews
  - Resolution 23-66
- g) FONOM/AMO – call to action on housing and homelessness
  - Resolution 23-67

The following resolution/request for support was received and filed:

- b) Niagara Region – declarations of emergency for homelessness, mental health and opioid addiction

7.2 Mattice Drinking Water System – 2022 Annual Compliance and Summary Report

- Resolution 23-68

7.3 Workplace Violence and Workplace Harassment policies

- Resolutions 23-69 and 23-70

7.4 Municipal Alcohol Policy – more research is required

- Differed

7.5 Splashpad update

- Filed

7.6 Facility rentals – provide recommendations to Council in this regard

- Differed

7.7 Kidsport request to install a billboard – fees should be reviewed – split votes

- Differed

7.8 Report on various items

- a) Training/meetings
- b) Information provided
- c) Complaints received (200223 et 080323)
  - Filed

Complaint 210223 - snow removal on Mgr Proulx avenue: Council proposes another option to be considered by the operator

- Differed

d) For Council's consideration

i) Northern Corridor Chamber of Commerce AGM – since we cannot attend, information will be sent on our behalf

- Agreed

ii) Rental fee for the Bingo machine – provide a recommendation to Council in this regard

- Differed

iii) Tiny Town Association – additional information is required in order for Council to better understand its responsibilities pertaining to water and sewer services

- Differed

8. Mayor's report

8.1 Verbal report of the Porcupine Health Unit Board meeting attended virtually on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

8.2 Verbal report of the NEOMA meeting held in Val Rita – Harty on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

8.3 Mayor reported having a discussion with an MTO representative about the river bridge sidewalk condition.

8.4 Mayor sought confirmation of the plans to open up the arena for badminton and pickleball purposes.

9. Councilors' reports

A. Councilor Gagnon

- Attended the NEOMA meeting in Val Rita - Harty on February 22<sup>nd</sup> and the Emergency management workshop in Kapuskasing on February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

- Citizens committee – inquired about the Val Côté mailout and the face book posting.

- Snowman contest – inquired about the receipt of the funds and discussed the voting process.

B. Councilor Malenfant

- Verbal report of the Mattice – Val Côté Public Library Board meeting held on February 28<sup>th</sup>.

C. Councilor Manning

- Nil

10. By-laws

10.1 By-law no. 951 – extension of the agreement with the MNRF

- Resolution 23-71

11. Caucus

a) Caucus – Resolution 23-72

b) Regular meeting – Resolution 23-73

12. Minutes/Periodic reports/Correspondence

The following documents were received and filed:

12.1 Hours of work – February 2023

12.2 MNRF – floating accommodations and camping on water

12.3 Town of Cochrane – letter of support for NeCN Agriculture Project

13. Resolutions

Agenda

Resolution 23-60: Réginald Manning – Sophie Gagnon  
THAT the agenda be hereby accepted.

Carried

Minutes

Resolution 23-61: Joyce Malenfant – Réginald Manning  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of Council’s regular meeting 23-03, held on February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023, be hereby adopted.

Carried

Misogyny and Harassment

Resolution 23-62: Marc Dupuis – Sophie Gagnon  
WHEREAS the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté values equality and inclusivity in all areas of life, including politics, and;  
WHEREAS women have historically been underrepresented in politics and continue to face barriers and discrimination in their pursuit of elected office, and;  
WHEREAS misogyny and harassment have been identified as significant challenges for women in politics, both in Canada and around the world, and;  
WHEREAS the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté believes that all individuals have the right to participate in a political environment that is free from discrimination, harassment and misogyny;  
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby supports resolution no. c-23-055 made by the Council for the Town of Grimsby, expressing its support for women in politics and their right to participate in a political environment that is free from misogyny and harassment and where everyone feels equal, and;  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté commits to taking steps to ensure that our political environment is inclusive and welcoming to all individuals, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or other identity factors, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté encourages other municipalities in Ontario and across Canada to join us in supporting women in politics and promoting gender equality in all areas of society, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Town of Grimsby and to our local parliament representatives, MP Carol Hughes and MPP Guy Bourgouin to express our commitment to the issue and encourage action at the provincial level to create legislation to ensure equality, safety and security.

Carried

Municipal Heritage Register

Resolution 23-63: Joyce Malenfant – Réginald Manning

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby supports the resolution made by Council for the Town of Grimsby on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, affirming the importance of the Municipal Heritage Register and its role in preserving the cultural heritage of municipalities throughout the province, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté encourages the government of Ontario to make changes to the Ontario Heritage Act which promote the retention and extension of the Municipal Heritage Register, including the listing of properties of cultural heritage value or interest that are not currently designated, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté encourages the government of Ontario to change the Ontario Heritage Act to protect the 60-day demolition provision indefinitely, rather than for a maximum of 2 years, in order to provide adequate time for the municipality to consider the heritage value of properties before they may be demolished, and;

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

Carried

Municipal Oath of Office

Resolution 23-64: Marc Dupuis – Réginald Manning

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby supports Resolution no. R2023-119 made by Council for the Municipality of Trent Lakes, requesting to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing that the following changes be made to the municipal oath of office: "I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III and will faithfully observe the laws of Canada, including the Constitution, which recognizes and affirms the Aboriginal and treaty rights of First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples," and;

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

Carried

Homelessness

Resolution 23-65: Marc Dupuis – Sophie Gagnon

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby supports Resolution no. 045-23 made by the Town of Cobourg, requesting immediate action from the Province of Ontario to develop, resource and implement a comprehensive plan to prevent, reduce and ultimately end homelessness in Ontario, and;

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

Carried

Pupil accommodation reviews

Resolution 23-66: Joyce Malenfant – Réginald Manning

WHEREAS an announcement was made in the media that the English Public School Boards Association, the largest school association in the province, is asking for the end of the moratorium on most pupil accommodation reviews, and;

WHEREAS this announcement potentially threatens the future of schools in many single school municipalities, and;

WHEREAS access to education and the presence of a school in a community is an essential service and has a direct link to the quality of life in a community, and;

WHEREAS schools play a key role in improving services and quality of life in a community and are viewed as activity centers where children have access to education, health services, recreation and culture, and;

WHEREAS schools are an important factor in the retention and attraction of residents in a community and are essential in order to resolve labour shortages and to allow economic development and growth in small rural municipalities, and;

WHEREAS demographics in many areas are currently shifting and changing quickly, as we work on meeting the needs of many Ontario residents during a housing crisis;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby supports Resolution no. 042-2023 made by Council for the Township of Moonbeam, requesting that the provincial government, through the Minister of Education, extend the moratorium on most pupil accommodation reviews, in order to allow municipalities, townships, neighborhoods or subdivisions the opportunity to prosper, develop and grow, without being hindered by the prospect of school closures because of current low enrollments that could quickly change, and;

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

Carried

Call to action on housing  
and homelessness

Resolution 23-67: Joyce Malenfant – Réginald Manning

WHEREAS the homelessness crisis is taking a devastating toll on families and communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario, and;

WHEREAS the homelessness crisis is the result of the underinvestment and poor policy choices of successive provincial governments, and;

WHEREAS homelessness requires a range of housing, social service and health solutions from government, and;

WHEREAS homelessness is felt most at the level of local government and the residents that they serve, and;

WHEREAS municipalities and District Social Administration Boards are doing their part, but do not have the resources, capacity or tools to address this complex challenge, and;

WHEREAS leadership and urgent action is needed from the provincial government on an emergency basis to develop, resource and implement a comprehensive plan to prevent, reduce and ultimately end homelessness in Ontario.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté calls on the Provincial Government to urgently: a) acknowledge that homelessness in Ontario is a social, economic and health crisis; b) commit to ending homelessness in Ontario; c) work with AMO and a broad range of community, health, Indigenous and economic partners to develop, resource and implement an action plan to achieve this goal, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, to the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, to the Minister of Health, to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, to the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities and to our local parliament representatives, MP Carol Hughes and MPP Guy Bourgouin.

Carried

Annual Compliance and  
Summary Report

Resolution 23-68: Marc Dupuis – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté receive and adopt the 2022 Annual Compliance and Summary Report for the Mattice Drinking Water System.

Carried

Workplace Violence Policy

Resolution 23-69: Sophie Gagnon – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council hereby adopts the revised version of the Workplace Violence Policy.

Carried

Workplace Harassment Policy

Resolution 23-70: Réginald Manning – Marc Dupuis

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council hereby adopts the revised version of the Workplace Harassment Policy.

Carried

By-law no. 951

Resolution 23-71: Joyce Malenfant – Sophie Gagnon

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 951, being a By-law to extend the Municipal Forest Fire Agreement, be hereby adopted.

Carried

Caucus

Resolution 23-72: Joyce Malenfant – Réginald Manning

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council go into closed meeting at 9:12 pm to discuss labour relations.

Carried



Regular meeting

Resolution 23-73: Sophie Gagnon - Marc Dupuis  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the regular meeting of Council resume at 9:26 pm.

Carried

14. Next meeting: Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 7:00 pm

15. Confirmatory by-law

Resolution 23-74: Sophie Gagnon – Réginald Manning  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 952, being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council on Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023, be hereby adopted.

Carried

16. Adjournment: 9:27 pm

Resolution 23-75: Joyce Malenfant – Marc Dupuis  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT this regular meeting of Council held on March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023, be adjourned at 9:27 pm.

Carried

Read and confirmed on April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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Mayor

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CAO/Clerk