



**THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF EAST FERRIS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

September 24, 2024

PRESENT: Pauline Rochefort, Mayor Rick Champagne, Councillor
Terry Kelly, Councillor Lauren Rooyakkers, Deputy Mayor
Steven Trahan, Councillor

STAFF Jason Trottier, CAO/Treasurer Kari Hanselman, Clerk
PRESENT:

1. Call to Order

Mayor Rochefort called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

2024-196

Moved by Councillor Champagne

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

THAT the draft agenda presented to Council and dated the 24th day of September, 2024 be adopted as amended by moving Action Item No. 14 d. Flag Raising Request to after the In-Camera session.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

3. Accepting the Minutes of the Previous Meeting(s):

a. Approval of Council Minutes: Regular Meeting of September 10th, 2024

2024-197

Moved by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

Seconded by Councillor Trahan

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of September 10th, 2024 be adopted as circulated.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

None for this session.

5. Declarations of Conflict of Interest- Pecuniary Interest Thereof

None of this session.

6. Announcements and Updates from Council Members

Councillor Champagne expressed his condolences for the loss of Vital Guillemette. Mr. Guillemette was a long time employee of the Municipality.

Councillor Trahan advised of the East Ferris Fire and Emergency Services Open House taking place on Saturday, September 28th.

Mayor Rochefort thanked all the incredible volunteers who were just honored at the Volunteer Recognition Event. She also advised of the East Ferris Horticultural Club's fundraising dinner taking place on October 5th.

7. Delegations to Council:

- a. Sylvie Savage and Jeff Snea

Sylvie Savage and Jeff Snea gave a presentation to Council regarding a request to amend the Short Term Rental By-law to allow for the operation of a treehouse as a short term rental.

8. Committee Reports:

- a. Public Works and Infrastructure Committee

None for this session.

- b. Emergency Management Program Committee

None for this session.

- c. Fire and Emergency Services Committee

None for this session.

- d. Planning Advisory Committee

None for this session.

- e. Committee of Adjustment

None for this session.

- f. Recreation, Parks and Culture Committee

None for this session.

- g. Striking Committee
 - 1. Minutes of September 11th, 2024
 - 2. Recommendation from Minutes

2024-198

Moved by Councillor Champagne

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

WHEREAS the Striking Committee recommends to Council that Kenneth Leppert's application to sit on the Planning Advisory Committee and Committee of Adjustment for the remaining 2022-2026 term of Council be approved;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that Council approves of this recommendation.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

9. Board Reports:

- a. Library Board
 - 1. Minutes of September 9th, 2024
- b. OPP Detachment Board
 - None for this session.
- c. Cassellholme, DNSSAB, Health Unit and NBMCA

10. Departmental Reports & Resolutions:

- a. Report No. COMM-2024-02: Economic Development Information Report
- b. Report No. COMM-2024-03: 2024 Provincial Planning Statement Report
- c. Report No. COMM-2024-04: Robitaille Land Purchase Request (South Bay Lane)

2024-199

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

THAT Council for the Municipality of East Ferris defers making a decision on the recommendation put forward in Report No. COMM-2024-04 to a future meeting.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

2024-200

Moved by Councillor Champagne

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

THAT Council for the Municipality of East Ferris directs staff to come forward with a recommendation on what municipal lands are to be retained for public access to Lake Nosbonsing, Trout Lake and Mink Lake;

AND THAT any future land purchase requests that provide access to the lakes be deferred until Council has adopted a recommendation on said lands.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- d. Report No. FD-2024-03: Paging System Upgrades

2024-201

Moved by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

THAT Council for the Municipality of East Ferris accepts the recommendation from the Fire Chief contained in Report No. FD-2024-03 and approves the purchase of equipment and services from Spectrum Group to supply and install all materials and labour specified in Option 2, to upgrade the paging system for East Ferris Fire and Emergency Services. The upgrade would be to a digital system on our own paging channel, all in one stage for an estimated cost of \$42,000.00 plus HST.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

11. Notice of Motions

None for this session.

12. By-laws:

None for this session.

13. Correspondence and Information Items:

- a. Ministry of Natural Resources
- b. AMO Communications
- c. North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority
- d. Children's Aid Society

2024-202

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

THAT Council for the Municipality of East Ferris supports the Children's Aid Society's Dress Purple Day;

AND THAT Council members wear purple at the October 22nd, 2024 Council meeting.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

14. Action Items:

- a. Approval of Correspondence and Information Circulated with the Agenda

2024-203

Moved by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Councillor Champagne

THAT Council approve the Correspondence and Information as circulated with the agenda of September 24th, 2024.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- b. Notice of Motion - Councillor Champagne

2024-204

Moved by Councillor Champagne

Seconded by Councillor Trahan

WHEREAS on February 27th, 2024, Council for the Municipality of East Ferris supported a resolution received from the Town of Petrolia calling upon both the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) and Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) Boards to re-establish a combined OGRA and ROMA annual conference;

AND WHEREAS on May 16th, 2024, correspondence was received from ROMA Chair, Robin Jones, stating that in 2019 the ROMA Board of Directors and the OGRA Executive Committee decided not to hold a joint conference, but agreed that there are matters the organizations can work together on;

AND WHEREAS with ROMA being the rural voice of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) it makes great sense for the ROMA and AMO conferences to be a combined conference, not only financially for municipalities but also for availability for participation of members of Council and staff;

AND WHEREAS these conferences afford a vital opportunity for delegations with members of our provincial parliament, moving to a combined ROMA/AMO conference provides a better respect to their availability and participation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Municipality of East Ferris call upon both the ROMA & AMO Boards to establish a combined ROMA/AMO annual conference;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED should the conferences be combined and held during the winter months, as has been past practice for the ROMA conference, that a hybrid participation option be considered as winter weather can be unpredictable and not all persons who wish to attend can do so in person;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to ROMA, AMO, MPP Vic Fedeli, and all municipalities in Ontario.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- c. Notice of Motion - Councillor Champagne

2024-205

Moved by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

WHEREAS the Municipality of East Ferris Procedural By-law No. 2023-55 section 5.3 states "during the months of July, August and December there shall be only one regular meeting of Council held on the second Tuesday of each of those months;"

AND WHEREAS there is only one meeting in July and August to account for summer holidays and provide for a summer break;

AND WHEREAS summers in Northern Ontario are short and include the month of June;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of East Ferris directs staff to amend the Municipality of East Ferris Procedural By-law No. 2023-55 section 5.3 to include the month of June.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

15. Approval of Accounts Payable

2024-206

Moved by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

Seconded by Councillor Champagne

THAT Council approve the general accounts for the Municipality of East Ferris as indicated in the cheque register(s) dated September 24th, 2024 in the amount of \$410,979.63.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

16. Other Business

None for this session.

17. In Camera

Council proceeded to In-camera session under Section 239(2)(f) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, C.25 in order to address a matter pertaining to advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose regarding the Flag Raising Policy.

2024-207

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

THAT this meeting proceeds to In-Camera session at 7:25 p.m., under Section 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25 in order to address a matter pertaining to :

(f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose regarding the Flag Raising Policy.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

2024-208

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

THAT we do now adjourn this in-camera meeting at 7:43 p.m. and return to our regular session.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

18. Resolution: Flag Raising Request - Ashley Patey (deferred from September 10th, 2024 Regular Council Meeting)

2024-209

Moved by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

Seconded by Councillor Champagne

WHEREAS a Flag Raising Request Form was submitted by Ashley Patey and received by the Clerk on August 7th, 2024;

AND WHEREAS the request is for the Municipality to raise the Every Child Matters Flag on September 30th, 2024;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that Council approve the request for this year and that the Flag Raising Policy be reviewed.

Results of Recorded Vote as requested by Mayor Rochefort:

Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers	Yea
Councillor Kelly	Yea
Councillor Trahan	Yea
Councillor Champagne	Yea
Mayor Rochefort	Yea

Carried Mayor Rochefort

19. Confirmatory By-Law

a. By-law No. 2024-37: 1st, 2nd and 3rd Reading

2024-210

Moved by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Councillor Trahan

WHEREAS Council for the Municipality of East Ferris deems it expedient to pass three readings of the following by-law at this session;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council from September 10th, 2024 to September 24th, 2024, BE READ a first, second and third time, passed and numbered 2024-37;

AND THAT said by-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the Seal of the Corporation.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

20. Adjournment

2024-211

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

THAT we do now adjourn at 7:47 p.m. and meet again on October 8th, 2024.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

Mayor

Pauline Rochefort

Clerk

Kari Hanselman