

Council Meeting
Tuesday, December 6, 2022, at 7:00 pm
Powassan Council Chambers

Present: Peter McIsaac, Mayor
Markus Wand, Deputy Mayor
Randy Hall, Councillor
Dave Britton, Councillor
Leo Patey, Councillor

Staff: Allison Quinn, Acting Deputy Clerk
Brayden Robinson, Treasurer/Director of Corporate Services
Terry Lang, IT

Disclosure of Monetary Interest and General Nature Thereof:
P. McIsaac Item 14.1 – Item mentions employer.

2022-345

Moved by: D. Britton Seconded by: L. Patey
That the agenda of the Regular Council Meeting of December 6, 2022, be approved with the following additions:
13.3 Eastholme Winter Wonderland – D. Britton, verbal
14.1 Connecting Link – deferred at meeting of November 22, 2022
18.5 Legal-Section 239(2)(f) of the Municipal Act and under 6(1)(f) of the Procedural By-Law – Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose. **Carried**

2022-346

Moved by: L. Patey Seconded by: D. Britton
That the minutes of the Regular meeting of Council of November 22, 2022, be adopted. **Carried**

2022-347

Moved by: D. Britton Seconded by: L. Patey
That the minutes of the Recreation Committee meeting of November 9, 2022, be adopted. **Carried**

2022-348

Moved by: L. Patey Seconded by: D. Britton
That the minutes from the Golden Sunshine Municipal Non-Profit Housing corporation committee, be received. **Carried**

2022-349

Moved by: D. Britton Seconded by: L. Patey
That the memo from Treasurer/Director of Corporate Services, B Robinson, regarding Commercial Garbage Collection Fees be received. **Carried**

2022-350

Moved by: L. Patey Seconded by: D. Britton
That Council supports the Annual Powassan Maple Syrup Festival through in-kind assistance and by supporting the funding application to Tourism North Bay.

It recognizes the economic value of this event for both the Municipality of Powassan and surrounding areas. Attendees of the festival provide significant tourism dollars to the community and also the larger urban centres in our area which provide overnight accommodation, restaurant visits, fuel, and shopping opportunities. **Carried**

- 2022-351 Moved by: D. Britton Seconded by: L. Patey
That Council supports the Maple Syrup Festival Committee's application to NOHFC – Cultural Supports Program – Community Event's Stream and commits to covering any cost overruns. The requested funding is \$6340.00 and represents approximately 30% of the festival cost. **Carried**
- 2022-352 Moved by: L. Patey Seconded by: D. Britton
That the memo from Deputy Clerk, K. Bester, regarding the Encroachment Agreement for the property owners of 107 Sophia Street be received,

And further that staff be directed to have the Encroachment agreement prepared, with all costs associated with the preparation of the agreement being the responsibility of the 207 Sophia Street property owners. **Carried**
- 2022-353 Moved by: D. Britton Seconded by: L. Patey
That the notice of a Second Public Meeting on Tuesday, December 20, 2022, regarding Zoning By-Law amendments for 505 Peever Line, be received. **Carried**
- 2022-354 Moved by: D. Britton Seconded by: L. Patey
That the memo from Treasurer/Director of Corporate Services, B. Robinson, regarding the Policy for Phone, Mail, Computer, Internet and Email Usage be received,

And further that Section 3.14 of the Human Resources Policy Manual be amended as per the wording provided. **Carried**
- 2022-355 Moved by: D. Britton Seconded by: L. Patey
That By-Law 2022-27, being a By-Law to appoint a Deputy Clerk;

Be READ a FIRST time and considered read a SECOND and THIRD time and adopted as such in open Council meeting this 6th day of December 2022. **Carried**
- 2022-356 Moved by: L. Patey Seconded by: D. Britton
That By-Law 2022-28, being a By-Law to appoint a Clerk;

Be READ a FIRST and SECOND time, and READ a THIRD time and considered passed December 6, 2022 for the immediate wellbeing of the Municipality. **Carried**
- 2022-357 Moved by: L. Patey Seconded by: R. Hall
WHEREAS the province of Ontario is currently experiencing an early years and child care workforce shortage;

AND WHEREAS access to quality licensed childcare is an essential component of Ontario's social and economic well-being and enables children to grow up with a sense of community;

AND WHEREAS lack of licensed childcare is a barrier for parents to return or enter into the workforce, thus putting a strain on families, hindering economic participation, and forcing parents to remain at home to care for their children;

AND WHEREAS in the District of Nipissing, there is a higher demand for childcare spaces than the number of spaces available creating waitlists that have parents waiting for several years prior to getting a space, if they receive a space at all;

AND WHEREAS in recent years the recruitment and retention of qualified Registered

Early Childhood Educators (RECEs) and childcare staff has been a challenge that has been exasperated by the COVID-19 pandemic;

AND WHEREAS the workforce crisis in the early years and childcare sector has been further exasperated by the significant wage disparity between the compensation paid to RECEs employed by school boards and those employed in licensed child care centers due to lack of funding which has created an inequity for workers and equal qualifications;

AND WHEREAS Ontario has signed the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement putting Ontario on the path to reducing childcare fees to an average of \$10/day which will create a demand for more child care spaces when a workforce shortage already exists;

AND WHEREAS the province of Ontario committed to creating an additional 86,000 licensed child care spaces in Ontario without an explicit solution for increasing the number of RECEs and child care staff to fulfill this commitment;

AND WHEREAS the province of Ontario's commitment to a minimum wage of \$18/hour for RECEs with \$1 annual increases until reaching \$25/hour does not provide an immediate response to attracting and retaining childcare staff and will take many years to correct the wage disparity;

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that Council of the Municipality of Powassan advocates for the Province of Ontario to address the child care workforce shortage in Ontario by immediately increasing the \$18/hour minimum wage and providing benefits to RECEs in licensed child care centres to an equitable level to that which is paid to RECEs employed by school boards;

AND FURTHER that the Province of Ontario launch and financially support an accelerated Early Childhood Education program, to be completed within 14 to 16 months, similar to the program launched in March 2022 for Personal Support Workers (PSWs), where funding supported the costs of tuition, books, and other mandatory fees, to help address the shortage of RECEs in Ontario;

AND FURTHER that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to OMSSA (Ontario Municipal Social Services Association), Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care, Childcare Resource and Research Unit, NOSDA (Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association), FONOM (Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities), AMO (Association of Municipalities of Ontario), all 10 District Social Services Administration Boards in Northern Ontario, and all Ontario Municipalities to request their support and advocacy for this resolution;

AND FURTHER that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Minister of Education Stephen Lecce, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade and Nipissing MPP Vic Fedeli.

Carried

2022-358

Moved by: R. Hall

Seconded by: L. Patey

That the Governance Structure for Committees and Boards of Council for the 2023-2026 term, be received,

AND FURTHER that the following council members be appointed to represent these committees:

Powassan and District Library Board – Councillor Patey
North Almaguin Planning Board – Councillor Britton and Councillor Hall
Nipissing Parry Sound Senior Housing Corporation (The Pines) – Councillor Britton and Councillor Patey

Carried

2022-359

Moved by: L. Patey Seconded by: R. Hall

That the correspondence from the East Ferris Police Services Board regarding camera equipped stop arms on school buses, be received.

Carried

2022-360

Moved by: R. Hall Seconded by: L. Patey

That the donation request from the Powassan Lions Club regarding their Christmas Basket Campaign, be received,

AND FURTHER, that Council donate \$250.00 in support.

Carried

2022-361

Mayor McIsaac left the Chair; Deputy Mayor Wand took the Chair

Moved by: L. Patey Seconded by: R. Hall

That the memo from Director of Public Works and engineering, C. Munshaw, regarding Connecting Link Maintenance, be received,

AND FURTHER that the Municipality enter into a service agreement with Fowler Construction Company Limited for winter maintenance services.

Defeated

2022-362

Mayor McIsaac returned to Chair

Moved by: R. Hall Seconded by: D. Britton

That Council now adjourns to closed session at 8:08 p.m. to discuss:

- 18.1 Adoption of Closed Session minutes of November 22, 2022.
- 18.2 Labour Relations – Section 239(2)(d) of the Municipal Act and under 6(1)(d) of the Procedural By-Law – matters regarding labour relations or employee negotiations.
- 18.3 Labour Relations – Section 239(2)(d) of the Municipal Act and under 6(1)(d) of the Procedural By-Law – matters regarding labour relations or employee negotiations.
- 18.4 Identifiable Individual – Section 239(2)(b) of the Municipal Act and under 6(1)(b) of the Procedural By-Law – matters regarding an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees.
- 18.5 Identifiable Individual – Section 239(2)(b) of the Municipal Act and under 6(1)(b) of the Procedural By-Law – matters regarding an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees.

Carried

2022-363

Moved by: R. Hall Seconded by: D. Britton

That Council now reconvenes to regular session at 9:26 p.m.

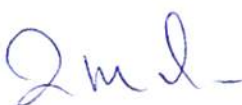
Carried

2022-364

Moved by: D. Britton Seconded by: R. Hall

That Council now adjourns at 9:26 p.m.

Carried



Mayor



Clerk (Deputy)