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## Council Meeting Minutes - September 3, 2024

7:00 PM, Parry Sound Council Chambers 52 Seguin St. Parry Sound

### Members Present

Mayor McGarvey, Councillor Ashford, Councillor Beleskey, Councillor Borneman, Councillor Keith, Councillor McCann, Councillor McDonald

### Staff Present:

CAO Clayton Harris, Clerk Rebecca Johnson, Director of Public Works Mike Kearns, Director of Finance Stephanie Phillips, Director of Development & Protective Services Dave Thompson, Manager of Human Resources Pamela Langevin, Manager of Planning Jeremy Rand, Manager of Revenue & Taxation Rob Beaumont, Manager of Operations Vinni Bonazza, Manager of Parks & Recreation April McNamara

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### Closed Meeting Resolution

Prior to the Regular Meeting, Council will adjourn to a meeting closed to the public per the following resolution.

**Resolution 2024 - 127**

**Moved by Councillor McCann Seconded by Councillor Borneman**

That pursuant to Section 239(2) of the Municipal Act, R.S.O. 2001, Chapter 25, as amended, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Parry Sound move to a meeting closed to the public in order to address a matter(s) pertaining to:

d) labour relations or employee negotiations, (**Non-Union Employees Compensation & Benefits**);

e) litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board, **(Parry Sound Area Municipal Airport)**

**Carried**

## 1. Agenda and Minutes Review, Pecuniary Interest

**1.1 Land Acknowledgement**

**1.2 Presentations/Announcements**

**1.3 Additions to Agenda**

**1.4 Prioritization of Agenda**

**1.4.1** Councillor McCann requested that item 9.4.2 be prioritized.

**1.5 Adoption of Agenda**

**Moved by Councillor Keith Seconded by Councillor Ashford**

That the Council agenda for September 3, 2024 be approved as amended.

**Carried**

**1.6 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof**

**1.6.1** Councillor McCann declared pecuniary interest on item 9.5.4 regarding approval in principle for the Parry Sound Community Radio Station to locate their transmission site at the Bowes Street Water Tower, as he is Chair of that Board. Councillor McCann left the room for the duration of the item, did not participate in discussion, nor vote on the item.

**1.6.2** Councillor Ashford declared pecuniary interest on item 9.5.4 regarding approval in principle for the Parry Sound Community Radio Station to locate their transmission site at the Bowes Street Water Tower, as he is on the Board. Councillor Ashford left the room for the duration of the item, did not participate in discussion, nor vote on the item.

**1.7 Adoption of Minutes**

**Moved by Councillor Keith Seconded by Councillor McDonald**

That the Minutes from the Regular Council meeting held August 13, 2024 be approved as circulated.

**Carried**

## 2. Public Meeting - N/A

## 3. Questions of Staff

**3.1** In response to Councillor McCann's inquiry regarding prioritized residents' parking at the Champaign Street boat launch, Director of Development & Protective Services Dave Thompson noted that because of the gravel surface with no lines to guide parking, the boat launch is relatively unorganized. Municipal Law Enforcement Officer Allison Kreuger reported that when overnight parking at Champaign Street boat launch was considered a few years ago, there was a pilot project for residents to apply for exemption to overnight parking fees; however, this doesn't guarantee a spot. Ms. Kreuger noted that this summer, even on busy weekends, there still seems to be available parking so perhaps a special parking area for residents only is not needed.

**3.2** In response to Councillor McCann's inquiry regarding dead trees and limbs near telephone and hydro wires, Director of Public Works Mike Kearns noted that these trees of concern are prioritized and staff contact Lakeland Power to remove them.

**3.3** In response to Councillor Keith's inquiry regarding road dips at manholes after the recent resurfacing, Mr. Kearns reported that he is speaking to the contractor to rectify this.

**3.4** In response to Councillor Borneman's inquiry regarding traffic control at Forest and George Streets, Mr. Kearns reported that as part of the planning process this is to be addressed and there are internal consultations happening on the best traffic control for this intersection.

**3.5** In response to Councillor Ashford's inquiry regarding the status of a draft exotic animal control by-law, Ms. Kreuger noted that a draft is being worked on and will be brought to back to Council.

**3.6** In response to Councillor Ashford's inquiry as to what happens to the $350,000 from the province allocated for the Waubuno Street pedestrian bridge if it is not repaired this year, Director of Financial Services Stephanie Phillips reported that the funds would be reallocated to other priority projects.

**3.7** In response to Councillor Beleskey's concern regarding people falling in ruts in the Fitness Trail behind the lumberyard, Mr. Kearns indicated staff would look at that and make repairs. To a follow-up concern from Councillor Keith that people may fall into the river as there is no fencing in that location, Mr. Kearns also responded that staff would review that.

**3.8** Mr. Kearns responded to Councillor Beleskey's inquiry on the status of CP's permission to paint the concrete structure under the trestle by indicating he has not yet reached out to CP but will do so as early as the next day.

**3.9** In response to Councillor Keith's inquiry on the status of a four-way stop at the Rosetta-James-William intersection, Mr. Kearns reported that in checking the geometric design manual and various traffic control manuals, the intersection does not warrant a four-way stop, and that if Council is interested in pursuing additional traffic control at this intersection, the safest way forward would be to engage a traffic engineer. Mr. Kearns said that reduced travel speed is the single biggest contributor to road safety. Mr. Kearns responded further to Councillor Keith's inquiry about sightlines at the intersection, confirming that parking spots could be eliminated close to the intersection to improve sightlines and a report on the matter would come back to Council.

**3.10** In response to Councillor McDonald's concerns regarding increased sightings of coyotes in Town, Ms. Kreuger said that the best means of deterring animals is to keep garbage and food in secure containers and not feed wildlife. Ms. Kreuger also noted that this message could be promoted on the Town's website, and direct individuals to the MNR as they manage wildlife. Ms. Kreuger also responded to Councillor McCann's inquiry regarding MNR trapping coyotes and relocating them by indicating that she could check with MNR, however her understanding is that MNR promotes learning to live with wildlife.

**3.11** In response to Councillor McDonald's question as to whether the 5 parking spaces at the post office dedicated to taxis can be used by the public when the taxis don't need them, Ms. Kreuger noted that the taxi companies still use them, although perhaps not as many, so the number dedicated for taxi use might be reduced.

## 4. Correspondence

**4.1** PS Area Founders Circle Notice of Founders Choice Awards Application is Open - filed

**4.2** Downtown Business Association appreciation for council decisions regarding operations of the Town Dock and Big Sound Marina - filed

**4.3** Dr. TJ Henderson advocating Active Transportation and Safe Street - filed

**4.4** Mary Jane Zissoff appreciation for Yvonne Williams Park plaque dedication - filed

**4.5a** Letters of opposition to removal of Fitness Trail Bridge (50 + 190) - filed

**4.5b** Public Feedback received in response to Town's invitation through its website to comment on future of Fitness Trail Bridge (147) - filed

## 5. Deputations

### 5.1 Matt Simmons RE: Concerned Citizens to Save Waubuno Bridge

Matt Simmons, creator of a Facebook page to Save Waubuno Bridge addressed Council with a recap of the data extracted from the page, with 619 of the 840 members listing Parry Sound as their residence. Mr. Simmons reported further on demographics and noted that the overwhelming sentiment of Facebook members is to keep the bridge as it is now, meaning a timber bridge using the funding dedicated for repair. Further, Mr. Simmons requested that Council adopt an option to do nothing until the 2024 Ontario Structural Inspection Manual (OSIM) Report is completed, to know the exact cost of restoration to see if it is within the dedicated funding of $350,000.

### 5.2 Krista Holmes RE: Welcome in 3 Languages on Town Signage

Krista Holmes asked if Council would join with other West Parry Sound Area municipalities in requesting the Ontario government to support welcome signs to Parry in English, French and Anishinaabemowin. Ms. Holmes suggested that municipalities consult with local First Nations to determine the best wording and spelling to convey the welcome.

## 6. Mayor & Councillors' Reports

Members of Council reported on meetings attended and matters arising.

## 7. Ratification of Matters from Closed Agenda - N/A

## 8. Consent Agenda - N/A

## 9. Resolutions and Direction to Staff

### 9.1.1 Review of Operating Procedures with respect to Site Alteration Matters

Spokespersons: Jeremy Rand, Manager of Planning;

Allison Kreuger, Municipal Law Enforcement Officer

**Resolution 2024 -128**

**Moved by Councillor McCann Seconded by Councillor Borneman**

That the September 3, 2024 Report entitled Review of Operating Procedures with respect to Site Alteration Matters be received for information purposes.

**Carried**

### 9.3.1 2024/2025 O.Reg 588/17 Compliant Asset Management Plan

Spokesperson: Stephanie Phillips, Director of Finance/Treasurer

**Resolution 2024 -129**

**Moved by Councillor Borneman Seconded by Councillor McCann**

Be it resolved that Council accepts the Asset Management Plan update in accordance with the Town's Strategic Asset Management Policy and O. Reg. 588/17: Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure under the Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, 2015; and

Be it resolved that Council directs staff to proceed with Phase 1: 2024 O.Reg 588/17 compliant Asset Management Plan and Phase 2: 2025 Proposed Levels of Service and 2025 O.Reg 588/17 compliant Asset Management Plan with PSD Citywide at a total cost of $58,500 (plus HST) in an effort to expedite the advancement of the asset management plan update to meet regulatory requirements.

**Carried**

### 9.4.1 Preservation of the Rotary & The Algonquin Regiment Fitness Trail

Spokesperson: Clayton Harris, CAO

**Resolution 2024 - 130**

**Moved by Councillor Keith Seconded by Councillor Ashford**

Whereas the Rotary and Algonquin Regiment Waterfront Trail has always been of strategic importance to the Town of Parry Sound and its ratepayers;

Whereas Town Council of the day had the wisdom to acquire the former railway property;

Whereas the property extends from the Champagne Street boat launch to Salt Dock Road as set out in the attached map;

Whereas the railway property has always been an infrastructure corridor in support of the local economy;

Whereas the use of the property as a public infrastructure corridor continues to be important;

Whereas the Rotary and The Algonquin Regiment Fitness Trail is of significance to Parry Sound’s history and is named after the soldiers of the Algonquin Regiment;

Whereas physical activity is essential to the mental and physical well being of all individuals;

Whereas the Rotary and The Algonquin Regiment Fitness Trail is a tourism attraction and a driver of economic activity in Parry Sound;

Whereas the Rotary and The Algonquin Regiment Fitness Trail is accessible and enjoyed by all members of the community; and

Whereas Town Council is supportive of the Rotary and The Algonquin Regiment Fitness Trail remaining in public ownership;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council reaffirms its intent that the Rotary and The Algonquin Regiment Fitness Trail remain in public ownership; and

That the Surplus Land By-law be amended to make reference to this Resolution.

**Carried**

**Direction for Staff Follow-up**

**Moved by Councillor Borneman Seconded by Councillor McCann**

That staff be directed to research and bring forward a similar Resolution protecting the Rugged Shore Trail.

**Carried**

### 9.4.2 Waubuno St Bridge - Fitness Trail

**a) Resolution as postponed from the June 18, 2024 Council Meeting**

Spokesperson: Mike Kearns, Director of Public Works

**Resolution 2024 - 097**

**Moved by Councillor McDonald Seconded by Councillor Borneman**

That Council accept the recommendation for removal of the Waubuno St fitness trail bridge and to create a safe and usable level crossing to ensure that a future infrastructure servicing corridor is available.

Councillor McCann requested a recorded vote.

**Yes No**

Councillor Ashford X

Councillor Beleskey X

Councillor Borneman X

Councillor Keith X

Councillor McCann X

Councillor McDonald X

Mayor McGarvey X

**Defeated**  **0 7**

**b) Revised Report & Recommendation**

Spokesperson: Mike Kearns, Director of Public Works

**Direction to Staff**

**Moved by Councillor Keith Seconded by Councillor McCann**

That staff be directed to further refine Option 2 - Replace existing bridge at current grade; and Option 3 - Replace existing bridge with increased height clearance under the bridge, for the replacement of the existing structure over Waubuno Rd.; and

That staff report back to Council with additional details regarding Options 2 and 3 prior to any work being undertaken.

The following amending motion was made:

**Moved by Councillor McDonald Seconded by Councillor Borneman**

That the direction include refining Option 1 to repair the existing structure as well, and report back.

**Amendment carried**

Councillor McCann requested a recorded vote on the amended Direction

**Yes No**

Councillor Ashford X

Councillor Beleskey X

Councillor Borneman X

Councillor Keith X

Councillor McCann X

Councillor McDonald X

Mayor McGarvey X

**Amended Direction Carried** **7 0**

### 9.4.3 Renaming a Section of Parry Sound Drive

Spokespersons: Clayton Harris, CAO; Mike Kearns, Director of Public Works

Dave Thompson, Director of Development and Protective Services

**Resolution 2024 - 131**

**Moved by Councillor Ashford Seconded by Councillor Beleskey**

Whereas two exits off Hwy 400 with the same name can cause confusion for visitors to the area and emergency response vehicles;

Whereas a section of Parry Sound Drive has no municipal addresses assigned;

Whereas roads that provide access to and from a 400 series highway are high visibility;

Whereas the significant exposure has commercial value;

Whereas the new Recreation and Cultural Centre is currently undertaking a fundraising campaign with Moose FM where monies raised by November 24, 2024, will be matched up to $100,000;

Whereas the renaming creates an opportunity to generate net proceeds for the new Centre;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that staff be directed to issue an RFP for the renaming of the section of Parry Sound Drive set out in the report; and

THAT the net proceeds from the renaming be donated to the new Recreation and Cultural Centre; and

THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce, the Downtown Business Association, promoted through social media, the Town's website and other available opportunities.

**Carried**

### 9.5.1 Operation Lifesaver Rail Safety

Spokesperson: Mayor McGarvey

**Resolution 2024 - 132**  
**Moved by Councillor Ashford Seconded by Councillor Beleskey**

WHEREAS Rail Safety Week is to be held across Canada from September 23 to 29, 2024;  
WHEREAS, 229 railway crossing and trespassing incidents occurred in Canada in 2023; resulting in 66 avoidable fatalities and 39 avoidable serious injuries;  
WHEREAS, educating and informing the public about rail safety (reminding the public that railway rights-of-way are private property, enhancing public awareness of the dangers associated with highway rail grade crossings, ensuring pedestrians and motorists are looking and listening while near railways, and obeying established traffic laws) will reduce the number of avoidable fatalities and injuries caused by incidents involving trains and citizens; and  
WHEREAS Operation Lifesaver is a public/private partnership whose aim is to work with the public, rail industry, governments, police services, media and others to raise rail safety awareness;  
WHEREAS CN and Operation Lifesaver have requested Town Council adopt this resolution in support of its ongoing efforts to raise awareness, save lives and prevent injuries in communities, including our municipality;

Therefore Council of the Town of Parry Sound hereby resolves to support national Rail Safety Week to be held from September 23 to 29, 2024.

**Carried**

### 9.5.2 Ride Sharing Regulatory Framework Transfer to Province

Spokesperson:

**Resolution 2024 - 133**

**Moved by Councillor Beleskey Seconded by Councillor Ashford**

Whereas Town of Parry Sound Council, on June 18, 2024 passed Resolution 2024 - 099 which requests that in the interests of creating a more coherent and standardized regulatory framework for ridesharing services, that the province of Ontario take over from municipalities, the responsibility for rideshare regulations and licensing; and

Whereas Resolution 2024 - 099 has been forwarded to the Premier, the Minister of Transportation, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, MPP Graydon Smith, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); and

Whereas the Town of Parry Sound is interested in broadening support for the request that the Province of Ontario take on the responsibility for rideshare regulations and licensing;

Now Therefore the Council of the Town of Parry Sound hereby resolves that Resolution 2024 - 099 be circulated to the West Parry Sound area municipalities, and to the Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce with a request for support and further circulation to relevant associations for support.

**Carried**

### 9.5.3 Declaration of Intimate Partner Violence an Epidemic

Spokesperson: Councillor George Ashford

**Resolution 2024 - 134**

**Moved by Councillor Keith Seconded by Councillor Ashford**

Whereas Town of Parry Sound Council, on December 19, 2023 passed Resolution 2023-190 which supported the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit Board's call upon the Province of Ontario to: a) invest in surveillance and analytical methodologies to gain a better understanding of the prevalence of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV); b) develop a Provincial IPV strategy; and c) increase funding for the Healthy Babies Healthy Children Home Visiting program wherein staff respond to disclosure of Intimate Partner Violence; and

Whereas the first of 86 recommendations released on June 28, 2022 by the Coroner's Jury serving on the inquest of the September 2, 2015 deaths of Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk and Nathalie Warmerdam in Renfrew County, calls upon the Government of Ontario to formally declare intimate partner violence as an epidemic; and

Whereas since the release of said Coroner's Jury recommendations, more than 100 municipalities, police services boards and service providers across the province are declaring intimate partner violence as an epidemic; and

Whereas Bill 173, Intimate Partner Violence Epidemic Act, 2024, introduced in the Ontario Legislature on March 7, 2024 which would recognize that intimate partner violence is an epidemic in Ontario, has not yet passed, being referred to the Standing Committee on Justice Policy;

Now Therefore the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Parry Sound hereby joins with the over 100 municipalities, polices services boards, and service providers across the province in declaring Intimate Partner Violence as an epidemic, and urges the province to immediately pass Bill 173, Intimate Partner Epidemic Act, 2024; and

That copies of this Resolution be forwarded to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; Lorne Coe, Chair of the Standing Committee on Justice Policy; The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health; Marit Stiles, Leader of Official Opposition; Honourable Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

**Carried**

Circulate to the Municipality of Essex and Lanark County, the original initiator of the resolution.

**Carried**

### 9.5.4 Approval of PSCRA Request for Location of Radio Transmission

Spokesperson: Mike Kearns, Director of Public Works

**Resolution 2024 - 135**

**Moved by Councillor Borneman Seconded by Councillor McDonald**

That subject to receipt of engineered drawings and terms included in a future Agreement with the Parry Sound Community Radio Association (PSCRA), Council of the Corporation of the Town of Parry Sound approves in principle use of the Bowes Street Water Tower as location for the PSCRA transmission site.

**Carried**

## 10. By-laws

### 10.5.1 Confirming By-law

**By-law 2024 - 7443**

Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council.

**Read a First, Second and Third time, Passed, Signed and Sealed.**

## 11. Adjournment

Mayor McGarvey adjourned the meeting at 9:19 PM

Personal Information collected in Section 2. Public Meeting, Section 4. Correspondence and/or Section 5. Deputations is collected under the authority of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA), Section 21. (1) c and will be used to create a record available to the general public.

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Mayor Jamie McGarvey Clerk Rebecca Johnson