



THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF EAST FERRIS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

February 28, 2023

PRESENT: Pauline Rochefort, Mayor Steven Trahan, Councillor
 Terry Kelly, Councillor Rick Champagne, Councillor

ABSENT: Lauren Rooyakkers, Deputy Mayor

STAFF Monica L. Hawkins, Clerk Jason Trottier, CAO/Treasurer
PRESENT:

1. Call to Order

Mayor Rochefort called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

2023-48

Moved by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Councillor Trahan

THAT the draft agenda presented to Council and dated the 28th day of February, 2023 be adopted as prepared.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

3. Accepting the Minutes of the Previous Meeting(s):

a. Approval of Minutes - February 14th, 2023

2023-49

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Councillor Champagne

THAT the minutes of the Council Meeting held February 14th, 2023 be adopted as circulated.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

None for this session

5. Declarations of Conflict of Interest- Pecuniary Interest Thereof

None for this session

6. Chair's Comments:

None for this session

7. Delegations to Council:

- a. Mr. Scott Gardiner, Hospice Coordinator

Mr. Scott Gardiner, Hospice Coordinator for the Near North Palliative Care Network made a presentation to Council. Mr. Gardiner advised of who they are, what they do. The Near North Palliative Care Network celebrated 35 years in October 2022.

8. Committee Reports:

- a. Public Works and Infrastructure Committee

None for this session

- b. Community Emergency Management Committee

By-law for the Emergency Program and Plan being presented to Council under agenda item #12 By-laws.

- c. Fire and Emergency Services Committee

Minutes of meeting held February 27th, 2023 will be presented on the agenda of the Council Meeting of March 14th, 2023.

- d. Planning Advisory Committee

1. Minutes of February 15th, 2023

2. Recommendation(s) from Minutes

2023-50

Moved by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Councillor Champagne

WHEREAS public input was received at the public meeting of the Planning Advisory Committee meeting held February 15th, 2023 for file No. C-2023-01 Teresa and Kevin Gilchrist for the lands described as CON 9 PT LOT 12 REM PCL 1945 WF on what is locally known as

Lavigne Road has applied for a Zoning By-law Amendment to rezone the property from Rural (R) to Rural Special (R Sp.) in order to permit a Cat Rescue Use;

AND WHEREAS the application is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement, 2020;

AND WHEREAS the application is in conformity with the policies contained within the Official Plan for the Municipality;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that Council approves the recommendation from the Planning Advisory Committee Meeting held February 15th, 2023, Resolution No. 2023-07.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- e. Committee of Adjustment
 - 1. Minutes of February 15th, 2023
- f. Recreation, Parks and Culture Committee
 - None for this session
- g. Economic Development Committee
 - None for this session
- h. Striking Committee
 - None for this session

9. Board Reports:

- a. Library Board
 - None for this session
- b. Police Services Board
 - None for this session
- c. Cassellholme, DNSSAB, Health Unit and NBMCA

10. Departmental Reports & Resolutions:

None for this session

11. Notice of Motions

None for this session

12. By-laws:

- a. By-law No. 2023-07 - 1st, 2nd and 3rd Reading

2023-51

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

WHEREAS Council for the Municipality of East Ferris deems it expedient to pass three readings of the following By-law at this session; BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT a By-law to appoint Tekpreet Singh as Municipal Building Inspector for the Corporation of the Municipality of East Ferris, BE READ a first, second and third time, passed and numbered 2023-07;

And THAT said By-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the Seal of the Corporation.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- b. By-law No. 2023-08 - 1st, 2nd and 3rd Reading

2023-52

Moved by Councillor Champagne

Seconded by Councillor Trahan

WHEREAS Council for the Municipality of East Ferris deems it expedient to pass three readings of the following By-law at this session; BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT a By-law to appoint Tekpreet Singh as Municipal Law Enforcement Officer for the Corporation of the Municipality of East Ferris, BE READ a first, second and third time, passed and numbered 2023-08;

And THAT said By-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the Seal of the Corporation.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- c. By-Law No. 2023-09 - 1st, 2nd and 3rd Reading

2023-53

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Councillor Champagne

WHEREAS Council for the Municipality of East Ferris deems it expedient to pass three readings of the following By-law at this session; BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT a By-law to adopt an Emergency Program and Plan for the Municipality of East Ferris, BE READ a first, second and third time, passed and numbered 2023-09;

And THAT said By-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the Seal of the Corporation.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

13. Correspondence and Information Items:

- a. Township of Bonfield
- b. City of North Bay
- c. Town of Petrolia
- d. Cassellholme
- e. DNSSAB
- f. FONOM
- g. North Bay and District Parry Sound Health Unit
- h. NBMCA
- i. AMO Communications
- j. East Nipissing -North Parry Sound Veterinary Services Committee

14. Action Items:

- a. Approval of Correspondence and Information circulated with agenda

2023-54

Moved by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Councillor Trahan

THAT Council approve the Correspondence and Information as circulated with the agenda of February 28th, 2023.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- b. City of North Bay

2023-55

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

WHEREAS the recently announced Construction Funding Subsidy (CFS) by the Ministry of Long Term Care could have significantly benefitted the member funding Municipalities of Cassellholme;

AND WHEREAS that funding was intended to incent new construction and provide financial stability during the recent unexpected construction cost and financing cost increases;

AND WHEREAS Cassellholme's borrowing rate at Infrastructure Ontario will not be fixed until construction completion and has increased in the past year by approximately 2% representing about a \$1,500,000.00 annual increase to the Municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the Provincial Construction Funding Subsidy was increased in 2020 and has not since increased with rising construction costs and borrowing costs, significantly increasing the financial costs to the member Municipalities;

AND WHEREAS on an expected mortgage payment of \$6,000,000.00 per year, about \$2,000,000.00 is presently financed by Provincial CFS funding, leaving about \$4,000,000.00 in capital levies from the municipalities;

AND WHEREAS with the CFS top-up funding the same \$6M would be paid by about \$5,000,000.00 in Provincial funding and \$1,000,000.00 in levies;

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that this information be shared with the Ministry of Long Term Care and Treasury Board with a request that the application criteria for the CFS top-up of \$35 per bed-day be expanded to include Homes already under construction including Cassellholme;

AND FURTHER that a copy of this motion be provided to Ministry of Long Term Care, Treasury Board, MPP Victor Fedeli, and Member Municipalities.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

c. FONOM

2023-56

Moved by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Councillor Champagne

WHEREAS the homeless crisis is taking a devastating toll on families and communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the homelessness crisis is the result of the underinvestment and poor policy choices of successive provincial governments;

AND WHEREAS homelessness requires a range of housing, social service and health solutions from government;

AND WHEREAS homelessness is felt most at the level of local government and the residents that they serve;

AND WHEREAS municipalities and District Social Administration Boards are doing their part, but do not have the resources, capacity or tools to address this complex challenge;

AND WHEREAS leadership and urgent action is needed from the provincial government on an emergency basis to develop, resource, and implement a comprehensive plan to prevent, reduce and ultimately end homelessness in Ontario;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE Municipality of East Ferris calls on the Provincial Government to urgently:

1. Acknowledge that homelessness in Ontario is a social, economic, and health crisis;
2. Commit to ending homelessness in Ontario;
3. Work with AMO and a broad range of community, health, Indigenous and economic partners to develop, resource, and implement an action plan to achieve this goal;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; and the Minister of Health, the Association of Ontario (AMO) and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM).

Carried Mayor Rochefort

15. Approval of Accounts Payable

2023-57

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

THAT Council approve the general accounts for the Municipality of East Ferris as indicated in the cheque register(s) dated February 28th, 2023 in the amount of \$468,125.26.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

16. Other Business

Councillor Kelly discussed the Council Remuneration. A recommendation will be brought forward at the next meeting of Council, March 14th, 2023.

Council was advised that the RFP for the Wage Study/Pay Equity will be ready to go in a week or two.

17. In Camera

Council proceeded to in-camera session under Section 239(2)(b) and (h) regarding Active Transportation Funding and the Quarry

2023-58

Moved by Councillor Champagne

Seconded by Councillor Trahan

THAT this meeting proceeds to In-Camera session at 7:07 p.m., under Section 239(2) (b) and (h) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25 in order to address a matter pertaining to:

- Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees;
- Information explicitly supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

2023-59

Moved by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Councillor Champagne

THAT we do now adjourn this In-Camera meeting at 7:50 p.m. and return to our regular session of Council.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

2023-60

Moved by Councillor Champagne

Seconded by Councillor Trahan

THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of East Ferris commits to contributing 10% of the total eligible costs, the minimum applicant cash contribution required by NOHFC, towards the MacPherson Drive Link to Voyageur Cycling Route and Corbeil Hub Recreation Hub Active Transportation Project (NOHFC application #7510116, Infrastructure Canada Active Transportation Fund application # ATF-1123, and Ontario Trillium Foundation application # CP123757).

Carried Mayor Rochefort

18. Confirmatory By-Law

- a. By-law No. 2023-10 - 1st, 2nd and 3rd Reading

2023-61

Moved by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Councillor Trahan

WHEREAS Council for the Municipality of East Ferris deems it expedient to pass three readings of the following by-law at this session; BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council from February 14th, 2023 to February 28th, 2023, BE READ a first, second and third time, passed and numbered 2023-10;

AND THAT said by-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the Seal of the Corporation.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

19. Adjournment

2023-62

Moved by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Councillor Champagne

THAT we do now adjourn at 7:52 p.m. and meet again on March 14th, 2023.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

Mayor

Pauline Rochefort

Clerk

Monica L. Hawkins