

# THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MATTAWA

The minutes of the Regular Meeting held Monday March 10, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Dr. S.F. Monestime Council Chambers.

Council Present: Mayor Raymond A. Bélanger  
Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner  
Councillor Fern Levesque  
Councillor Loren Mick  
Councillor Laura Ross  
Councillor Garry Thibert  
Councillor Spencer Bigelow

Staff Present: Amy Leclerc, Clerk/Revenue Services Clerk  
Paul Laperriere, CAO/Treasurer

\*When a recorded vote is requested and the minutes indicate the recorded vote was "Unanimous" it means all Councillors present and noted above voted in favour unless otherwise indicated.

## 1. Meeting Called to Order

Meeting Called to Order by Mayor Bélanger at 6:00 p.m.

## 2. Announce Electronic Participants

Clerk announced that there was 1 member of the public online.

## 3. Adoption of Agenda

3.1 To Adopt the agenda as presented or amended

### **Resolution Number 25-38**

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the meeting agenda dated Monday March 10, 2025 be adopted as amended to include a presentation from James Hunton of Jp2g Consultants Inc under Section 5 Presentations & Delegations.

**CARRIED** – unanimous

## 4. Disclosures of a Conflict of Interest

## 5. Presentations and Delegations

5.1 James Hunton, Jp2g Consultants Inc. – Updates on Dorion Road Hill Reconstruction Project, Pont Mauriel Bélanger Mattawa River Bridge and Main Street Reconstruction Project

## 6. Adoption of Minutes

6.1 Special Meeting of February 20, 2025

6.2 Regular Meeting of February 24, 2025

6.3 To adopt the minutes as presented or amended

### **Resolution Number 25-39**

Moved by Councillor Spencer Bigelow  
Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council adopt the minutes of the Special Meeting of February 20, 2025 and Regular meeting of February 24, 2025.

**CARRIED** – unanimous

## **7. Notice of Motions**

### **7.1 Declare World Autism Day**

#### **Resolution Number 25-40**

Moved by Councillor Laura Ross  
Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

**WHEREAS** World Autism Day is recognized on April 2, 2025, in Canada. Autism Ontario is one of the largest collective voices representing the autism community, and the work we do helps all autistic individuals and families in their communities have access to meaningful support, information, and connections — not only on April 2 but every day throughout the year;

**AND WHEREAS** Autism impacts more than 135,000 individuals in Ontario, representing 1 in every 50 Canadian children and youth. It not only influences the lives of autistics but also their friends, families, and communities. It's crucial for us to raise awareness, and acceptance, provide support and promote a more inclusive society;

**AND WHEREAS** Autism is a diverse spectrum that varies widely among individuals. Each person's experience with autism can change over time. This evolving journey highlights the uniqueness of every autistic individual, emphasizing the need for understanding and support tailored to their specific needs;

**AND WHEREAS** Autism Ontario is the leading source of information and referral on autism, and since 1973, has been providing support, information, and opportunities for thousands of families and individuals across the province;

**AND WHEREAS** Autism Ontario is devoted to raising public awareness about autism and addressing the everyday challenges faced by individuals with autism, their families, and the professionals who work alongside them. We urge everyone to recognize and celebrate the unique differences and needs of others, fostering an inclusive environment where all individuals can participate fully in activities and discussions. Together, we can create a society that values and includes everyone.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa do hereby recognize April 2 as World Autism Day while committing to embrace awareness and acceptance today and every day throughout the year.

**CARRIED** – unanimous

## **8. Correspondence**

### **8.1 Ministry of Transportation – 2025-26 Connecting Links Funding Approval**

### **8.2 Children's Aid Society – Update on Pending YWHO Application**

- 8.3 AMO – Communities Brace for Tariff Impact
- 8.4 AMO – Resources for Local Democratic Engagement
- 8.5 North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit – 2025 Municipal Levy

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.5.

## **9. Standing Committee Recommendations/Reports – Motions**

- 9.1 Corporate Services Committee – Motion of Support for Property Taxation Implications Related to Non-Market Valuation of Electricity Industry Properties

### **Resolution Number 25-41**

Moved by Councillor Loren Mick

Seconded by Councillor Spencer Bigelow

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Corporate Services Committee, at their meeting on Monday March 3, 2025 recommends to Council to support a resolution from the Municipality of Kincardine for the property taxation implications related to non-market valuation of electricity industry properties received from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming.

**AND FURTHER THAT** Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa supports the recommendation and supports the resolution from the Municipality of Kincardine.

**AND FURTHER THAT** a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Energy and Electrification, Minister of Finance, AMO and all Ontario Municipalities.

**CARRIED** – unanimous

- 9.2 Corporate Services Committee – Motion of Support for the implementation of Buy Canadian Policy – **MOTION WITHDRAWN**

## **10. Staff Reports – Motions**

- 10.1 Council Size Reduction – Report # 25-09R  
Report from Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner

### **Resolution Number 25-42**

Moved by Councillor Loren Mick

Seconded by Councillor Spencer Bigelow

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 25-09R titled Council Size Reduction.

**AND FURTHER THAT** Council directs the Clerk to add this report under Old Business and further directs the Clerk to bring forward more information on the process of reducing the composition of Council at a future date.

**LOST** – Recorded vote and the vote was as follows:

**For:** Mayor Bélanger, Deputy Mayor Gardiner, Councillor Bigelow

**Against:** Councillors Levesque, Mick, Ross, Thibert

- 10.2 Amalgamation Study – Report # 25-10R  
Report from Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner

**Resolution Number 25-43**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner  
Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 25-10R titled Amalgamation Study.

**AND FURTHER THAT** Council directs the Mayor and Councillors Ross and Thibert to hold a meeting with the Municipality of Mattawan to speak of the potential interest in an amalgamation study.

**AND FURTHER THAT** the Mayor and Councillors Ross and Thibert return to Council with further information at a future date.

**CARRIED** – Recorded vote and the vote was as follows:

**For:** Deputy Mayor Gardiner, Councillors Levesque, Mick, Ross, Thibert, Bigelow

**Against:** Mayor Bélanger

**11. By-Laws**

**12. Old Business**

12.1 Council – Food Cycler Municipal Solutions

Staff member using at their home, report to follow

12.2 Beautification Committee Terms of Reference & Committee Structure

Coming to Council shortly

12.3 Expense Reduction Audit for Municipalities

Nothing at this time

12.4 Administrative Policies & Procedures

Mayor met with CAO, coming back with amended copy soon

**13. New Business**

**14. Questions from Public Pertaining to Agenda**

Question on the Pont Mauriel Belanger Mattawa River Bridge

**15. In Camera (Closed) Session**

15.1 Personnel Matters

In accordance with the Municipal Act, 2001 Section 239 (2)(c)

b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees

**Resolution Number 25-44**

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque  
Seconded by Councillor Spencer Bigelow

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** this Council proceed in Camera at 8:04 pm in order to address a matter pertaining to b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees.

**CARRIED** – unanimous

**16. Return to Regular Session**

**Resolution Number 25-45**

Moved by Councillor Garry Thibert

Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the regular meeting reconvene at 8:40 p.m.

**CARRIED** – unanimous

Mayor Bélanger advised the closed session was pertaining to personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees

**17. Motions Resulting from Closed Session**

**18. Adjournment**

**18.1 Adjournment of the meeting**

**Resolution Number 25-46**

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the March 10, 2025 meeting adjourn at 8:41 p.m.

**CARRIED** – unanimous

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Mayor

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Clerk