

The Corporation of the Township of Mattice – Val Côté

Meeting 24-12 (regular)

July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

Minutes of the regular meeting of Council held on July 23<sup>rd</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

Staff

CAO/Clerk – Guylaine Coulombe  
Treasurer – Annie Plamondon

Absent:

Councilor – Steve Brousseau  
Councilor – Réginald Manning

Others

Renée-Pier Fontaine, Hearst Medias (left at 8:05 pm)

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1. Opening of meeting

The Mayor opened the meeting at 7:02 pm

2. Approval of the Order of Business

- Resolution 24-155

3. Pecuniary interest

Nil

4. Delegation, Presentation, Meeting requested by Council

Nil

5. Adoption of minutes of previous Council meeting

- Resolution 24-156

6. Treasurer's report

Verbal report – a) details of a recent meeting with OCWA representative pertaining to water & sewer capital projects – on the lookout for funding for one or two additional main valves across the highway; b) once tax sale properties are transferred to the Municipality, Council to agree on asking price.

- Agreed

7. CAO's report

7.1 Resolutions/requests for support

- b) Township of Terrace Bay – OPP costs to Province
  - Resolution 24-157
- c) AMO and OMA – health care system crisis
  - Resolution 24-158

The following request and resolution were received and filed:

- a) GTA Strategies – recognize December as the Christian Heritage month
- d) Town of Hearst – municipal representation on the new Board of Health

7.2 Val Côté bridge – estimate for engineering fees

- Resolution 24-159

7.3 Asset Retirement Obligations – estimate received – Council does not wish to proceed with this type of study in the near future

- Agreed

7.4 GHG reduction pathway feasibility study – Council cannot afford to proceed with this type of study in the near future

- Agreed

7.5 New columbarium – fees to be established

- Resolution 24-160

7.6 Community Hall – renovation update – CAO explains what has been completed to date, what remains to be done and other eligible repairs that can be considered

- Resolution 24-161

7.7 Report – various items

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

d) For Council's consideration

- i) Use of dome by the Mattice Sno Devils Snowmobile Club
  - Resolution 24-162
- ii) Recent visit from a Toromont Sales rep – cost of a grader now in excess of \$800 K
  - Filed
- iii) Foundation and marker repairs at the cemetery
  - Resolution 24-163

- iv) Rental fee for vendors' market: whether the market is organized by an individual or by a not-for-profit organization, the rental fee will be the one set for a club/organization.  
-Agreed
- v) By-law pertaining to motorized vehicles in municipal parks, etc. – Council directed CAO/Clerk to work on a draft version of the same.  
-Agreed
- vi) Setting up a regional Municipal Services Corporation to manage water and sewers – no interest from Council  
-Filed
- vii) Future of the ice rink – nothing to discuss at this time  
-Agreed

8. Mayor's report

- Nil

9. Councillors' reports

A. Councillor Gagnon

-Nil

B. Councillor Malenfant

- Verbal report of the Hearst Planning Board meeting held in Hearst on July 10<sup>th</sup> last
- Verbal report of the Foyer des Pionniers Board special meeting held in Hearst on July 16<sup>th</sup> last, during the lunch hour

10. By-laws

- 10.1 By-law no. 996 – open air burning  
- Resolution 24-164

11. Caucus

- Nil

12. Minutes/Periodic reports/Correspondence

The following documents were received and filed:

- 12.1 MMAH – regulations under the *Planning Act* and the *Development Charges Act*
- 12.2 EMO – modernization of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*
- 12.3 MNR – herbicide project on the Gordon Cosens Forest
- 12.4 AMO – homeless encampments in Ontario
- 12.5 MNR – geological carbon storage projects
- 12.6 MNR – virtual sessions pertaining to wildfires

13. Resolutions

Agenda

Resolution 24-155: Joyce Malenfant – Sophie Gagnon  
THAT the agenda be hereby accepted.

Carried

Minutes

Resolution 24-156: Marc Dupuis - Joyce Malenfant  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of Council's regular meeting 24-11, held on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 be hereby adopted.

Carried

OPP costs to Province

Resolution 24-157: Joyce Malenfant – Marc Dupuis  
WHEREAS it is apparent that the Ontario Government has overlooked the needs of small rural Ontario, and;  
WHEREAS Ontario's small rural municipalities face insurmountable challenges to fund both upfront investments and ongoing maintenance of their capital assets, including roads, bridges, water/wastewater and municipally owned buildings, including recreational facilities, libraries and other tangible capital assets, and;  
WHEREAS small rural Ontario's operating needs consume the majority of property tax revenue sources, and;  
WHEREAS small rural municipalities (of 10,000 people or less) are facing monumental infrastructure deficits that cannot be adequately addressed through property tax revenue alone, and;  
WHEREAS the Ontario Government has committed \$9.1 billion to Toronto alone to assist with operating deficits and the repatriation of the Don Valley and Gardiner Expressway and \$534 million to Ottawa for the repatriation of Hwy 174, and;  
WHEREAS the annual cost of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and of the Municipal Policing Bureau for small rural non-contract (5.1) municipalities is approximately \$428 million, and;  
WHEREAS this annual OPP cost is significantly less than the repatriation costs of the Gardiner Express Way, the Don Valley Expressway and Highway 174 (Ottawa Region) but provides a greater impact to the residents of the Province overall, and;  
WHEREAS the repatriation by the Province of the OPP costs will afford relief to small rural municipalities for both infrastructure and operating needs, while having a minimal impact on the provincial budget;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby supports Resolution no. 207-2024 made by Council for the Township of Terrace Bay, calling upon the Ontario Government to immediately implement sustainable funding for small rural municipalities by reabsorbing the cost of the OPP back into the provincial budget with no cost recovery to municipalities, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Township of Terrace Bay, the Municipality of Tweed, Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of Solicitor General, the Minister of Finance and to our local parliament representatives, MPP Guy Bourgouin and MP Carol Hughes.

Carried

Health care system crisis

Resolution 24-158: Sophie Gagnon – Joyce Malenfant

WHEREAS the state of health care in Ontario is in crisis, with 2.3 million Ontarians lacking access to a family doctor, emergency room closures across the province, patients being de-rostered and 40% of family doctors considering retirement over the next five years, and;

WHEREAS it is becoming increasingly challenging to attract and retain an adequate healthcare workforce throughout the health sector across Ontario, and;

WHEREAS the Northern Ontario School of Medicine University says communities in northern Ontario are short more than 350 physicians, including more than 200 family doctors, and half of the physicians working in northern Ontario are expected to retire in the next five years, and;

WHEREAS Ontario municipal governments play an integral role in the health care system, through responsibilities in public health, long-term care and paramedicine, and;

WHEREAS the percentage of family physicians practicing comprehensive family medicine has declined from 77% in 2008 to 65% in 2022, and;

WHEREAS per capita health-care spending in Ontario is the lowest of all provinces in Canada, and;

WHEREAS a robust workforce, developed through a provincial sector-wide health human resources strategy, would significantly improve access to health services across the province;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté urge the Province of Ontario to recognize the physician shortage in Mattice – Val Côté and in Ontario and to fund health care appropriately to ensure every Ontarian has access to physician care, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to AMO and OMA, to the Premier of Ontario, Doug Ford, to the Minister of Health and to our local parliament representatives, MPP Guy Bourgouin and MP Carol Hughes.

Carried

Estimate - engineering fees

Resolution 24-159: Joyce Malenfant – Sophie Gagnon

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council hereby authorizes Randy Miller to prepare engineering plans for the replacement of the Val Côté bridge, for an estimated cost of SIX THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED (\$6,500) DOLLARS, plus taxes, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council understands that additional fees may be incurred should soil component information need to be produced.

Carried

New columbarium - fees

Resolution 24-160: Marc Dupuis – Sophie Gagnon

WHEREAS a new 20 door columbarium was recently purchased and delivered for the St-François Xavier Cemetery, and;

WHEREAS fees must now be established for the sale of the niches therein;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the fees for the new 20 door columbarium be established as follows: TWO THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED (\$2,300) DOLLARS for niches in the top row; TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE (\$2,025) DOLLARS for niches in the second row; ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIVE (\$1,725) DOLLARS for niches in the third row; ONE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED AND FIFTY (\$1,450) DOLLARS for niches in the bottom row.

Carried

Flooring – rubber tiles

Resolution 24-161: Sophie Gagnon – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council has been informed of the cost estimates received to date for multi-functional rubber tiles and wishes for such flooring cover to be installed in the mini-gym area.

Carried

Use of municipal dome

Resolution 24-162: Joyce Malenfant – Sophie Gagnon

BE IT RESOLVED THAT volunteers of the Mattice Sno Devils Snowmobile Club be permitted to use the municipal dome free of charge for the purpose of erecting their recently acquired warm-up shack.

Carried

Foundation and marker repairs

Resolution 24-163: Joyce Malenfant – Sophie Gagnon  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT a maximum amount of FIVE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED (\$5,600) DOLLARS be taken from the Cemetery account to pay for repairs to foundations and markers in the St-François Xavier cemetery in 2024, and;  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT an additional amount, to be determined in 2025, be taken from the Cemetery account in 2025 to pay for repairs to foundation and markers in the St-Sacrement cemetery.

Carried

By-law no. 996

Resolution 24-164: Marc Dupuis – Sophie Gagnon  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 996, being a By-law to control open air burning within municipal boundaries, be hereby adopted.

Carried

14. Next regular meeting: Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup> OR Tuesday, September, 3<sup>rd</sup> (to be confirmed)

15. Confirmatory by-law

Resolution 24-165: Joyce Malenfant – Sophie Gagnon  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 997, being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council on Tuesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, be hereby adopted.

Carried

16. Adjournment: 8:10 pm

Resolution 24-166: Sophie Gagnon – Marc Dupuis  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT this regular meeting of Council held on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, be adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Carried

Read and confirmed on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

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Mayor

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CAO/Clerk