

The Corporation of The Town of Parry Sound

Council Meeting Minutes October 15, 2024

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Council Meeting Minutes - October 15, 2024

7:22 PM, Parry Sound Council Chambers 52 Seguin St. Parry Sound

Members Present

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

Staff Present:

CAO Clayton Harris, Clerk Rebecca Johnson, Director of Finance Stephanie Phillips, Director of Development & Protective Services Dave Thompson, Director of Public Works Mike Kearns, Manager of Planning Jeremy Rand, Manager of POA Court Services Andre Couture

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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 - 154

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:

b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees, **(applicant to the WPS OPP Detachment Board);**

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; negotiating future of WPS Economic Development Collaborative)**

Carried

1. Agenda and Minutes Review, Pecuniary Interest

1.1 Land Acknowledgement

1.2 Presentations/Announcements - N/A

1.3 Additions to Agenda

1.3.1 Councillor Borneman requested that a proposed letter to Minister Rickford regarding NOHFC funding be added to the agenda.

1.4 Prioritization of Agenda - N/A

1.5 Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Councillor McCann

Seconded by Councillor McDonald

That the Council agenda for October 15, 2024 be approved as amended.

Carried

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

1.7 Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Beleskey

Seconded by Councillor Ashford

That the Minutes from the Regular Council meeting held October 1, 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 noted that he reviewed the work today and it appears completed per expectations and he'll confirm with staff that all is satisfactory prior to paying the contractor.

3.2 In response to Councillor McCann's inquiry regarding a bumpy area on Seguin at James Street, Mr. Kearns reported that there was some discontinuity, crackings and openings in the asphalt, and that the contractor will make repairs.

3.3 In response to Councillor McCann's inquiry regarding the existence of Crown Land between the former Beatty property and Georgian Bay, Director of Development & Protective Services Dave Thompson reported that terms such as crown land, shore road allowances and concession road allowances may get confused, and that there is a shore road allowance which runs from the Salt Dock to McDougall Township which is held in public not private ownership.

3.4 In response to Councillor Borneman's inquiry as to what is going on with pumping station 2 and 6, Mr. Kearns reported that as part of pump upgrades, some work on valving arrangements is being undertaken, and starting tonight between 9:00 PM and 6:00 AM tomorrow morning, wastewater to station 2 and 6 will be diverted to a bypass and transported by truck directly to the wastewater plant in order to facilitate a clear work zone for the contractor.

3.5 In response to Councillor Borneman's inquiry regarding the status of work on Glen and Victoria, Mr. Kearns reported that the intention was to complete all the wastewater work this fall, however it was discovered that water and wastewater were in very close proximity to one another and the wastewater work would impact on the water distribution system; therefore, this work will be completed in the spring. Mr. Kearns said that he'll be meeting tomorrow with the contractor to determine whether the storm water work can be completed before winter, so as not to conflict with winter maintenance.

3.6 In response to Councillor Borneman's update inquiry on the proposed sidewalk on Isabella Street at St. Charles crossing, Mr. Kearns reported that both railway companies are in receipt of the engineering designs and the Town is awaiting their responses.

3.7 In response to Councillor Borneman's inquiry regarding the opportunity for continued public input on the waterfront masterplan after the Wave of Possibilities public event last week, Manager of Planning Jeremy Rand reported that there is a webpage, e-mail address and mapping exercise where people can contribute, as well as by contacting staff directly.

3.8 In response to Councillor McDonald's inquiry regarding directional signage on Great North Road to Wasauksing First Nation, Mr. Kearns reported that he has had initial discussions with Wasauksing regarding directional signage, those talks stalled, and he will initiate them again to ensure signage is appropriate.

4. Correspondence

4.1 Harvest Share, RE: Request for Donation - filed

4.2 Concerned Citizens for Preservation of Old Town Beach (6 letters) - filed

4.3 Parry Sound Seniors Club 1269 Request for 2025 grant of \$5,000 - referred to Director of Finance for 2025 budget process.

5. Deputations - N/A

6. Mayor & Councillors' Reports

Members of Council reported on meetings attended and matters arising.

7. Ratification of Matters From Closed Agenda

7.1. Citizen Appointment to the WPS OPP Detachment Board

Resolution 2024 - 155

Moved by Councillor Borneman

Seconded by Councillor McDonald

That the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Parry Sound does hereby support the appointment of Ben Randell as citizen representative to the West Parry Sound OPP Detachment Board.

Carried

8. Consent Agenda - N/A

9. Resolutions and Direction To Staff

9.2.1 Adoption of amended Façade Improvement Guideline Document

Spokesperson: Jeremy Rand, Manager of Planning

Resolution 2024 - 156

Moved by Councillor McDonald

Seconded by Councillor Borneman

That Council adopt the Facade Improvement Guidelines Document, incorporating public input since the Guidelines were presented at the September 17, 2024 Meeting.

Carried

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9.3.1 Council Meeting Schedule 2025

Spokesperson: Rebecca Johnson, Clerk

Resolution 2024 - 157

Moved by Councillor McCann

Seconded by Councillor Borneman

That pursuant to By-law 2022-7275 Section 3.1 Council approves Schedule "A" as attached, the 2024 schedule of Regular Meetings of Council.

Carried

9.4.1 2025 Budgeting Schedule

Spokesperson: Stephanie Phillips, Director of Finance/Treasurer

Resolution 2024 - 158

Moved by Councillor Keith

Seconded by Councillor Ashford

That Council hereby approves the 2025 Budgeting Schedule as set out in the attached Schedule "A".

Carried

9.4.2 Reserve and Reserve Fund Annual Report; 2023 Surplus Allocation

Spokesperson: Stephanie Phillips, Director of Finance / Treasurer

Resolution 2024 - 159

Moved by Councillor Ashford

Seconded by Councillor Keith

That Council receives the 2023 Reserve and Reserve Fund Annual Report, attached as Schedule A, in compliance with the Town's Reserve and Reserve Fund Policy; and

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That Council hereby approves the allocation of the remaining surplus as identified in Schedule B.

Carried

9.5.1 Proclamation International Day of Biosphere Reserves

Resolution 2024 - 160

Moved by Councillor Beleskey

Seconded by Councillor Ashford

That whereas in November 2021, the 41st session of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) designated November 3 as the International Day for Biosphere Reserves, and

Whereas the purpose of this international day is to provide a wake-up call on the importance of caring for the environment and achieving a balance between human activities and the conservation of natural resources - and on the leading role that the World Network of Biosphere Reserves plays in this regard; and

Whereas the intention of this international day is to mobilise and acknowledge the commitment, actions and solutions by the people, institutions and partners that make up the global network;

Now Therefore the Mayor of the Town of Parry Sound hereby proclaims November 3, 2024 and every November 3 thereafter as International Day for Biosphere Reserves in the Town of Parry Sound; and

That the Town celebrates the eastern Georgian Bay Biosphere region as one of the 738 biosphere reserves in the world and commends the work of community-based Georgian Bay *Mnidoo Gamii* Biosphere a registered non-profit charity, for its work in protecting the environment, creating vibrant communities and supporting a healthy economy by building capacity through education and culture.

Carried

9.5.2 Proclamation Treaties Recognition Week

Resolution 2024 - 161

Moved by Councillor Keith

Seconded by Councillor Ashford

WHEREAS treaties form the basis of the relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people; and

WHEREAS treaties are legally binding agreements that set out rights, responsibilities and relationships, with treaty commitments as valid today as they were when signed often many years ago; and

WHEREAS Treaties Recognition Week honours the importance of, and promotes learning about treaties; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario passed legislation in 2016 declaring the first full week of November as Treaties Recognition Week;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Parry Sound hereby proclaims the week of November 3 – 9, 2024 as “Treaties Recognition Week” in the Town of Parry Sound.

Carried

9.5.3 Support for SolvethCrisis.ca - Homelessness & Mental Health

Spokesperson: Mayor McGarvey

Resolution 2024 - 162

Moved by Councillor Beleskey

Seconded by Councillor Ashford

Whereas there is a humanitarian crisis unfolding on the streets across Ontario - in our cities, large and small, urban and rural, with immediate action at all levels of government needed, starting with the Province of Ontario;

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Whereas the homelessness, mental health and addictions crisis continues to grow with 3432 drug related deaths in Ontario in 2023 and over 1400 homeless encampments across Ontario communities in 2023; and

Whereas the province has provided additional funding and supports, such as the recent investment of \$378 million for HART Hubs and approximately 375 beds with wraparound supports, which does not adequately address the growing crisis and the financial and social impact on municipalities and regions across the province; and

Whereas municipalities and regions are stepping up and working with community partners to put in place community-specific solutions to address this crisis, but municipalities and regions lack the expertise, capacity, or resources to address these increasingly complex health care and housing issues alone; and

Whereas this is primarily a health issue that falls under provincial jurisdiction and municipalities and regions should not be using the property tax base to fund these programs; and

Whereas there is no provincial lead focused on this crisis leading to unanswered questions that span over a dozen ministries, and a lack of support to manage the increasing needs of those who are unhoused.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Town of Parry Sound supports the [SolveTheCrisis.ca](https://www.solve-the-crisis.ca) Campaign;

And calls on provincial and federal governments to commit to immediate action to solve the Humanitarian Crisis that Ontario is facing as the numbers of unhoused individuals and those suffering with mental health & addictions grows exponentially;

AND that the province officially makes Homelessness a Health Priority;

AND appoints a responsible Minister and Ministry with the appropriate funding and powers as a single point of contact to address the full spectrum of housing needs as well as mental health, addictions and wrap around supports;

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AND that the provincial government strike a task force with broad sector representatives including municipalities, regions, healthcare, first responders, community services, the business community and the tourism industry to develop a Made in Ontario Action Plan;

AND that this provincial task force reviews current programs developed by municipalities, regions and community partners that have proven successful in our communities, to ensure that solutions can be implemented quickly and effectively to tackle this crisis.

AND that the federal government is included in these conversations.

AND that both levels of government provide adequate, sufficient and sustainable funding to ensure that municipalities have the tools and resources to support individuals suffering with mental health and addictions, including unhoused people and those from vulnerable populations that may be disproportionately impacted;

And that this Council calls on the residents of the Town of Parry Sound to join us in appealing to the provincial and federal governments for support by visiting SolveTheCrisis.ca and showing your support;

AND further that a copy of this motion be sent to:

- The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada
- The Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada
- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
- The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health
- The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- The Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
- The Honourable Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions
- Scott Aitchison, MP Parry Sound-Muskoka

- Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka
- Ontario's Big City Mayors

Carried

9.5.4 NOHFC Funding

Councillor Borneman reported that Minister of Northern Development Greg Rickford recently announced that the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) is looking at reinstating Muskoka as part of Northern Ontario. Councillor Borneman noted that while this may hurt the District of Parry Sound's competitive advantage, moreover, there will be more applications received for funding and the level of funding should be increased.

Direction for Staff Follow-up

Moved by Councillor Borneman Seconded by Councillor McDonald

That Council directs that a letter be sent to all Northern Ontario MPPs, FONOM, NOMA, President of the Treasury Board Carolyn Mulroney, Minister of Finance Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP Graydon Smith and Premier Ford, requesting that the NOHFC funding be increased annually by the inflationary rate.

Carried

10. By-laws

10.4.1 Renewal of lease with Strong-Sundridge-Joly Arena & Hall for POA Court

Spokesperson: Andre Couture, Manager of POA Court Services

By-Law 2024 - 7449

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Being a By-law to authorize the execution of an agreement with the Corporation of the Township of Strong, the Village of Sundridge and the Township of Joly, operators of the Sundridge-Strong-Joly Arena and Hall and the Town of Parry Sound, Administrators of the Provincial Offences Court, for the leasing of court facilities.

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

10.5.1 Confirming By-law

By-law 2024 - 7450

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 8:35 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