

The Corporation of the Township of Mattice – Val Côté

Meeting 23-14 (regular)

November 1st, 2023

Minutes of the regular meeting of Council held on November 1st, 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
- Councilor – Réginald Manning

Staff

- CAO/Clerk – Guylaine Coulombe
- Treasurer – Annie Plamondon (left at 8:08 pm)

Other

Renée-Pier Fontaine – Hearst Medias (arrived at 7:05 pm and left at 8:45 pm)

1. Opening of meeting

The Mayor opened the meeting at 7:00 pm

2. Approval of the Order of Business

The following items were added to the agenda:

- 7.1 k) MPP Bourgouin – vehicle passing
- 7.6 d) vi) Water damages and vii) Schedule next meeting with Espace Stratégies
- 12.5 ONR – response to the concerns raised re: increased train speed
- Resolution 23-205

3. Pecuniary interest

Nil

4. Delegation, Presentation, Meeting requested by Council

Council invited Kevin Grenon to the meeting to discuss his interest for the Mattice – Val Côté Fire Chief position and to answer Council’s questions in this regard. Kevin arrived on schedule at 8:30 pm and spent approximately twenty minutes with Council.

5. Adoption of minutes of previous Council meeting

- Resolution 23-206

6. Treasurer's report

6.1 Financial report – to September 30th 2023

- Resolution 23-207

7. CAO's report

7.1 Resolutions/requests for support

a) Waterloo MPP – Bill 21, Fixing Long-Term Care Amendment Act

- Resolution 23-208

c) Municipality of Blue Water – childcare services

- Resolution 23-209

f) Township of McKellar – amend the Legislation Act to allow for digital publications

- Resolution 23-210

g) Township of Terrace Bay – opposition to Strong Mayor Powers

- Resolution 23-211

h) Town of Rainy River – water treatment training

- Resolution 23-212

k) MPP Bourgouin – vehicle passing

- Resolution 23-213

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

b) Town of Cobourg – illegal land use enforcement

d) Township of West Lincoln – obstacles holding back development

e) Township of The Archipelago – producer responsibility for cigarette butts

i) Fire underwriters survey – tax credit increase

j) Town of Aurora – cannabis retail applications

7.2 Snow removal on Mgr Proulx avenue – correspondence received from citizen

- Filed

7.3 MTO's Electric Vehicle ChargeON program – CAO to look into this further

- Differed

7.4 Northern Corridor Chamber of Commerce – Think Local Campaign – reconsideration
- Resolution 23-214

7.5 MECP - Mattice Drinking Water System – annual inspection report
- Filed

7.6 Report on various items

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

d) For Council's consideration

i) Services of a dental hygienist – make another publicity effort until November 30th – look into the possibility of a public interest message with the radio

- Agreed

ii) NEOMA – Special meeting in Cochrane on November 22nd

- Resolution 23-215

iii) Tile replacement in a section of the Medical Clinic – Council will not consider repairs at this time

- Agreed

iv) Administrative agreement with the ROC – going forward, the ROC will have to pay rental fees

- Agreed

v) Water damages at the arena

CAO explained to Council the cause and location of the damages – CAO to contact insurance provider

- Agreed

Community hall rental - deposit to be returned to the Citizens' Committee

- Agreed

SFX Parish monthly rental fees

- Resolution 23-216

vi) Strategic plan exercise – Council members are available to meet virtually with the consultant on November 15th, at 7:00 pm

- Agreed

8. Mayor's report

8.1 Verbal report of the Nord-Aski Family Health Team AGM, held on October 19th 2023

9. Councilors' reports

A. Councilor Brousseau

- On behalf of the Snowmobile Club, presented a request to cut some brush at the corner of Gagnon Road and Sno Road – CAO explained that, if this is not a sightline issue, a fee would be charged.

B. Councilor Gagnon

- Provided a summary of the Halloween activities organized by the Citizens' Committee on October 28th.

C. Councilor Malenfant

- Verbal report of the MVC Public Library Board meeting held on October 17th last

D. Councilor Manning

- Nil

10. By-laws

10.1 By-law no. 967 – Animal care and control

- Resolution 23-217

11. Caucus

Nil

12. Minutes/Periodic reports/Correspondence

The following documents were received and filed:

12.1 PM Ford – response to the NOSOM funding resolution

12.2 MF Bethlefalvy – OMPF 2024 allocation

12.3 OEB – gas rate increases for Enbridge Gas Inc.

12.4 NOB – article promoting farming in the region

12.5 ONR – response to the concerns raised re: increased train speed

13. Resolutions

Agenda

Resolution 23-205: Joyce Malenfant – Réginald Man
THAT the agenda, as amended, be hereby accepted.

Carried

Minutes

Resolution 23-206: Sophie Gagnon – Steve Brousseau
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of Council’s regular meeting 23-13, held on October 10th, 2023 be hereby adopted.
Carried

Financial report

Resolution 23-207: Joyce Malenfant – Steve Brousseau
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the financial report ending September 30th, 2023 be hereby approved as circulated.
Carried

Bill 21

Resolution 23-208: Steve Brousseau – Sophie Gagnon
WHEREAS Bill 21 amends the Residents’ Bill of Rights set out in section 3 of Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021, by adding the right of residents not to be separated from their spouse upon admission and to have accommodation available for both spouses so they may continue to live together;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby support Bill 21, Fixing Long-Term Care Amendment Act (Till Death Do Us Part), 2022, and;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Waterloo MPP Catherine Fife and to our local Parliament representatives, MPP Guy Bourgouin and MP Carol Hughes.
Carried

Childcare availability

Resolution 23-209: Réginald Manning – Marc Dupuis
WHEREAS Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté believes that the critical issue of childcare availability is linked to educational requirements and low wages within the childcare sector;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté supports the position taken by the Municipality of Bluewater in its letter of October 2nd, 2023 and urges the province to consider the following actions: review and reform educational requirements, invest in professional development, increase wages, expand funding and promote public awareness, and;

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

Carried

Digital publications

Resolution 23-210: Marc Dupuis – Sophie Gagnon

WHEREAS the *Legislation Act, 2006*, provides a definition of "newspaper" which applies to every Ontario Act and Regulation, as in a provision requiring publication, means a document that a) is printed in sheet form, published at regular intervals of a week or less and circulated to the general public, and b) consists primarily of news of current events of general interest, and;

WHEREAS Ontario Municipalities are required to follow publication and notice requirements for Provincial Acts and Regulations, and;

WHEREAS there are no publications that fit the definition of a newspaper in some communities, and;

WHEREAS some small, rural, Ontario Municipalities may not have the means to bring an application to the Court to ask for directions and approval of an alternate manner of providing notice;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby support Resolution No. 23-671 made by the Township of McKellar and requests that the Provincial government amend the *Legislation Act, 2006*, to include digital publications as an acceptable means of publication and notice requirements for Provincial Acts and Regulations, and;

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

Carried

Strong Mayor Powers

Resolution 23-211: Réginald Manning – Joyce Malenfant

WHEREAS Strong Mayor Powers undermine democratic processes executed through municipal elections and may also violate established municipal by-laws that provide accepted and legal procedures for governance, and;

WHEREAS Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté recognizes the important role each Councillor provides to the residents and to the community-at-large;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby support Resolution 257-2023 made by the Township of Terrace Bay, supporting Motion 10.4 made by the Town of Aurora, opposing Strong Mayor Powers being provided to the Head of Council, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Township of Terrace Bay and to our local Parliament representatives, MPP Guy Bourgouin and MP Carol Hughes.

Carried

Water treatment training

Resolution 23-212: Sophie Gagnon – Steve Brousseau

WHEREAS the Town of Rainy River has expressed its concerns with the need to provide up-to-date and continuous training to its operators on water treatment and distribution and wastewater collection and treatment operations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté hereby supports Resolution 23-020 made by Town of Rainy River and petitions the Province of Ontario to expand water treatment training opportunities for communities within Ontario, to deliver the training in a method that is flexible and affordable and to utilize networks, such as Contact North, for on-line exam preparation and exam supervision, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Town of Rainy River and to our local Parliament representatives, MPP Guy Bourgouin and MP Carol Hughes.

Carried

Vehicle passing

Resolution 23-213: Sophie Gagnon – Réginald Manning

WHEREAS vehicle drivers often attempt to pass other vehicles on the left despite the presence of two solid yellow lines on the highway, and;

WHEREAS this dangerous maneuver is not currently considered against the law as the two solid yellow lines only serve as a recommendation to drivers, and;

WHEREAS Ontario is the only province that does not penalize this behavior;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté strongly support the private member’s bill that is being brought forward to the legislature by MPP Guy Bourgouin to completely prohibit vehicles from passing another vehicle when there are double yellow lines on the road, and;

BE IT FURHTER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to MPP Guy Bourgouin.

Carried

Think Local Campaign

Resolution 23-214: Réginald Manning – Sophie Gagnon

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté has reconsidered its initial position and will take part in and contribute the amount of TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY (\$250.00) DOLLARS to the Think Local Campaign organized by the Northern Corridor Chamber of Commerce.

Carried

Special NEOMA meeting

Resolution 23-215: Sophie Gagnon – Steve Brousseau

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council hereby authorizes Councillor Malenfant to represent the Municipality at the Special NEOMA meeting to be held in Cochrane, on November 22nd, 2023, to discuss Highway 11 north winter closures with MTO and OPP representatives.

Carried

Monthly rental fees

Resolution 23-216: Marc Dupuis – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT in light of the time and of the efforts deployed by SFX Parish volunteers to clean up the rental space following the water damages, no monthly rental will be required from the Parish for the months of November and December 2023.

Carried

By-law no. 967

Resolution 23-217: Steve Brousseau – Réginald Manning

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 967, being a by-law to provide for animal care and control, be hereby adopted.

Carried

14. Next meeting: Wednesday, November 29th, 2023 at 7:00 pm

15. Confirmatory by-law

Resolution 23-218: Steve Brousseau – Joyce Malenfant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law no. 968, being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council on Wednesday, November 1st, 2023, be hereby adopted.

Carried

16. Adjournment: 9:00 pm

Resolution 23-219: Joyce Malenfant – Sophie Gagnon

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this regular meeting of Council held on November 1st, 2023, be adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Carried

Read and confirmed on November 29th, 2023

Mayor

CAO/Clerk