



Matachewan Meeting Minutes

December 20, 2023 - Regular Council Meeting - 06:00 PM

Council:

Mark Stickel
Mike Young
Emily Stewart
Dianne Gilbert
Cheryl Drummond

Staff:

Cheryl Swanson, CAO Clerk-Treasurer
Lynn Aube, Deputy Clerk
Janet Gore, Advisor to the CAO

Public:

Ken Swanson

Resolution No:
2023-389

1. **Call to order**

Moved By: Dianne Gilbert
Seconded By: Mike Young

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT we, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Matachewan, call this meeting to order at 5:59 p.m.

Carried

2. **Land Acknowledgement**

We acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the lands of the Anishinaabe people of Matachewan First Nation who have been stewards of this land from the time immemorial.

3. **Vision Statement**

Matachewan strives to preserve its friendliness and to create a progressive community that will have economic growth and bring wealth to all through strong leadership and community involvement.

Resolution No:
2023-390

4. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved By: Mike Young
Seconded By: Dianne Gilbert

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT we, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Matachewan, accept the agenda as circulated, subject to the following additions:
By-Law 2023-69 - Amending Agreement Infrastructure Ontario

Carried

5. **No Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

Resolution No:
2023-391

6. **Approval Minutes**

Moved By: Cheryl Drummond
Seconded By: Dianne Gilbert

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT we, the Council of the Corporation of The Township of Matachewan, adopt the Minutes of December 6, 2023 as circulated.

Carried

Resolution No:
2023-392

7. **Approval of Accounts**

Moved By: Mike Young
Seconded By: Emily Stewart

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT we, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Matachewan, approve the payment of accounts from December 1st to December 20th in the amount of \$159,942.42.

Carried

**Resolution No:
2023-393**

8. Correspondence

Moved By: Cheryl Drummond
Seconded By: Mike Young

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT all correspondence be received and filed.

Carried

8.1 AMCTO

**Resolution No:
2023-394**

8.2 Conservation Officers

Moved By: Cheryl Drummond
Seconded By: Mike Young

WHEREAS Ontario has 196 field Conservation Officers including 6 canine handlers who provide protection to Municipalities Natural Resources and uphold public safety by enforcing hunting and firearm laws and investigate gruesome injuries and even deaths that result from hunting-related accidents; in addition, Conservation Officers are often First Responders and ensure public safety by facilitating evacuations and enforcing Emergency Area orders during forest fires during record breaking wildfires such as we witnessed this past summer; and

WHEREAS Conservation Officers perform comparable work to Police Officers and other Enforcement Officers within the province and are professional, armed Peace Officers trained to police standards and undergo the same training; and

WHEREAS Ontario Municipalities are required that their constituents are informed, and their interests are safeguarded and ensure they have access to outreach and natural resources compliance services; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Matachewan does here by support the Ontario Conservation Officer's Association (OCA) in their efforts to have Conservation Officers in the Province of Ontario reclassified as Enforcement Officers and be compensated fairly; and

FURTHER request the support of all Ontario Municipalities; and

FURTHERMORE, THAT this resolution with a letter of support be forwarded to Ontario Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of Natural Resources Graydon Smith, the Local Provincial Member of Parliament (MPP) John Vanthof, Temiskaming Municipal Association and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities.

Carried

**Resolution No:
2023-395**

8.3 Firefighter Tax Credit

Moved By: Dianne Gilbert
Seconded By: Cheryl Drummond

WHEREAS Canada has 90,000 volunteer firefighters who provide fire and all hazard emergency services to their communities; in addition, approximately 8,000 essential search and rescue volunteers respond to thousands of incidents every year; and

WHEREAS many of these individuals receive some form of pay on call, an honorarium, or are given some funding to cover expenses, but they do not draw a living wage from firefighting; and;

WHEREAS without volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers, thousands of communities in Canada would have no fire and emergency response coverage; and;

WHEREAS in 2013, the federal government initiated a tax credit recognizing these individuals, and calling on the federal government to increase this tax credit from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and;

WHEREAS volunteer firefighters account for 71% of Canada's total firefighting essential first responders;

- The tax code of Canada currently allows volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers to claim a \$3,000 tax credit if 200 hours of volunteer services were completed in a calendar year;
- This works out to a mere \$450 per year, which we allow these essential volunteers to keep of their own income from their regular jobs, \$2.25 an hour;
- If they volunteer more than 200 hours, which many do, this tax credit becomes even less;
- These essential volunteers not only put their lives on the line and give their time, training and efforts to Canadians, but they also allow cities and municipalities to keep property taxes lower than if paid services were required;
- It would also help retain these volunteers in a time when volunteerism is decreasing.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa call upon the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act in order to increase the amount of the tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and;

FURTHERMORE THAT a copy of the resolution be shared with the Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario, Algoma Mutual Aid Association, Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried

8.4 MNRF

8.5 OCWA

**Resolution No:
2023-396**

8.5.1 OCWA - Quarterly Operations Report 2023 - July 1 to September 30, 2023

Moved By: Mike Young

Seconded By: Emily Stewart

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT we, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Matachewan, do hereby acknowledge receipt of the OCWA Matachewan Drinking Water System Quarterly Operations Report 2023 of July 1st to September 30th, 2023.

Carried

**Resolution No:
2023-397**

8.5.2 OCWA - Matachewan Water Treatment System - 5 Year Recommended Capital/Major Maintenance from 2024 to 2029

Moved By: Mike Young

Seconded By: Dianne Gilbert

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT we, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Matachewan, do hereby acknowledge receipt of the Matachewan Water Treatment System 5 Year Recommended Capital/Major Maintenance from 2024 to 2029.

Carried

8.6 Ontario Trillium Foundation

8.7 Till Death Do Us Part Act Bill 21

8.8 TMA

9. Policies

**Resolution No:
2023-398**

9.1 Tree Canopy Policy

Moved By: Emily Stewart

Seconded By: Dianne Gilbert

THAT we, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Matachewan, do hereby adopt Policy #: Planning 2023-001, being a Tree Canopy Policy.

Carried

10. By-Laws

**Resolution No:
2023-399**

10.1 By-Law #2023-68

Moved By: Cheryl Drummond

Seconded By: Emily Stewart

THAT we, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Matachewan, give By-Law #2023-68, being a by-law to authorize the Township of Matachewan to enter into an agreement with 2045162 Ontario Limited carrying on business as Clark Communications, a first, second, third and final reading this 20th day of December, 2023.

Carried

**Resolution No:
2023-400**

10.2 By-Law 2023-69

Moved By: Mike Young

Seconded By: Cheryl Drummond

THAT we, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Matachewan, give By-Law #2023-69, being a by-law to authorize an amendment to the transfer payment agreement for the investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP); COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream - Local Government intake between his Majesty the King in Right of Ontario, as represented by the Minister of Infrastructure and the Corporation of the Township of Matachewan, a first, second, third and final reading this 20th day of December, 2023.

Carried

11. Reports

11.1 Pedersen

11.2 Salvation Army

Resolution No:
2023-401

11.3 Public Works Report December 4th to December 17th, 2023

Moved By: Mike Young
Seconded By: Dianne Gilbert

WHEREAS, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Matachewan does affirm and acknowledge the Public Works report from December 4th to December 17th, 2023

Carried

11.4 Thank You Letter

Resolution No:
2023-402

11.5 Financials

Moved By: Dianne Gilbert
Seconded By: Emily Stewart

THAT we, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Matachewan, accepts the Financial Report as at November 30th, 2023, as prepared and presented by the CAO/Clerk-Treasurer.

Carried

Resolution No:
2023-403

12. Confirmation By-Law 2023-70

Moved By: Cheryl Drummond
Seconded By: Mike Young

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT we, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Matachewan, give By-Law #2023-70, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its regular meeting held December 20, 2023, a first, second, third and final reading.

Carried

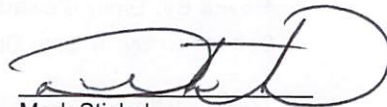
Resolution No:
2023-404

13. Adjournment

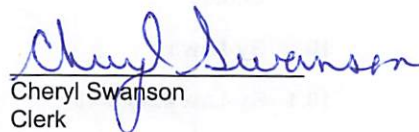
Moved By: Cheryl Drummond
Seconded By: Dianne Gilbert

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT we, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Matachewan, do now adjourn at 6:54 p.m., until next regular meeting on January 10th, 2024 or at the call of the Mayor.

Carried



Mark Stickel
Mayor



Cheryl Swanson
Clerk