

The Corporation of the Township of Mattice – Val Côté

Meeting 23-16 (regular)

November 29th, 2023

Minutes of the regular meeting of Council held on November 29th, 2023, 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

Absent:

Councilor – Réginald Manning

Staff

CAO/Clerk – Guylaine Coulombe
Treasurer – Annie Plamondon (left at 8:05 pm)

Other

Richard Tanguay, member of the public

1. Opening of meeting

The Mayor opened the meeting at 6:55 pm

2. Approval of the Order of Business

- Resolution 23-223

CAO noted that a mistake was made at the last meeting – no brush cutting activities will be performed aside from those required by and for the Municipality

3. Pecuniary interest

Councilor Brousseau declared an interest at item 7.1 h)
Councilor Gagnon declared an interest at item 10.1

4. Delegation, Presentation, Meeting requested by Council

Nil

5. Adoption of minutes of previous Council meetings

- Resolutions 23-224 and 23-225

6. Treasurer's report

- 6.1 Financial report – to October 31st 2023
- Resolution 23-226

Note: not all agenda items were addressed in the order in which they appeared.

11. Caucus

- a) Caucus – Resolution 23-227
- b) Regular meeting – Resolution 23-228

7. CAO's report

- 7.2 Information technology (I.T.) services – contract renewal
- Resolution 23-231

- 7.3 Municipal Insurance – contract renewal
- Resolution 23-232

- 7.4 Foyer des Pionniers Board of Directors – request to prolong the annual municipal contribution
- Deferred

- 7.5 Revision of municipal rates and fees – equipment, administrative services and rentals
- Resolutions 23-233 and 23-234

- 7.6 Remuneration of members of the Mattice – Val Côté Fire Department
- Resolution 23-235

- 7.7 Hearst Planning Board – application for consent C08-23
- Resolution 23-236

- 7.8 PHU – air quality monitoring
- Resolution 23-237

- 7.9 MTO response to municipal requests – CAO to contact the Ministry to further discuss parking prohibitions
- Agreed

- 7.10 Electric Vehicle (EV) ChargeOn Program
- Resolution 23-238

7.11 NEOMA meeting

- Resolution 23-239

7.12 Report on various items

a) Training/meetings

b) Information provided

c) Complaints received

- Filed

d) For Council's consideration

- i) Insurance claim – water damages at the arena – Council approves the estimate submitted to the Insurance Adjuster for the renovations. Contractor to be reminded of the importance of the deadline.
 - Agreed
- ii) Arena lobby – will be added to the list of Sports Complex rentals, as earlier agreed
 - Filed
- iii) Snow removal - Val Côté Fire Hall
 - Resolution 23-240
- iv) Donation to the Parish annual food basket draw
 - Resolution 23-241
- v) Contests – proceed with a Christmas lights contest – CAO to confirm with Caisse Alliance that the remaining funds can be used to sponsor this one and the park nomination contest
 - Agreed
- vi) Prioritization workshop for the Strategic Plan – to be held virtually on Monday, December 4th, at 7 p.m;
Emergency Management Committee annual meeting to be held prior to the next regular Council meeting
 - Agreed

7.1 Resolutions/requests for support

Going forward, resolutions not received directly from the Municipality that formulated the same or from an association recognized by Council will no longer be brought before Council.

- Agreed

b) Municipality of Shuniah – enforcement for deficient muffler systems

- Resolution 23-242

d) Town of Orangeville – increasing financial assistance rates for Ontario Works

- Deffered

g) FONOM – ECHO project

- Resolution 23-243

- h) CDSSAB – roadside memorials
- Resolution 23-244

The following resolutions/requests for support were received and filed:

- a) Town of Huntsville – floating accommodations
- c) Corporation of Prince Edward County – expanding the use of the permit-by-rule system
- e) Town of Aylmer – amendments to the Residential Tenancies Act
- f) Municipality of South Bruce - hauled septage disposal sites
- i) Township of Coleman – reclassification of Ontario Conservation Officers
- j) Municipality of Tweed – infrastructure funding agreements

8. Mayor's report

- 8.1 Verbal report of the Porcupine Health Unit Board meeting attended virtually on November 23rd, 2023

9. Councilors' reports

A. Councilor Brousseau

- Verbal report of the MVC Public Library Board meeting held on November 21st, 2023

B. Councilor Gagnon

- Verbal report of the Long Term Care committee meeting held on November 23rd, 2023

C. Councilor Malenfant

- Verbal report of the MVC Public Library Board meeting held on November 21st, 2023
- Verbal report of the NEOMA meeting held in Cochrane on November 22nd, 2023 pertaining to winter road closures

10. By-laws

- 10.1 By-law no. 969 – to appoint a Fire Chief
- Resolution 23-245

12. Minutes/Periodic reports/Correspondence

The following documents were received and filed:

- 12.1 Hours worked – October 2023
- 12.2 Communities in bloom – invitation
- 12.3 NEOMA – press release (further to the Think Tank on highway closures)

13. Resolutions

Agenda Resolution 23-223: Steve Brousseau - Joyce Malenfant
THAT the agenda be hereby accepted.
Carried

Minutes Resolution 23-224: Sophie Gagnon – Steve Brousseau
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of Council’s regular meeting
23-14, held on November 1st, 2023 be hereby adopted.
Carried

Resolution 23-225: Joyce Malenfant - Sophie Gagnon
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of Council’s extraordinary
meeting 23-15, held virtually on November 6th, 2023 be hereby
adopted.
Carried

Financial report Resolution 23-226: Steve Brousseau – Joyce Malenfant
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the financial report ending October 31st,
2023 be hereby approved as circulated.
Carried

Caucus Resolution 23-227: Steve Brousseau – Sophie Gagnon
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council go into closed meeting at 7:05 pm
to discuss i) personal information about an identifiable individual
and ii) labour relations.
Carried

Regular meeting Resolution 23-228: Joyce Malenfant – Steve Brousseau
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the regular meeting of Council resume at
7:22 pm.
Carried

Deputy Chief Resolution 23-229: Steve Brousseau – Joyce Malenfant
BE IT RESOLVED THAT, effective December 1st, 2023, the
nomination of the current Deputy Chief be terminated.
Carried

Christmas gifts

Resolution 23-230: Sophie Gagnon – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT a gift certificate in the amount of FIFTY (\$50.00) DOLLARS be given to each of the nine full-time/part-time municipal employees, to be spent in a local business of their choice.

Carried

I.T. Services – contract renewal

Resolution 23-231: Sophie Gagnon – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council hereby authorizes the renewal of its current contract with Rock Solid Computer Services, including the Infinity Plan, for a period of three years, for a monthly fee of SEVEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE (\$781.27) DOLLARS and twenty-seven cents, excluding taxes. It is understood that said amount will be adjusted based on the CPI index in the second and third year of the contract.

Carried

Municipal Insurance – renewal

Resolution 23-232: Steve Brousseau – Sophie Gagnon

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the municipal insurance coverage with Intact Public Entities (IPE) be renewed for 2024 at a cost of ONE HUNDRED AND FOUR THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SIX (\$104,866.00) DOLLARS, plus taxes, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the deductible for property and equipment breakdown coverage be reduced from TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$25,000.00) to TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) in 2024 for an additional premium of ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND FIFTEEN (\$1,915.00) DOLLARS, plus taxes.

Carried

Revision of rates - Equipment

Resolution 23-233: Steve Brousseau - Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the 2024 rates for the Grader, the Snow Plow, the Backhoe and the 5 tons Truck/Water tanker each be increased by TEN (\$10.00) DOLLARS.

Carried

Revision of fees – administrative services and rentals

Resolution 23-234: Steve Brousseau – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following changes be made to the administrative services price list: with respect to domestic animals, refer to the appropriate By-law; for a municipal pin to be mailed, FIVE (\$5.00) DOLLARS, payable in advance; insert the approved rental conditions and rental fee for the basement; insert the approved rental conditions for Council Chambers, and; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Sports Complex rental price list be amended as follows: Curling lounge – SEVENTY FIVE (\$75.00) DOLLARS per day, regardless of its use; Arena lobby – SEVENTY FIVE (\$75.00) DOLLARS per day, when used by a local organization as a meeting place or event venue.

Carried

Remuneration - members of the MVC Fire Department

Resolution 23-235: Steve Brousseau – Joyce Malenfant

WHEREAS paragraph 10 of By-law no. 886 provides that the remuneration or honorarium of members of the Mattice – Val Côté shall be determined by a duly passed resolution of Council; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, for the period of December 1st 2022 to November 30th 2023, the remuneration of the officers of the Mattice – Val Côté Fire Department be as follows: Fire Chief: \$3,645.61; Deputy Chief: \$1,002.91\$; Training Officer: \$1,550.46; Captain(s): \$232.75 – said remuneration to be paid out in two installments per year (June and December), except for Captains who are paid once, in December, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the remuneration of all officers be increased annually, based on the percentage of increase granted to the unionized municipal employees, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Fire Chief be paid \$10.00 for each burning permit requested, whether it is issued or not, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT said remuneration will be paid out provided that the officers have been actively involved in the Department and have actually performed the duties associated with their respective titles, as described in By-law no. 886, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, for the period of December 1st 2022 to November 30th 2023, the remuneration of volunteer firefighters of the Mattice – Val Côté Fire Department be paid based on the established point system, each point being worth 19.24\$, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, commencing on December 1st 2023, the point system be modified as follows:

1. the rate for each point will reflect the hourly rate associated with the position of Labour for the Municipality which becomes effective on January 1st of the following year (eg. as of December 2023, each point will be worth 22.02\$);
2. one point per meeting attended (eg. Mondays in Val Côté and/or Wednesdays in Mattice);
3. one point for each hour and half a point for each half-hour spent on a firefighter response call;
4. one point for a false alarm;
5. one point for each hour of additional training (eg. First Aid & CPR) or spent on maintenance or repairs of the fire trucks or tanker, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the costs associated with the medical exam, the tests and the request for issuance of a DZ driver's licence be reimbursed to members of the Department that currently hold said licence class. These costs will also be reimbursed to members that are obtaining said licence class – it is understood, however, that the latter will pay back said amounts to the Municipality should they not remain in service with the Department for a period of at least one year following the receipt of their DZ licence.

Carried

Application for consent C08-23

Resolution 23-236: Marc Dupuis – Steve Brousseau

WHEREAS the Hearst Planning Board submitted an Application for Consent (C08-23) to the Council of the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté for its review and comments;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council does not object to the Hearst Planning Board giving consent to C08-23 to sever the north West Half of Lot 23, Concession 3, Eilber Township into two separate parcels, provided that the Applicant is made aware of the fact that direct access to this property from Highway 11 will likely not be granted, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this Council does not object to the Hearst Planning Board giving consent to C08-23 to merge the severed portion above with the West Half of Lot 23, Concession 4, Eilber Township, provided that the Applicant registers on title of said property a notice to the effect that the road allowance located on the north side of the property is an unopened road allowance which is not maintained by the Municipality.

Carried

Air quality monitoring

Resolution 23-237: Sophie Gagnon – Steve Brousseau

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté authorizes the installation of a Purple Air monitor at the municipal complex to assist the Porcupine Health Unit’s air quality monitoring efforts.

Carried

EV ChargeOn Program

Resolution 23-238: Sophie Gagnon – Joyce Malenfant

WHEREAS Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté received more information pertaining to the requirements of the EV ChargeON Program;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Municipality not submit an application for funding in this regard.

Carried

NEOMA meeting

Resolution 23-239: Joyce Malenfant – Sophie Gagnon

BE IT RESOLVED THAT either Councilor Brousseau or the CAO/Clerk is hereby authorized to attend the NEOMA meeting to be held in Smooth Rock Falls on December 8th.

Carried

Snow removal – VC Fire Hall

Resolution 23-240: Steve Brousseau – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Denis Turcotte be retained to perform snow removal services at the Val Côté Fire Hall during the 2023-2024 winter season, at a cost of FORTY (\$40.00) DOLLARS per outing, payable at the end of the season.

Carried

Donation to the Parish draw

Resolution 23-241: Steve Brousseau – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, going forward, instead of a turkey, the Municipality’s donation to the Parish annual food basket draw be the sum of FIFTY (\$50.00) DOLLARS.

Carried

Deficient muffler systems

Resolution 23-242: Sophie Gagnon – Marc Dupuis

WHEREAS municipalities have received complaints from residents regarding noises associated with the use of engine retarder brakes on heavy vehicles, and;

WHEREAS this noise can be amplified if the vehicle has no muffler or an improper muffling system;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby supports Resolution no. 399-23 made by Council for the Municipality of Shuniah requesting the Province of Ontario to enhance enforcement for deficient muffler systems to address concerns around excessive and unnecessary noise from engine brakes, and;

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

Carried

ECHO project

Resolution 23-243: Marc Dupuis – Steve Brousseau

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby requests that the Province of Ontario continue the ECHO Ontario Skin and Wound project with evergreen funding (continuous funding with annual budget negotiation), alongside additional support for educational outcomes and a collaboration with Diabetes Action Canada, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council supports the creation of a virtual identified patient consultation service, utilizing Wound Bed Prep 2021, for patient navigation and clinician support for previous ECHO patients and to bring advanced wound care expertise to clinicians in Northern Ontario, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Project ECHO, c/o Toronto Regional (Dermatology) Wound Healing Clinic and to our local parliament representatives, MPP Guy Bourgouin and MP Carol Hughes.

Carried

Roadside memorials

Resolution 23-244: Marc Dupuis – Sophie Gagnon

WHEREAS Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté received information on the position taken by neighboring municipalities with respect to the CDSSAB's request to adopt policies pertaining to roadside memorials, and;

WHEREAS Council agrees that said memorials are erected along Highway 11 and therefore fall under the Ministry of Transportation's jurisdiction;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council not further consider the adoption of a policy or by-law in this regard.

Carried

By-law no. 969

Resolution 23-245: Steve Brousseau – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 969, being a By-law to appoint the Chief of the Mattice – Val Côté Fire Department, be hereby adopted.

Carried

14. Next meeting: Wednesday, December 13th, 2023 at 7:30 pm

15. Confirmatory by-law

Resolution 23-246: Steve Brousseau – Sophie Gagnon

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 970, being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council on Wednesday, November 29th, 2023, be hereby adopted.

Carried

16. Adjournment: 9:31 pm

Resolution 23-247: Joyce Malenfant – Marc Dupuis

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this regular meeting of Council held on November 29th, 2023, be adjourned at 9:31 pm.

Carried

Read and confirmed on December 13th, 2023

Mayor

CAO/Clerk