



THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF EAST FERRIS

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 11, 2025

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

STAFF Jason Trottier, CAO/Treasurer Kim Rose, Deputy Clerk
PRESENT: Kari Hanselman, Clerk

1. Call to Order

Mayor Rochefort called the meeting to order at 4:59 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

2025-63

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

THAT the draft agenda presented to Council and dated the 11th day of March, 2025 be adopted as prepared.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

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

a. Approval of Council Minutes: Regular Meeting of February 25th, 2025

2025-64

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of February 25th, 2025 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. Announcements and Updates from Council Members

Deputy Clerk Rose advised that the Municipal Spring Snapshot was released today. Residents can sign up to receive the quarterly newsletter on the landing page of the Municipal website.

Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers reminded Council that local youth are on March Break. Council congratulated Mayor Rochefort on her candidacy for the Federal Liberal Party for the Nipissing-Timiskaming region.

7. Delegations to Council:

None for this session.

8. Committee Reports:

a. Public Works and Infrastructure Committee

1. Draft Minutes of March 4th, 2025

b. Emergency Management Program Committee

None for this session.

c. Fire and Emergency Services Committee

1. Draft Minutes of March 5th, 2025

d. Planning Advisory Committee

None for this session.

e. Committee of Adjustment

None for this session. Next meeting March 19th.

f. Recreation, Parks and Culture Committee

None for this session.

g. Striking Committee

None for this session.

9. Board Reports:

- a. Library Board
 - 1. Draft Minutes of March 3rd, 2025
 - 2. CEO Report
- b. OPP Detachment Board
None for this session.
- c. Cassellholme, DNSSAB, Health Unit and NBMCA
 - 1. Health Unit
 - 2. Cassellholme
 - 3. District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board

10. Departmental Reports & Resolutions:

- a. Report No. CLERK-2025-01: 2026 Municipal Election Voting Methods

2025-65

Moved by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Councillor Trahan

THAT Council for the Municipality of East Ferris receives Report No. CLERK-2025-01 - 2026 Municipal Election Voting Methods;

AND THAT for the 2026 Municipal Elections, the Clerk will continue to conduct the school board and municipal elections via traditional in-person paper ballots while offering more opportunities for in-person advanced voting.

Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers requested a recorded vote.

For (3): Councillor Kelly, Councillor Trahan, and Councillor Champagne

Against (2): Mayor Rochefort, and Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

Carried (3 to 2)

- b. Report No. R-2025-02: Various Partial Reline Work Tender EF 2025-02

2025-66

Moved by Councillor Champagne

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

THAT Council for the Municipality of East Ferris accepts the recommendation of the Director of Public Works and Engineering contained in Report No. R-2025-02 and awards Tender EF 2025-02 Various Partial Culvert Reline Work to Provincial Underground Services Inc. in the amount of \$70,568.50 including HST.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- c. Report No. R-2025-03: Supply and Application of Dust Control and Road Stabilization Materials Joint RFQ EF 2025-03

2025-67

Moved by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

Seconded by Councillor Trahan

THAT Council for the Municipality of East Ferris accepts the recommendation of the Director of Public Works and Engineering contained in Report No. R-2025-03 and awards RFQ 2025-03 – Dust Control and Road Stabilization Materials to Pollard Highway Products Ltd. in the amount of \$61,808.18 including HST for the work required by the Municipality of East Ferris.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- d. Report No. R-2025-04: Granular Material Tender EF 2025-04

2025-68

Moved by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

Seconded by Councillor Champagne

THAT Council for the Municipality of East Ferris accepts the recommendation of the Director of Public Works and Engineering contained in Report No. R-2025-04 and awards Tender EF 2025-04 Granular Materials to Evan Hughes Excavating in the amount of \$153,630.99 including HST.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- e. Report No. R-2025-05: Winter Sand Tender EF 2025-05

2025-69

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

THAT Council for the Municipality of East Ferris accepts the recommendation of the Director of Public Works and Engineering contained in Report No. R-2025-05 and awards Tender EF 2025-05 Winter Sand to Miller Paving North Bay in the amount of \$81,642.50 including HST.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- f. Report No. R-2025-06: Granular Material - Groulx Road Tender EF 2025-06

2025-70

Moved by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

Seconded by Councillor Trahan

THAT Council for the Municipality of East Ferris accepts the recommendation of the Director of Public Works and Engineering contained in Report No. R-2025-06 and awards Tender EF 2025-06 Granular Materials – Groulx Road to Evan Hughes Excavating in the amount of \$42,977.86 including HST.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- g. Report No. R-2025-07: Surface Treatment - Groulx Road Tender EF 2025-07

2025-71

Moved by Councillor Champagne

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

THAT Council for the Municipality of East Ferris accepts the recommendation of the Director of Public Works and Engineering contained in Report No. R-2025-07 and awards Tender EF 2025-07 Surface Treatment – Groulx Road to Duncor Enterprises Inc. in the amount of \$308,894.54 including HST.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- h. Report No. R-2025-08: Asphalt Paving - Village Road Tender EF 2025-01

2025-72

Moved by Councillor Champagne

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

THAT Council for the Municipality of East Ferris accepts the recommendation of the Director of Public Works and Engineering contained in Report No. R-2025-08 and awards tender EF 2025-01 - Asphalt Paving - Village Road to Pioneer Construction Inc. in the amount of \$209,228.70 including HST.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- i. Report No. R-2025-09: Equipment Rental Rate List RFQ EF 2025-09

2025-73

Moved by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

THAT Council for the Municipality of East Ferris accepts the recommendation of the Director of Public Works and Engineering contained in Report No. R-2025-09 and accepts the enclosed Reference Table – Equipment Rental 2025 derived from submissions received for RFQ EF 2025-09 Equipment Rental Rate List and

that equipment rental needs be selected from the submitted rates based on the criteria stated in Report No. R-2025-09.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- j. Report No. R-2025-10: Tandem Dump Trailer RFQ EF 2025-10

2025-74

Moved by Councillor Champagne

Seconded by Councillor Trahan

THAT Council for the Municipality of East Ferris accepts the recommendation of the Director of Public Works and Engineering contained in Report No. R-2025-10 and awards RFQ EF 2025-10 - Tandem Dump Trailer to DRD Distributing in the amount of \$17,311.60 including HST.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- k. Report No. PLAN-2025-03: Deeming By-Law Request - Tulloch on behalf of Degagne Renovations

2025-75

Moved by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

THAT Council for the Municipality of East Ferris accepts the recommendation of the Director of Community Services contained in Report No. PLAN-2025-03 and approves the request to deem Lot 10 Plan M268 to no longer be a lot on a registered plan of subdivision.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

11. Notice of Motions

- a. Mayor Rochefort: Standing for Canada

Council unanimously decided to table a motion at this meeting.

2025-76

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

WHEREAS Canada and the United States have a shared history of friendship, respect and neighbourly relations;

AND WHEREAS Canada is a sovereign nation with a peaceful history of self--governance dating to its Confederation in 1867;

AND WHEREAS the Canadian identity is marked by a deep-rooted pride in its heritage and culture founded by French and British settlement, enriched by Indigenous culture and traditions and by more than a century and a half of multi-cultural immigration;

AND WHEREAS Canada has significant global standing, consistently supporting its allies, including the United States, in global conflicts such as two world wars, and wars in Korea and Afghanistan; and in international coalitions and in being consistently recognized as among the top countries in the world for quality of life;

AND WHEREAS newly elected President Donald Trump has suggested that with the use of economic force such as tariffs, Canada should become the 51st state of the United States;

AND WHEREAS President Trump, has now imposed tariffs on imports from Canada that will have a significant detrimental impact on the economic stability in both countries;

AND WHEREAS federal and provincial leaders are encouraging Canadians to buy Canadian, at the same time as it seeks to remove inter-provincial trade barriers within Canada;

AND WHEREAS municipalities have significant purchasing power through capital and infrastructure programs and can assist in the effort to combat tariffs and support Canadian businesses by their procurement of Canadian products and services;

AND WHEREAS municipalities have traditionally been prevented by trade agreements and legislation from giving preference to the purchase of Canadian products and services;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Municipality of East Ferris categorically rejects any efforts by President Trump or any others to undermine the sovereignty of Canada, and we stand united with our provincial and federal leaders for a Canada that remains strong, free, independent, and characterized by peace, order, and good government;

AND FURTHERMORE that Council endorses the federal and provincial call to action to buy Canadian and therefore remove any impediments to municipalities preferring to engage Canadian companies for products and services when appropriate and feasible;

AND FURTHERMORE that Council encourages the provincial and federal governments to remove trade barriers between provinces in support of Canadian businesses;

AND FURTHERMORE that the CAO be directed to prepare a report detailing a temporary purchasing policy that integrates and addresses these concerns;

AND FURTHERMORE that this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Ontario Premier Doug Ford, Nipissing-Timiskaming MP Anthony Rota, Nipissing MPP Vic Fedeli, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Rural Ontario Municipal Association, Ontario Good Roads Association, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- b. Mayor Rochefort: Restrict or Eliminate Used Car Sales to the USA

Council unanimously decided to table a motion at this meeting.

2025-77

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

WHEREAS every year approximately 200,000 to 300,000 used cars are sold and exported into the United States;

AND WHEREAS the burgeoning North American trade war will drive up the prices of new cars by thousands of dollars, sparking a major consumer shift toward the used vehicle market;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council for the Municipality of East Ferris requests the federal government examine how to restrict the sale of used vehicles to the USA from Canada or entirely in this period of increased need for vehicles;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to MP Anthony Rota and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM).

Carried Mayor Rochefort

12. By-laws:

None for this session.

13. Correspondence and Information Items:

- a. City of Woodstock

- b. Coleman Township

2025-78

Moved by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Councillor Champagne

THAT Council of the Municipality of East Ferris supports the Northern Highway Safety Plan proposed by MPP Guy Bourgouin, MPP Lisa Vaugeois and MPP John Vanthof;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Transportation, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) and Good Roads.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- c. Municipality of Durham
- d. Support Canada
- e. AMO Communications
- f. Casselholme
- g. Knights of Columbus #6664

2025-79

Moved by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

THAT the Council for the Municipality of East Ferris defers the request from the Knights of Columbus local #6664 to staff to examine the feasibility and costs involved of installing a monument at the East Ferris Memorial Park in commemoration of the Knights of Columbus' 50th Anniversary;

AND THAT this item be brought back to a future meeting.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- h. Phil Koning

Mayor Rochefort introduced the correspondence. Council's position on this matter is one of dissatisfaction, and feels that Castle Arms should have remained under the same umbrella as Casselholme. The Council for the Municipality of East Ferris is not represented on the Castle Arms Board.

14. Action Items:

- a. Approval of Correspondence and Information Circulated with the Agenda

2025-80

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Councillor Champagne

THAT Council approve the Correspondence and Information as circulated with the agenda of March 11th, 2025.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- b. Council Remuneration

2025-81

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

WHEREAS Section 284 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O., c.25, as amended, requires that the Treasurer of a Municipality shall in each year on or before March 31st provide to the Council of the municipality an itemized statement on remuneration and expenses paid in the previous year;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that Council for the Municipality of East Ferris accepts the 2024 Statement of Remuneration and Expenses itemized for each Member of Council and Member of Local Boards and Committees, as submitted.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- c. Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula

2025-82

Moved by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

THAT the Council for the Municipality of East Ferris directs the CAO to circulate the resolution passed by the Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula in regards to cellular towers in rural communities and their associated maintenance to determine whether there are backups available in the Municipality.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- d. Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula

15. Approval of Accounts Payable

2025-83

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Councillor Champagne

THAT Council approve the general accounts for the Municipality of East Ferris as indicated in the cheque register(s) dated March 11th, 2025 in the amount of \$494,447.20.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

16. Other Business

None for this session.

17. In Camera (if required)

None for this session.

18. Confirmatory By-law

- a. By-law No. 2025-17: 1st, 2nd and 3rd Reading

2025-84

Moved by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

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 25th, 2025 to March 11th, 2025, BE READ a first, second and third time, passed and numbered 2025-17;

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

2025-85

Moved by Councillor Champagne

Seconded by Councillor Trahan

THAT we do now adjourn at 6:50 p.m. and meet again on March 25th, 2025.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

Mayor

Pauline Rochefort

Clerk

Kari Hanselman