

The Corporation of the Township of Mattice – Val Côté

Meeting 25-03 (regular)

February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Minutes of the regular meeting of Council held on February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 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
- Councilor – Réginald Manning

Staff

- CAO/Clerk – Guylaine Coulombe
- Treasurer – Annie Plamondon

Others

Renée-Pier Fontaine - Hearst Medias (left prior to the caucus)

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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 25-30
3. Pecuniary interest  
Councilor Brousseau declared an interest at item 7.1 c)
4. Delegation, Presentation, Meeting requested by Council  
Nil
5. Adoption of minutes of previous Council meeting  
- Resolution 25-31
6. Treasurer's report  
Nil

7. CAO's report

7.1 Resolutions/requests for support:

- a) Proclamation – World Autism Day
  - Resolution 25-32
- b) Peterborough County, Town of Hanover, EOWC and Township of Uxbridge – U.S. tariffs and purchasing policy
  - Resolution 25-33
- c) CDSB – report on homelessness crisis
  - Resolution 25-34
- d) Town of Fort Erie – primary care health services
  - Resolution 25-35

The following request was received and filed:

- e) Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula – loss of cellular services

7.2 Zoning by-law amendment – proposed timeline

- Filed

7.3 NEOMA – next meeting to be held in Smooth Rock Falls on March 28<sup>th</sup> - Mayor Dupuis and Councilor Malenfant plan on attending the same

- Agreed

7.4 Arena refrigeration equipment – insurer recommendations – ammonia recovery estimate

- Resolution 25-36

7.5 Strategic Asset Management Policy

- Resolution 25-37

7.6 Strategic Plan – annual review – CAO to contact Hearst University with respect to history and geography courses in and around the river – encourage residents to plant trees along the highway – consider replacing the flowerpots – write to the Constance Lake First Nation Chief with respect to the Old Indian cemetery.

- Agreed

7.7 Report on various items

- a) Training/meetings attended
  - b) Requests/complaints
  - c) Information provided
    - Filed
  - d) For Council's consideration
    - i) We received the plans for the replacement of the Val Côté bridge. Waiting for an estimate. Alternative route on a private property was discussed with property owners. Third-party project supervision was discussed with engineer.
- Deferred

8. Mayor's report

- 8.1 Provided explanations on the work being done to finalize the Northeastern Public Health Unit set up.

9. Councilors' reports

A. Councilor Brousseau

- Nil

B. Councilor Gagnon

- Received information from HFMA about a community tree-planting initiative (Harbour Day). Will seek further details in this regard.

C. Councilor Malenfant

- Verbal report of the Hearst Planning Board meeting held in Hearst on February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
- Verbal report of the Foyer des Pionniers Board meeting held in Hearst on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025

D. Councilor Manning

- Nil

10. By-laws

Nil

11. Caucus

- a) Caucus – Resolution 25-38  
b) Regular meeting – Resolution 25-39

12. Minutes/Periodic reports/Correspondence

The following document was received and filed:

12.1 Hours of work – January 2025

13. Resolutions

Agenda

Resolution 25-30: Steve Brousseau - Réginald Manning  
THAT the agenda be hereby accepted.

Carried

Minutes

Resolution 25-31: Joyce Malenfant – Réginald Manning  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of Council's regular meeting 25-02, held on February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025 be hereby adopted.

Carried

World Autism Day

Resolution 25-32: Steve Brousseau – Marc Dupuis  
WHEREAS autism impacts more than 135,000 individuals in Ontario, representing 1 in every 50 Canadian children and youth. It not only influences the lives of autistics but also their friends, families and communities. It's crucial for us to raise awareness and acceptance, provide support and promote a more inclusive society.

WHEREAS Autism Ontario is devoted to raising public awareness about autism and addressing the everyday challenges faced by individuals with autism, their families, and the professionals who work alongside them. Autism Ontario urges everyone to recognize and celebrate the unique differences and needs of others, fostering an inclusive environment where all individuals can participate fully in activities and discussions. Together, we can create a society that values and includes everyone.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, Marc Dupuis, Mayor for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté, do hereby recognize April 2 as World Autism Day, while committing to embrace awareness and acceptance today and everyday throughout the year.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, going forward, Council will always recognize April 2 as World Autism Day.

Carried

U.S. tariffs / purchasing policy

Resolution 25-33: Steve Brousseau – Marc Dupuis  
WHEREAS numerous resolutions are being passed by municipalities throughout the province supporting the Canadian response to the proposed U.S. tariffs, the removal of trade barriers between provinces and the establishment of purchasing policies that encourage residents and businesses to purchase locally made and Canadian goods and services;  
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council hereby directs the CAO/Clerk and the Treasurer to modify the municipal procurement policy in order to prioritize Canadian suppliers and non U.S. alternatives and to implement an approval process for U.S. purchases.

Carried

Homelessness crisis

Resolution 25-34: Sophie Gagnon – Réginald Manning  
WHEREAS homelessness in Northern Ontario is rising at a rate twice the provincial average, and;  
WHEREAS additional affordable housing units are in critical need, and;  
WHEREAS municipalities are unable to fund new unit developments due to the high cost of construction, and;  
WHEREAS the health programs required to generate sustainable outcomes are in short supply and health care is a provincial responsibility;  
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté receive and support the document entitled “Municipalities under Pressure: the human and financial cost of Ontario’s Homelessness Crisis” and calls upon the provincial government to implement the funding programs recommended in the report, with 20% of total funding dedicated to Northern Ontario, and;  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Cochrane District Services Board, to Premier Ford, to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and to our local parliament representatives, MPP Guy Bourgouin and MP Carol Hugues.

Carried

Primary care health services

Resolution 25-35: Marc Dupuis – Steve Brousseau  
WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has appointed Dr. Philpott as the Chair of the New Primary Care Action Team to develop a strategy to address the shortage of primary care physicians, with a mandate to attach all Ontarians to primary care in the next five years (2030);  
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby support the resolution made by the Town of Fort Erie on February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025, requesting that the Province of Ontario put a moratorium on the closure of urgent care centres and the implicit removal of primary care health services from the Town of Fort Erie and all small and rural communities in Ontario until Dr. Philpott’s mandate is complete to ensure all Ontarians are attached to a primary care physician, and;  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Town of Fort Erie and to our local parliament representatives, MPP Guy Bourgouin and MP Carol Hugues.

Carried

Ammonia Recovery

Resolution 25-36: Réginald Manning – Marc Dupuis  
WHEREAS it is important to keep the refrigeration equipment registered and certified until a final decision is made by Council on the future of the ice rink, and;  
WHEREAS the insurer has outlined a number of code recommendations that must be addressed if the equipment is to remain in its current state, and;  
WHEREAS most of the recommendations pertain to the risk associated with the presence of ammonia in the refrigeration equipment, and;  
WHEREAS the removal of the ammonia would satisfy the insurer and keep our equipment registered and certified;  
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the ammonia recovery contract be awarded to CIMCO in the amount of SEVEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FIVE (\$7,475.00) DOLLARS, plus taxes.

Carried

Strategic Asset  
Management Policy

Resolution 25-37: Steve Brousseau – Réginald Manning  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT version no. 2 of the Strategic Asset Management Policy be hereby adopted.

Carried

Caucus

Resolution 25-38: Steve Brousseau – Sophie Gagnon  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council go into a closed meeting at 7:57 to discuss litigation or potential litigation.

Carried

Regular meeting

Resolution 25-39: Steve Brousseau - Joyce Malenfant  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the regular meeting of Council resume at 8:18 pm.

Carried

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

15. Confirmatory by-law

Resolution 25-40: Steve Brousseau – Sophie Gagnon  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 1013, being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council on Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025, be hereby adopted.

Carried

16. Adjournment: 8:20 pm

Resolution 25-41: Réginald Manning - Joyce Malenfant  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT this regular meeting of Council held  
on February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025, be adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Carried

Read and confirmed on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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Mayor

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CAO/Clerk