

The Corporation of the Township of Mattice – Val Côté

Meeting 24-02 (regular)

February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Minutes of the regular meeting of Council held on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 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

Other

Councilor – Steve Brousseau, via meeting owl

Staff

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

Other

Renée-Pier Fontaine, Hearst Medias

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1. Opening of meeting

The Mayor opened the meeting at 7:04 pm

2. Approval of the Order of Business

The following items were added:

- 6.1 2024 Memberships
- 7.6 d) Open Space Zone
- 10.3 By-law no. 978
- 12.6 Hours of work - January
- Resolution 24-24

3. Pecuniary interest

Nil

4. Delegation, Presentation, Meeting requested by Council

Nil

5. Adoption of minutes of previous Council meeting

- Resolutions 24-25

6. Treasurer's report

6.1 2024 Memberships

- Resolution 24-26

7. CAO's report

7.1 Resolutions/requests for support

a) Town of Mono – road safety

- Resolution 24-27

d) County of Prince Edward – replacement of fire trucks

- Resolution 24-28

e) Municipality of Calvin – national strategy of firefighting

- Resolution 24-29

The following requests for support were received and filed:

b) City of Sarnia – carbon tax

c) Municipality of Tweed – licence plate renewal system

f) City of Brantford – passenger train

7.2 Acting Mayor

- Resolution 24-30

7.3 Follow Her North – use of the Missinaibi Municipal Park

- Resolution 24-31

7.4 OTF – Capital Grant Stream – submit a funding request for a combined outdoor basketball/tennis court

- Agreed

7.5 Earth Day on April 22<sup>nd</sup> – Council members to bring forth suggestions, if any

- Agreed

7.6 Report on various items

a) Training/meetings

b) Information provided

c) Complaints received

- Filed

- d) For Council's consideration: Open Space Zone – to address the issue, the following options will be presented to the individual: i) demolish and reconstruct at the same location; ii) obtain the services of a land surveyor; iii) register an agreement on title releasing the Municipality of any liability in the matter.
- Agreed

7.7 Mattice – Val Côté Strategic Plan 2024-2028

- Resolution 24-32

8. Mayor's report

Verbal report of the PHU Board meeting held in Timmins on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024

9. Councilors' reports

A. Councilor Brousseau

- Nil

B. Councilor Gagnon

- Verbal report of the Hearst FMA meeting held in Hearst earlier today

C. Councilor Malenfant

- Verbal report of the MVC Public Library Board meeting held on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- Verbal report of the Hearst Planning Board meeting held earlier today

D. Councilor Manning

- Nil

10. By-laws

10.1 By-law no. 975

- Resolution 24-33

10.2 By-law no. 976

- Resolution 24-34

10.3 By-law no. 978

- Resolution 24-35

11. Caucus

Nil

12. Minutes/Periodic reports/Correspondence

The following documents were received and filed:

- 12.1 Hours of work – December 2023
- 12.2 Robichaud Insurance – IPE services
- 12.3 Ontario Clean Air Alliance – OEB decision
- 12.4 Hydro One – maintenance around power lines in 2024
- 12.5 Enbridge Gas – OEB decision
- 12.6 Hours of work – January 2024

13. Resolutions

- |                  |   |         |
|------------------|---|---------|
| Agenda           | <u>Resolution 24-24:</u> Sophie Gagnon - Réginald Manning<br>THAT the agenda, as amended, be hereby accepted.   | Carried |
| Minutes          | <u>Resolution 24-25:</u> Réginald Manning - Joyce Malenfant<br>BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of Council's regular meeting 24-01, held on January 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2024 be hereby adopted.   | Carried |
| 2024 Memberships | <u>Resolution 24-26:</u> Joyce Malenfant – Sophie Gagnon<br>BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Municipality renew the following memberships for 2024: AMO, FCM, FONOM, MEPCO, MFOA, NEOMA, NEOnet and NeCN.  | Carried |
| Road safety      | <u>Resolution 24-27:</u> Sophie Gagnon – Marc Dupuis<br>BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté support Resolution #4-1-2024 made by Council for the Town of Mono, calling on other municipalities and on the Province of Ontario to recognize a Road Safety Emergency and on the Province to take the following actions:<br><ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Launch a province-wide road safety educational program, to be funded from a portion of the monies currently spent by the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation (OLG) to advertise games of chance and lotteries in Ontario;</li></ol> |         |

2. Review and increase all Highway Traffic Act (HTA) fines and penalties to reflect a deterrent amount and consequences that sends a message that driving is a privilege subject to conditions;
3. Permit municipalities to deploy Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) in 80 km/h zones or less without having to declare Community Safety Zones and without onerous conditions;
4. Establish a Working Group with municipalities to identify and recommend elimination of regulatory red tape associated with the use of ASE and Administrative Monetary Penalties (AMPs);
5. Develop mechanisms that ensure Provincial Offenses Act (POA) fines and penalties do not lose their deterrent effect over time;
6. Work with municipalities to create better means of collecting outstanding POA fines and Victim Surcharge monies, estimated to exceed \$1 billion as far back as 2011;

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

Carried

Replacement of fire trucks

Resolution 24-28: Marc Dupuis – Sophie Gagnon

WHEREAS no provincial funding is available for new fire trucks, yet small and rural municipalities must meet the same standards set by Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) as larger municipalities for fire equipment, including additional pressure to move fire trucks out when they reach a specific age, even though they can still meet the safety regulations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté support Resolution No. 2024-46 made by Council for the County of Prince Edward, requesting a meeting with Minister Todd Smith to discuss the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements, and requesting that the FUS create a new community fire protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Premier Doug Ford, David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, and Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, respond to this matter within 30 days of receipt of the County's resolution, and;

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

Carried

National strategy of firefighting

Resolution 24-29: Marc Dupuis – Sophie Gagnon

WHEREAS forest fires are a very real threat to rural municipalities, and;

WHEREAS smoke from forest fires put people's health at risk, especially the health of children and the elderly, and;

WHEREAS, according to John Grace, a retired scientist with Natural Resources Canada, around two billion tonnes of carbon have been released into the atmosphere from forest fires in 2023, and;

WHEREAS standing healthy forests serves as carbon sinks, drawing in carbon, but once destroyed by fire, even though second growth takes place, they are much less effective for many decades, and;

WHEREAS the federal government owns no water bombers and assists the provinces through the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre (CIFFC) and;

WHEREAS a spokesperson with the CIFFC said that last year there were too many requests and not enough inventory to meet the needs of the country;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté support Resolution 2024-31 made by Council for the Municipality of Calvin, urging and encouraging the Federal Government to commit additional funds for cost sharing of provincial firefighting and to consider the development of a national strategy of firefighting and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Federal Government consider the measures necessary for acquiring a national fleet of Canadian-made waterbombers, with home bases strategically located to best serve and respond to the needs of rural

communities, and a national fire administration to better coordinate and manage efforts across the country, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a program similar to the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP), which was ended in 2013, be introduced, and;

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

Carried

Acting Mayor

Resolution 24-30: Marc Dupuis – Joyce Malenfant

WHEREAS Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté wishes to modify its past practice pertaining to the nomination of the Acting Mayor;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Resolution no. 22-210 is hereby rescinded;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, in 2024, the role of the Acting Mayor alternate amongst Councillors based on the following schedule:

- January to March – Sophie Gagnon
- April to June – Joyce Malenfant
- July to September – Réginald Manning
- October to December – Steve Brousseau

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, in 2025, the role of the Acting Mayor alternate amongst Councillors based on the following schedule:

- January to March – Joyce Malenfant
- April to June – Réginald Manning
- July to September – Steve Brousseau
- October to December – Sophie Gagnon

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, in 2026, the role of the Acting Mayor alternate amongst Councillors based on the following schedule:

- January to March – Réginald Manning
- April to June – Steve Brousseau
- July to September – Sophie Gagnon
- October to December – Joyce Malenfant

Carried

Missinaibi Municipal Park

Resolution 24-31: Marc Dupuis – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council hereby authorizes the use of the Missinaibi Municipal Park for outdoor activities organized by Follow Her North on March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 for children of the local elementary school.

Carried

MVC Strategic Plan 2024-2028

Resolution 24-32: Réginald Manning – Sophie Gagnon

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby adopts the 2024-2028 Strategic Plan, as presented, with a few minor changes, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Mayor prepare a video message to communicate to the public the orientations outlined in the plan and to invite residents to read the full document on the municipal website.

Carried

By-law no. 975

Resolution 24-33: Réginald Manning – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 975, being a by-law to establish remuneration and allowances for expenses of members of Council and its officers for 2024, be hereby adopted.

Carried

By-law no. 976

Resolution 24-34: Sophie Gagnon – Réginald Manning

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 976, being a by-law to establish compensation and allowances for expenses of municipal employees for 2024, be hereby adopted.

Carried

By-law no. 978

Resolution 24-35: Steve Brousseau – Sophie Gagnon

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 978, being a by-law to appoint members of the Mattice – Val Côté Fire Department, be hereby adopted.

Carried

14. Next regular meeting: Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7:00 pm



15. Confirmatory by-law

Resolution 24-36: Joyce Malenfant – Réginald Manning

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 977, being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council on Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, be hereby adopted.

Carried

16. Adjournment: 8:55 pm

Resolution 24-37: Sophie Gagnon – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this regular meeting of Council held on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, be adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Carried

Read and confirmed on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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Mayor

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CAO/Clerk