

The Corporation of The Town of Parry Sound

Council Meeting Minutes October 1, 2024

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Council Meeting Minutes - October 1, 2024

7:06 PM, Parry Sound Council Chambers 52 Seguin St. Parry Sound

Members Present

Councillor Ashford, Councillor Beleskey, Councillor Borneman, Councillor Keith, Councillor McCann, Deputy Mayor Councillor McDonald - Chair

Members Absent: Mayor McGarvey

Staff Present:

CAO Clayton Harris, Clerk Rebecca Johnson, Director of Finance Stephanie Phillips, Director of Development & Protective Services Dave Thompson, Director of Public Work Mike Kearns

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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 - 148

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:

k) a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board;
(negotiating infrastructure funding application);

n) educating or training council members and no member discusses or otherwise deals with any matter in a way that materially advances the business or decision-making of Council, **(process and example of Property Standards Violation issuance).**

Carried

1. Agenda and Minutes Review, Pecuniary Interest

1.1 Land Acknowledgement

1.2 Presentations/Announcements - N/A

1.3 Additions to Agenda - N/A

1.4 Prioritization of Agenda - N/A

1.5 Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Ashford

Seconded by Councillor Keith

That the Council agenda for October 1, 2024 be approved as circulated.

Carried

1.6 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof - N/A

1.7 Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Councillor McCann

Seconded by Councillor Borneman

That the Minutes from the Regular Council meeting held September 17, 2024 be approved as circulated.

Carried

2. Public Meeting - N/A

3. Questions of Staff

3.1 In response to Councillor Keith's inquiry regarding the William Street sidewalk, Director of Public Works Mike Kearns reported that he has discussed with the contractor the deficiencies, and they will return on Monday to complete all repairs.

3.2 In response to Councillor McCann's inquiry regarding Seguin Street bridge outside lanes being blocked off to traffic after construction work stoppage, Mr. Kearns reported that the lanes haven't been opened to traffic, since the delaminated concrete sidewalks on both sides had electrical conduit located within the sidewalks which slowed down progress. As the work should be substantially done by the end of this week, Mr. Kearns said that the lanes should then be opened for traffic.

3.3 In response to Councillor Borneman's inquiry regarding progress of retaining wall reconstruction on Church Street, Mr. Kearns noted that keeping sidewalk and roadways on the east side of Church Street is being worked on prior to reconstruction of the retaining wall, and that the sidewalk base has been prepped.

3.4 In response to Councillor Borneman's inquiry regarding status of the Salt Dock, Mr. Kearns responded that the Town has been notified by the company Compass Minerals (previously Sifto Salt), that they do not intend on having salt on the dock this year, and it is unclear what the plans are for the future. Their current lease expires in 2027 and contains options for renewal. Mr. Kearns noted that Sifto Salt used to remove snow from the entire dock, but Public Works does not anticipate clearing snow from the entire dock, but rather will plow with a turnaround area. Mr. Kearns noted that the Town gets its own salt supply from the Windsor Dock at the other end of Town, and salt will continue to be stored there.

3.5 In response to Councillor Ashford's inquiry regarding whether the Salt Dock is part of the waterfront master plan, Director of Dave Thompson noted that the Plan is

taking into account the entire waterfront of Parry Sound, which does include the Salt Dock. Mr. Thompson also noted that there is a public consultation kick-off event on October 7 starting at 6 PM at the Stockey Centre.

3.6 In response to Councillor Ashford's inquiry as to whether the Salt Dock could be fully plowed and made accessible to the public, Mr. Kearns reported that Public Works can look at how to accommodate this if Council directs it. Mr. Kearns expressed caution that this service has not been budgeted for, it is unclear where the snow should be stored and what the actual level of service should be.

3.7 In response to Councillor Ashford's inquiry regarding the background of setting Belvedere as a one-way street, Mr. Kearns reported that the one-way street predates his tenure, but that it was established to accommodate more parking for staff and visitors to Belvedere Heights.

3.8 In response to Councillor Ashford's further inquiry as to whether Belvedere Ave. should continue to be a one-way street, Councillor Borneman responded that with the proposed increase of 22 bed spaces at Belvedere Heights, the parking situation will likely become more onerous. Councillor Borneman recollected that when Council has previously looked at returning it to 2-way traffic, his recollection was that the street width was inadequate, monies would have to be spent on the west side to widen the street, but because of the slope of the property, it was not an easy fix. Councillor Keith added that the one-way direction made it a safer situation for emergency vehicles.

4. Correspondence

4.1 295 MacPherson Squadron Royal Canadian Air Cadet; Request to fly Flag - Clerk to follow-up scheduling flag raising per Flag Policy

4.2 CUPE, Request for proclamation of Child Care Worker & Early Childhood Education Appreciation Day - see item 9.5.2

4.3 Township of McKellar - Support for Provincial Regulatory Rideshare Framework - filed

5. Deputations - N/A

6. Mayor & Councillors' Reports

Members of Council gave reports 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

9.2.1 NOHFC Funding Application for Bay Street Wharf repairs

Spokesperson: Dave Thompson, Director of Development and Protective Services

Resolution 2024 - 149

Moved by Councillor McCann

Seconded by Councillor Borneman

That the Council of the Town of Parry Sound approves the Stage 2 application to the NOHFC for the Bay Street Wharf repairs for the funding amount of \$468,250; and Further That Council confirms commitment to cover the Town's contribution towards the project in the amount of \$156,250 which will come from Capital Reserve Fund and that the Town will cover any project cost overruns should they occur.

Carried

9.3.1 Support Continued Membership in the Parry Sound Area Founders Circle

Spokesperson: Clayton Harris, CAO

Resolution 2024 - 150

Moved by Councillor Keith

Seconded by Councillor Ashford

That Council hereby supports continuing its membership in the Parry Sound Area Founders at a cost of \$1,000 annually.

Carried

9.3.2 RFP for 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

Jeff Thom, Economic Development Officer

Resolution 2024 - 151

Moved by Councillor Ashford

Seconded by Councillor Keith

That staff be directed to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the renaming of Parry Sound Drive, substantially in the form attached.

Carried

9.5.1 Provincial Updates to the Municipal Elections Act

Resolution 2024 - 152

Moved by Councillor Borneman

Seconded by Councillor McCann

WHEREAS election rules need to be clear, supporting candidates and voters in their electoral participation and election administrators in running elections.

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WHEREAS legislation needs to strike the right balance between providing clear rules and frameworks to ensure the integrity of the electoral process.

WHEREAS the legislation must also reduce administrative and operational burden for municipal staff ensuring that local election administrators can run elections in a way that responds to the unique circumstances of their local communities.

WHEREAS the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 (MEA) will be 30 years old by the next municipal and school board elections in 2026.

WHEREAS the MEA sets out the rules for local elections, the Assessment Act, 1990 and the Education Act, 1990 also contain provisions impacting local elections adding more places for voters, candidates, and administrators to look for the rules that bind the local democratic process in Ontario.

WHEREAS with rules across three pieces of legislation, and the MEA containing a patchwork of clauses, there are interpretation challenges, inconsistencies, and gaps to fill.

WHEREAS the Act can pose difficulties for voters, candidates, contributors and third-party advertisers to read, to interpret, to comply with and for election administrators to enforce.

WHEREAS while local elections are run as efficiently and effectively as can be within the current legislative framework, modernization and continuous improvement is needed to ensure the Act is responsive to today's needs and tomorrow's challenges.

WHEREAS to keep public trust and improve safeguards the Act should be reviewed considering the ever-changing landscape which impacts elections administration including privacy, the threats of foreign interference, increased spread of mis/disinformation and the increased use of technologies like artificial intelligence and use of digital identities.

WHEREAS the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks, and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) reviewed the Act and has provided several recommendations including modernizing the legislation, harmonizing rules, and streamlining and simplifying administration.

AND WHEREAS AMCTO put forward recommendations for amendments ahead of the 2026 elections and longer-term recommendations for amendments ahead of the 2030 elections.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Parry Sound calls for the Province to update the MEA with priority amendments as outlined by AMCTO before Summer 2025 and commence work to review and re-write the MEA with longer-term recommendations ahead of the 2030 elections.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution will be forwarded to all municipalities in Ontario for support and that each endorsement be then forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (minister.mah@ontario.ca), the Minister of Education (minister.edu@ontario.ca), the Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery (todd.mccarthy@ontario.ca), Minister of Finance (Minister.fin@ontario.ca) the Premier of Ontario (premier@ontario.ca), Parry Sound Muskoka MPP Graydon Smith and AMCTO (advocacy@amcto.com).

Carried

9.5.2 Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Proclamation

Resolution 2024 - 153

Moved by Councillor Beleskey

Seconded by Councillor Ashford

Whereas years of research confirms the benefits of high-quality early learning and childcare for young children's intellectual, emotional, social and physical development and later life outcomes; and

Whereas childcare promotes the well-being of children and responds to the needs of families and the broader community by supporting quality of life so that citizens can fully participate in and contribute to the economic and social life of their community; and

Whereas trained and knowledgeable Registered Early Childhood Educators are the key to quality in early years and childcare programs - in licensed childcare, Early ON programs, child life programs, and full-day kindergarten;

Whereas Registered Early Childhood Educators and childcare workers will be vital to the success of the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care system;

Therefore, Be It Resolved that October 24, 2024 be designated the 24th annual "Child Care Worker & Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day" in recognition of the education, dedication and commitment of child care workers to children, their families and quality of life of the community.

Carried

10. By-laws

10.2.1 Sail Parry Sound Lease Renewal

Spokesperson: Dave Thompson, Director of Development and Protective Services

By-law 2024 - 7446

Being a By-law to authorize the execution of a Property Lease with Sail Parry Sound Inc.

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

10.3.1 Non-Union Employees Compensation & Benefits By-law

By-law 2024 - 7447

Being the Non-Union Employees Compensation & Benefits By-law

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

10.5.1 Confirming By-law

By-law 2024 - 7448

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

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

11. Adjournment

Deputy Mayor Chris McDonald adjourned the meeting at 8:13 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.

Mayor Jamie McGarvey

Clerk Rebecca Johnson