



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

August 13, 2024

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

ABSENT: Rick Champagne, 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

2024-161

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

THAT the draft agenda presented to Council and dated the 13th day of August, 2024 be adopted as prepared.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

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

a. Approval of Council Minutes: Regular Meeting of July 9th, 2024

2024-162

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of July 9th, 2024 be adopted as circulated.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

None for this session.

5. Declarations of Conflict of Interest- Pecuniary Interest Thereof

None for this session.

6. Announcements and Updates from Council Members

Mayor Rochefort advised that East Ferris will be attending the AMO Conference next week.

7. Delegations to Council:

None for this session.

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

Councillor Trahan reminded everyone of the Open House at the Corbeil Fire Hall on September 28th, 2024.

- d. Planning Advisory Committee

None for this session.

- e. Committee of Adjustment

None for this session.

- f. Recreation, Parks and Culture Committee

1. Minutes of July 16th, 2024

2. Recommendation(s) from the Minutes

2024-163

Moved by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Councillor Trahan

WHEREAS at their Regular Council Meeting of July 9th, Council supported a request from Dianne Armatage to donate a bench to the Municipality;

AND WHEREAS Council referred this request to the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee for finalization of the model and installation;

AND WHEREAS the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee recommends to Council that a formal donation policy be created for clarity and uniformity, similar to that of the Memorial Park Commemorative Program and further that staff work with the Committee to finalize and implement this program;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that Council approves of this recommendation.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

2024-164

Moved by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

Seconded by Councillor Trahan

WHEREAS the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee recommends to Council that the Sports Hall of Fame Program be revamped to consolidate the two current programs (Sports Hall of Fame and Recognition Awards) for unification and clarity; and that staff be directed to recreate the policy;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT Council approves of this recommendation.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- g. Striking Committee

None for this session.

9. Board Reports:

- a. Library Board

None for this session.

- b. OPP Detachment Board

None for this session.

- c. Cassellholme, DNSSAB, Health Unit and NBMCA

10. Departmental Reports & Resolutions:

None for this session.

11. Notice of Motions:

- a. Councillor Trahan

The motion was deferred to the September 10th, 2024 Regular Council Meeting as Councillor Trahan agreed for amendments to be made to the motion.

THAT moving forward, any committee organizing a community event or function must inform the rest of the Council before the event takes place. This information should not only be shared on social media or through advertising but should also include details such as the cost or whether the committee plans to donate funds to the event;

AND THAT following the event, Council Members or the Mayor involved in the events should report back to the Council either verbally or in writing on the financials (under/over budget) and whether it was a success and a benefit to the community or not to continue with this event/function moving forward for next year.

12. By-laws:

- a. By-law No. 2024-31: 1st, 2nd and 3rd Reading

2024-165

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 appoint a Chief Building Official, BE READ a first, second and third time, passed and numbered 2024-31;

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

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- b. By-law No. 2024-32: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Reading

2024-166

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

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 appoint a Municipal Weed Inspector, BE READ a first, second and third time, passed and numbered 2024-32;

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

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- c. By-law No. 2024-33: 1st, 2nd and 3rd Reading

2024-167

Moved by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

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 appoint a Livestock Valuer, BE READ a first, second and third time, passed and numbered 2024-33;

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

Carried Mayor Rochefort

13. Correspondence and Information Items:

- a. Ministry of Natural Resources
- b. Ontario Provincial Police
- c. Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury

2024-168

Moved by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

THAT Council for the Municipality of East Ferris supports the resolution received from the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury regarding the creation of a province-wide long-service medal for police and for paramedics, modelled after the existing such awards for firefighters;

AND THAT this resolution be sent the Premier, Minister of Health, Solicitor General, Minister of Citizenship and local MPP.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

- d. Town of Plympton-Wyoming

2024-169

Moved by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

Seconded by Councillor Trahan

THAT Council for the Municipality of East Ferris supports the resolution received from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming regarding requesting the Federal Government and ISED to make it their priority to push forward with their commitment to provide crucial infrastructure in a meaningful and timely manner and provide action and enforcement of the regulations that mandate timely installation of approved Cell Tower Installations;

AND THAT this resolution be sent the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Export Promotion, International Trade and Economic Development, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, Innovation Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED), Government of Canada, local MP and local MPP.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

e. AMO Communications

f. FONOM

1. Re: Sustainable Northern Ontario Economic Development Course
2. Re: Request for Support - Set-Aside Within the Ontario Immigration Nominee Program for Northern Ontario Communities

2024-170

Moved by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

WHEREAS employers across Northern Ontario are experiencing a critical shortage of skilled workers, contributing to a shrinking labour market with an estimated 50,000 newcomers needed by 2041 to sustain current Northern Ontario population levels;

AND WHEREAS, the labour shortage is causing significant economic hardship for Northern Ontario communities, including reduced productivity and business closures;

AND WHEREAS population and migration trends to 2021 suggest that Northern Ontario needs 100,000 newcomers by 2041 to sustain current population;

AND WHEREAS the success of the federal Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP) demonstrates the effectiveness of allocating nomination spots to address regional labour shortages in attracting newcomers to Northern Ontario;

AND WHEREAS, the Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program has been expanded from 9,750 nominees in 2022 to a goal of 21,500 nominees in 2024;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of East Ferris urges the Government of Ontario to address the critical market shortage of skilled labour in Northern Ontario by allocating 3,000 Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program spots to support the region's economic growth and development;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Ontario Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, local Members of Provincial Parliament; the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, and the North Bay and District Chamber of Commerce.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

g. North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority

h. North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit

1. Re: Board of Health Minutes of April 17th, 2024
2. Re: Recommendations on Access to Free Private Well Water Testing

i. Association of Municipalities of Ontario and Ontario Medical Association

2024-171

Moved by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

Seconded by Councillor Trahan

WHEREAS the state of health care in Ontario is in crisis, with 2.3 million Ontarians lacking access to a family doctor, emergency room closures across the province, patients being de-rostered and 40% of family doctors considering retirement over the next five years;

AND WHEREAS it has becoming increasingly challenging to attract and retain an adequate healthcare workforce throughout the health sector across Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the Northern Ontario School of Medicine University says communities in northern Ontario are short more than 350 physicians, including more than 200 family doctors; and half of the physicians working in northern Ontario expected to retire in the next five years;

AND WHEREAS Ontario municipal governments play an integral role in the health care system through responsibilities in public health, long-term care, paramedicine, and other investments;

AND WHEREAS the percentage of family physicians practicing comprehensive family medicine has declined from 77 in 2008 to 65 percent in 2022;

AND WHEREAS per capita health-care spending in Ontario is the lowest of all provinces in Canada;

AND WHEREAS a robust workforce developed through a provincial, sector-wide health human resources strategy would significantly improve access to health services across the province;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of East Ferris urge the Province of Ontario to recognize the physician shortage in East Ferris and Ontario, to fund health care appropriately and ensure every Ontarian has access to physician care.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

j. CN

2024-172

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

WHEREAS Rail Safety Week is to be held across Canada from September 23 to 29, 2024;

AND WHEREAS 229 railway crossing and trespassing incidents occurred in Canada in 2023; resulting in 66 avoidable fatalities and 39 avoidable serious injuries;

AND WHEREAS educating and informing the public about rail safety (reminding the public that railway rights-of-way are private property, enhancing public awareness of the dangers associated with highway rail grade crossings, ensuring pedestrians and motorists are looking and listening while near railways, and obeying established traffic laws) will reduce the number of avoidable fatalities and injuries cause by incidents involving trains and citizens;

AND WHEREAS Operation Lifesaver is a public/private partnership whose aim is to work with the public, rail industry, governments, police services, media and others to raise rail safety awareness;

AND WHEREAS CN and Operation Lifesaver have requested the Municipality of East Ferris adopt this resolution in support of its ongoing efforts to raise awareness, save lives and prevent injuries in communities, including our municipality;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that Council for the Municipality of East Ferris support national Rail Safety Week to be held from September 23rd to 29th, 2024.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

k. Powassan Agricultural Society

I. Schooley Mitchell

14. Action Items:

a. Approval of Correspondence and Information Circulated with the Agenda

2024-173

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

THAT Council approve the Correspondence and Information as circulated with the agenda of August 13th, 2024.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

b. Resolution: Noise By-law Exemption Request - Joanne Rodgers - 747 Derland Road

2024-174

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

WHEREAS Joanne Rodgers has made a request to the Municipality for an exemption under Section 4 of Municipal By-law 2015-33; a By-law to Prohibit Excessive Noise;

AND WHEREAS with Joanne Rodger's request, the exemption would only apply from Friday, September 6th, 2024 at 11:00 p.m. to Sunday, September 8th, 2024 at 2:00 a.m. for the purpose of a backyard family reunion to be held at 747 Derland Road;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that Council for the Municipality of East Ferris approve the request received from Joanne Rodgers and grant an exemption of Municipal By-law No. 2015-33 for Friday, September 6th, 2024 at 11:00 p.m. through Sunday, September 8th, 2024 at 2:00 a.m.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

c. Resolution: Flag Raising Request - Ashley Patey

This motion was deferred to the September 10th, 2024 Regular Council Meeting.

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 this request.

15. Approval of Accounts Payable

2024-175

Moved by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Councillor Trahan

THAT Council approve the general accounts for the Municipality of East Ferris as indicated in the cheque register(s) dated August 13th, 2024 in the amount of \$1,524,217.18.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

16. Other Business

None for this session.

17. In Camera (if required)

2024-176

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

THAT this meeting proceeds to In-Camera session at 6:07 p.m., under Section 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25 in order to address a matter pertaining:

(c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board regarding the potential donation of land for housing development; and

(c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board regarding the potential purchase of land for municipal use; and

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

Carried Mayor Rochefort

2024-177

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyackers

THAT we do now adjourn this In-Camera meeting at 6:45 p.m. and return to our regular session.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

18. Confirmatory By-Law

a. By-law No. 2024-34: 1st, 2nd and 3rd Reading

2024-178

Moved by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyackers

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 July 9th, 2024 to August 13th, 2024, BE READ a first, second and third time, passed and numbered 2024-34;

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

Carried Mayor Rochefort

19. Adjournment

2024-179

Moved by Councillor Trahan

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyackers

THAT we do now adjourn at 6:46 p.m. and meet again on September 10th, 2024.

Carried Mayor Rochefort

Mayor

Pauline Rochefort

Clerk

Kari Hanselman