

The Corporation of the Township of Mattice – Val Côté

Meeting 25-07 (regular)

June 10th, 2025

Minutes of the regular meeting of Council held on June 10th, 2025, at 7:00 pm, in the Municipal Council Chambers at the Town Hall, 500 Highway 11, Mattice, Ontario.

Present:

Councilor – Steve Brousseau
Councilor – Sophie Gagnon
Councilor – Joyce Malenfant
Councilor & Deputy Mayor – Réginald Manning

Staff

CAO/Clerk – Guylaine Coulombe
Treasurer – Annie Plamondon

Others

Mayor – Marc Dupuis, via meeting owl (left the meeting at 8:11 pm)

1. Opening of meeting

The Deputy Mayor opened the meeting at 7:02 pm

2. Approval of the Order of Business

The following item was added:

6.2 Financial report – to May 31st

- Resolution 25-89

3. Pecuniary interest

Deputy Mayor Manning declared an interest at item 7.6 and left Council Chambers during discussions on the matter.

4. Delegation, Presentation, Meeting requested by Council

Nil

5. Adoption of minutes of previous Council meetings

- Resolutions 25-90

6. Treasurer's report

6.1 Val Côté Fire Truck

- Resolution 25-91

6.2 Financial report – to May 31st

- Resolution 25-92

7. CAO's report

7.1 Resolutions/requests for support:

- a) Township of Archipelago – opposition to provisions of Bill 5
- Resolution 25-93

The following requests were received and filed:

- b) Town of Blue Mountains – craft cider taxation
- c) Town of LaSalle – travel grant for medical reasons
- d) York Regional Council – shortfall in health and human services funding
- e) City of Peterborough – workable standard for shelter space
- f) District of Parry Sound Municipal Association – information pertaining to Code of conduct investigations

7.2 Reesor Mennonite Cemetery – request for Municipality to take over – Council will undertake to find a replacement worker when the need arises

- Agreed

7.3 New Doctor establishing a practice in Hearst – contribution request towards financial incentive

- Resolution 25-94

7.4 Zoning By-law Amendment – CAO/Clerk presented and explained the contents of the draft By-law amending the current municipal Zoning By-law further to the findings of the 2024 Lakeshore Capacity Assessment for Shallow Lake

- Filed

7.5 Community Wildland Fire Protection Planning – CAO/Clerk will apply for funding to develop a community wildland fire protection plan

- Agreed

7.6 Val Côté bridge replacement – tenders received to complete this project

- Resolution 25-95

7.7 Report on various items

- a) Training/meetings attended
- b) Requests/complaints
 - a Face book message will be posted with respect to the ATV issues in the community
 - Agreed
- c) Information provided
 - Filed
- d) For Council's consideration
 - i) Parking for transports/trailers in Val Côté
 - Deferred
 - ii) Keeping the Comfort Station locked: different options to be explored in this regard
 - Agreed
 - iii) Passing of a volunteer firefighter: the Fire Department honoured his life in various ways
 - Filed

7.8 Future of the ice rink – CAO/Clerk to follow-up with the manager of La Maison Verte on the refrigeration possibilities that said surface can offer.

- Agreed

8. Mayor's report

8.1 The Mayor was contacted about the possibility of renting space at the Sports Complex to the Canadian Armed Forces for 2 weekends in February 2026.

9. Councilors' reports

A. Councilor Brousseau

- Nil

B. Councilor Gagnon

- Verbal report of the preparations surrounding the June 21st activities in Val Côté

C. Councilor Malenfant

- Verbal report of the Planning Board meeting held in Hearst on June 4th
- Mentioned her participation in interview to fill the library summer position

D. Councilor & Deputy Mayor Manning

- i) Was told by an individual that his insurance premiums were higher in Val Côté because the Fire Hall was not recognized as such. No known similar issues have arisen with other insurance companies.
- ii) Suggest that we plan and budget for the repair of small portions of our paved roads in upcoming years.

10. By-laws
Nil

11. Caucus
a) Caucus – Resolution 25-96
b) Regular meeting – Resolution 25-97

12. Minutes/Periodic reports/Correspondence

The following documents were received and filed:

12.1 Hours of work – May 2025

12.2 Minister of Health, Sylvia Jones – funding for primary care teams

13. Resolutions

Agenda

Resolution 25-89: Steve Brousseau - Sophie Gagnon
THAT the agenda, as amended, be hereby accepted.

Carried

Minutes

Resolution 25-90: Joyce Malenfant – Steve Brousseau
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of Council's regular meeting 25-06, held on May 15th, 2025, be hereby adopted.

Carried

Val Côté Fire Truck

Resolution 25-91: Sophie Gagnon – Steve Brousseau
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council hereby authorizes the purchase of a Fire Truck, namely a 1993 GMC, Model Top Kick, from Hearst Central Garage Co. Ltd, in the amount of TWENTY THOUSAND (\$20,000) DOLLARS, plus taxes, and;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council hereby acknowledges that additional expenses will be required to operate said Fire Truck, including safety and pump inspections, the installation of sirens, lights and of the Department logo, etc., and;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council hereby directs the Treasurer to pay for the purchase of said truck, and for the costs of the other initial requirements pertaining to it, by using funds from the municipal general reserves (accumulated surplus).

Carried

Financial Report

Resolution 25-92: Steve Brousseau - Joyce Malenfant
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Financial Report ending May 31st 2025 be hereby approved as circulated.

Carried

Bill 5 provisions

Resolution 25-93: Steve Brousseau – Réginald Manning
WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has introduced Bill 5: *Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act*, 2025, which proposes significant changes to environmental legislation, including the replacement of the *Endangered Species Act*, 2007 with the significantly weaker *Species Conservation Act*, 2025, and would grant the Premier and Cabinet unprecedented powers to override provincial and municipal laws – including laws that protect public health, farmland, and the natural systems that safeguard communities from extreme weather events, and;

WHEREAS the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté's strategic priorities include protecting and preserving our unique and high-quality natural environment and delivering municipal services in a responsible, sustainable, cost-effective and efficient manner, and;

WHEREAS the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté supports the goals of responsible economic growth and increased housing supply, and;

WHEREAS nature is not red tape – it is the economic driver of our region and is central to Canadian culture, identity and economy; protecting nature is essential for building resilient communities and upholding the sovereignty and stewardship of Indigenous peoples, and;

WHEREAS Bill 5 will undermine critical environmental, species and heritage protection laws, introduce significant economic, environmental, social and cultural uncertainty, endanger Ontario's 249 at-risk species and potentially infringe on the legal and constitutional rights of the Ontario public – especially Indigenous communities that are disproportionately affected by such actions;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby support Resolution no. 25-186 made by Council for the Township of The Archipelago, opposing the provisions in Bill 5 that would undermine environmental safeguards, Indigenous rights or local planning authority and urging the Province to withdraw the Bill, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council urges the Province of Ontario to pursue housing and infrastructure development through policies that maintain robust environmental protections and respect local planning regimes, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier, to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, to the Township of The Archipelago and to our local parliament representatives, MPP Guy Bourgouin and MP Gaetan Malette.

Carried

New Doctor in Hearst

Resolution 25-94: Réginald Manning - Joyce Malenfant

WHEREAS Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté recognizes the importance of recruiting physicians and is pleased to see that the ongoing recruiting efforts are paying off;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté contribute the sum of THREE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-FOUR (\$3,144) DOLLARS to the incentive grant payable by the Town of Hearst to Doctor Aghdam to establish a medical practice in Hearst, said amount representing 12% of the actual incentive grant, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council hereby directs the Treasurer to pay said amount by using funds from the municipal general reserves (accumulated surplus), and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council hereby directs the CAO/Clerk to advise the Town of Hearst that Council will not entertain any further contribution requests in 2025 and that, while ongoing requests of this nature will certainly be considered, no commitments are being made in this regard.

Carried

Val Côté bridge
replacement

Resolution 25-95: Sophie Gagnon – Steve Brousseau

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council hereby accepts the tender submitted by Villeneuve Construction to replace the Val Côté bridge for the sum of TWO HUNDRED FORTY-SIX THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FIVE (\$246,875) DOLLARS, plus taxes.

Carried

Caucus

Resolution 25-96: Steve Brousseau – Joyce Malenfant
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council go into a closed meeting at
8:22 pm to adopt the minutes of a closed meeting.

Carried

Regular meeting

Resolution 25-97: Steve Brousseau – Sophie Gagnon
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the regular meeting of Council resume
at 8:25 pm.

Carried

Minutes

Resolution 25-98: Steve Brousseau – Sophie Gagnon
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of Council's closed meeting 25-06, held on May 15th, 2025 be hereby adopted.

Carried

14. Next regular meetings: Wednesday, July 16th, at 7:00 pm
Tuesday, August 26th, at 7:30 pm

15. **Confirmatory by-law** **Resolution 25-99:** Steve Brousseau – Réginald Manning
BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 1023, being a By-law to
confirm the proceedings of Council on Tuesday, June 10th,
2025, be hereby adopted.

Carried

16. Adjournment: 8:30 pm Resolution 25-100: Joyce Malenfant – Sophie Gagnon
BE IT RESOLVED THAT this regular meeting of Council held
on June 10th, 2025, be adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Carried

Read and confirmed on July 16th, 2025

Deputy Mayor

CAO/Clerk