

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MATTAWA

The minutes of the Regular Meeting held Monday October 27, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Dr. S.F. Monestime Council Chambers.

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

Staff Present: Amy Leclerc, Municipal Clerk/Revenue Services Clerk
Paul Laperriere, CAO/Treasurer
Wayne Chaput, Chief Building Official/By-Law Enforcement Officer
Dexture Sarrazin, Director of Community Services

*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

2. Announce Electronic Participants

3. Adoption of Agenda

3.1 To Adopt the agenda as presented or amended

Resolution Number 25-210

Moved by Councillor Garry Thibert

Seconded by Councillor Mathew Gardiner

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting agenda dated Monday October 27, 2025 be adopted.

CARRIED – unanimous

4. Disclosures of a Conflict of Interest

5. Presentations and Delegations

6. Adoption of Minutes

6.1 Regular Meeting of October 14, 2025

6.2 Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 20, 2025

6.3 To adopt the minutes as presented or amended

Resolution Number 25-211

Moved by Councillor Laura Ross

Seconded by Councillor Spencer Bigelow

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the minutes of the regular meeting of October 14, 2025 and the committee of the whole meeting of October 20, 2025 as amended.

CARRIED – unanimous

7. Notice of Motions

7.1 Support to Make NORDS Pilot Program Permanent

Resolution Number 25-212

Moved by Councillor Laura Ross

Seconded by Councillor Garry Thibert

WHEREAS the City of North Bay has circulated their letter to the Province requesting the NORDS pilot program to become a permanent funding opportunity for Northern Municipalities and to expand the criteria to include agricultural equipment impact on roads;

AND WHEREAS Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa, at their regular meeting of Tuesday October 14, 2025, stated its directive to support the NORDS pilot program to become a permanent funding opportunity.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa supports the City of North Bay resolution regarding making the NORDS pilot program permanent.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Northern Development; Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness; the Minister of Infrastructure; MPP Vic Fedeli; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM); the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA); and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED – unanimous

7.2 Support for Elect Respect Campaign

Resolution Number 25-213

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

WHEREAS the Town of Smiths Falls has circulated their letter to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) supporting the Elect Respect pledge;

AND WHEREAS Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa, at their regular meeting of Tuesday October 14, 2025, stated its directive to support the Elect Respect pledge.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa supports the Town of Smiths Falls resolution regarding Elect Respect Campaign.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; MP Pauline Rochefort; MPP Vic Fedeli; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM); and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED – unanimous

7.3 Support for Income Increase for Veterans

Resolution Number 25-214

Moved by Councillor Mathew Gardiner

Seconded by Councillor Garry Thibert

WHEREAS the Township of Perry has circulated their resolution to formally call on the Government of Canada to increase the eligibility threshold for the Income Replacement

Benefit (IRB) program to assist veterans in need;

AND WHEREAS Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa, at their regular meeting of Tuesday October 14, 2025, stated its directive to support the Township of Perry.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa supports the Township of Perry resolution to formally call on the Government of Canada to increase the eligibility threshold for the Income Replacement Benefit (IRB) program to assist veterans in need.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Prime Minister; Minister of Veterans Affairs; MP Pauline Rochefort; MPP Vic Fedeli; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM); and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED – unanimous

7.4 Support for Bill C-61 Safe Drinking Water for First Nations

Resolution Number 25-215

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

WHEREAS the Township of Woolwich has circulated their resolution to call on the Government of Canada and the Minister of Indigenous Services to reintroduce legislation to ensure First Nations have the right to clean and safe drinking water;

AND WHEREAS Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa, at their regular meeting of Tuesday October 14, 2025, stated its directive to support the Township of Woolwich.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa supports the Township of Woolwich resolution to call on the Government of Canada and the Minister of Indigenous Services to reintroduce legislation to ensure First Nations have the right to clean and safe drinking water through Bill C-61.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Prime Minister; the Premier of Ontario; Minister of Indigenous Services; Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; MP Pauline Rochefort; MPP Vic Fedeli; the Assembly of First Nations; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM); and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED – unanimous

7.5 Support for Changes to Municipal Act

Resolution Number 25-216

Moved by Councillor Mathew Gardiner

Seconded by Councillor Spencer Bigelow

WHEREAS the City of Kitchener has circulated their resolution to amend the Municipal Act to permit municipalities the ability to grandfather-out paper billing and to permit municipalities to establish fees for paper billing for new accounts;

AND WHEREAS Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa, at their regular meeting of Tuesday October 14, 2025, stated its directive to support the City of Kitchener.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa supports the City of Kitchener resolution to amend the Municipal Act to permit municipalities the ability to grandfather-out paper billing and to permit municipalities to establish fees for paper billing for new accounts.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario; Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM); and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED – unanimous

7.6 2026 NHL Alumni Hockey Game Liquor Licence Approval

Resolution Number 25-217

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

WHEREAS the Recreation Department is holding an alumni hockey game in January 2026 along with liquor sales for this event;

AND WHEREAS the municipality will be applying for a liquor licence for this event and municipal staff will be organizing and working the bar area.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa permits the sale of alcohol at the Mike Rodden Arena and Community Centre on Saturday January 17, 2026 with the understanding that all rules and regulations will be followed as set by the Liquor Control Board of Ontario and permits municipal staff to run the bar area.

AND FURTHER THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa endorses and supports the 2026 NHL Alumni Hockey Game as an event of municipal significance.

CARRIED – unanimous

7.7 Approval to Attend 2026 ROMA Conference

Resolution Number 25-218

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa approves the Mayor and CAO/Treasurer to attend the annual Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) conference being held in Toronto from January 18 to 20, 2026.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was unanimous

8. Correspondence

- 8.1 Various Municipalities (City of Dryden, Town of Goderich, Town of Wasaga Beach, Township of Puslinch, Municipality of South Huron) – Support for Swim to Survive Training
- 8.2 Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal – Support for Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund Continuation
- 8.3 Town of Oakville – Insights from Enbridge CEO's Empire Club Address
- 8.4 Town of Whitby – Extended Producer Responsibility for Blue Box Recycling Collection & Impacts to Small Businesses Located in Mixed-Use Properties

9. Standing Committee Recommendations/Reports – Motions

10. Staff Reports – Motions

10.1 Provide Emergency Evacuation Facilities to Township of Papineau-Cameron – Report # 25-62R

Report from Wayne Chaput, Community Emergency Management Coordinator

Resolution Number 25-219

Moved by Councillor Mathew Gardiner

Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa receives report # 25-62R titled Provide Emergency Evacuation Facilities to Township of Papineau-Cameron.

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the draft By-law to enter into an agreement with the Township of Papineau-Cameron for facility use during an emergency.

AND FURTHER THAT Council directs staff to return at a regular meeting of Council with the final by-law for its passing.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was unanimous

10.2 Physician Recruitment Committee Report – Report # 25-63R

Report from Mayor Raymond A. Bélanger

Councillor Gardiner left the meeting at 6:47 pm and returned to chambers at 6:48 pm.

Resolution Number 25-220

Moved by Councillor Garry Thibert

Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa receives report # 25-63R titled Physician Recruitment Committee Report.

CARRIED – unanimous

10.3 Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM) 2025 – Report # 25-64R

Report from Mayor Raymond A. Bélanger

Resolution Number 25-221

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Councillor Garry Thibert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa receives report # 25-64R titled Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM) 2025.

CARRIED – unanimous

10.4 Closure & Sale of Unopened Road Allowances – Report # 25-65R

Report from Paul Laperriere, CAO/Treasurer

Resolution Number 25-222

Moved by Councillor Mathew Gardiner

Seconded by Councillor Spencer Bigelow

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa receives report # 25-65R titled Closure and Sale of Unopened Road Allowances.

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the closure and sale of the Peter Street unopened road allowance.

AND FURTHER THAT Council directs the CAO/Treasurer to notify the abutting neighbour to determine their interest in their 50% of the allowance and to obtain a property valuation to determine the selling price.

AND FURTHER THAT a public meeting be held on November 10, 2025, during a regular meeting of Council to advise the public of the 3 road closures identified in this report and solicit any comments from the public.

AND FURTHER THAT Council directs the CAO/Treasurer to complete the sale of the 3 identified properties in accordance with the municipal policies and procedures by-law and have the road allowances closed, if no unresolved issues from the public meeting.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote unanimous

10.5 451 Bissett Lift Station – Report # 25-66R
Report from Paul Laperriere, CAO/Treasurer

Councillor Ross left the meeting at 7:46 pm and returned to chambers at 7:48 pm.

Resolution Number 25-223

Moved by Councillor Mathew Gardiner
Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa receives report # 25-66R titled 451 Bissett Lift Station.

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the purchase of the 60 HP pump for the 451 Bissett Lift Station at an installed cost \$91,887.00 plus applicable taxes.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote unanimous

11. By-Laws

12. Old Business

12.1 Renaming of Hurdman Street Request for “Chick Webster”

12.2 Business/Organization Signage Policy

12.3 FONOM Correspondence Consultation on Natural Gas Expansion in Ontario

12.4 National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

12.5 Municipality of Mattawan Request for Shared Fire Services

12.6 Mattawa Voyageur Days

13. New Business

13.1 Councillor Gardiner – Conservation Authority

13.2 Councillor Gardiner – 2026 Tax Rate Vacant Lots

13.3 Councillor Gardiner – Commercial Recycling/Commercial Tax Rate Adjustment

Resolution Number 25-224

Moved by Councillor Mathew Gardiner

Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council defer New Business item 13.3 to the next regular meeting of Council.

CARRIED – unanimous

13.4 Councillor Gardiner – Remembrance Day

Resolution Number 25-225

Moved by Councillor Garry Thibert

Seconded by Councillor Mathew Gardiner

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to close all municipal offices on November 11, 2025 from 10:30 am to 1:00 pm for the Remembrance Day celebration.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was as follows:

For: Mayor Bélanger, Councillors Gardiner, Ross, Thibert, Bigelow

Against: Councillor Levesque

Councillor Gardiner left the meeting at 8:19 pm.

14. Questions from Public Pertaining to Agenda

15. In Camera (Closed) Session

16. Return to Regular Session

17. Motions Resulting from Closed Session

18. Adjournment

18.1 Adjournment of the meeting

Resolution Number 25-226

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the October 27, 2025 meeting adjourn at 8:22 p.m.

CARRIED – unanimous

Mayor

Clerk