



**Minutes of Council Meeting
November 14th, 2023 6:30 PM
Town Hall, Council Chambers – 105 Elgin St. W. Arnprior, ON.**

Council and Staff Attendance

Council Members Present (In-Person):

Mayor Lisa McGee
County Councillor Dan Lynch
Councillor Lynn Cloutier
Councillor Tom Burnette
Councillor Chris Toner
Councillor Chris Couper
Councillor Billy Denault

Town Staff Present

Robin Paquette, CAO
Jennifer Morawiec, GMCS / Treasurer
Graeme Ivory, Director of Recreation
Amy Dean, Environmental Eng. Officer
Oliver Jacob, A / Deputy Clerk
Shelley Mackenzie, Town Clerk
John Steckly, GM Operations

Council Members Present (Electronic):

Council Members Absent:

1. Call to Order

Mayor Lisa McGee called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 6:30 PM and welcomed those present.

2. Roll Call

The roll was called, with all Members of Council being present.

3. Land Acknowledgement Statement

Mayor Lisa McGee asked everyone to take a moment to acknowledge and show respect for the Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of the land we operate on, by stating:

I would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we work and gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Anishinaabe People. This Algonquin Nation have lived on this land for thousands of years, long before the arrival of the European settlers, and we are grateful to have the opportunity to be present in this territory.

4. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution Number 367-23

Moved by Dan Lynch
Seconded by Chris Couper

Be It Resolved That the agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council dated Tuesday, November 14th, 2023 be adopted.

Resolution Carried

5. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

None

6. Question Period

None

7. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

Resolution Number 368-23

Moved by Billy Denault

Seconded by Dan Lynch

That the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council listed under Item 7 (a) on the Agenda be adopted.

Resolution Carried

8. Awards/Delegations/Presentations

None

9. Public Meetings

Resolution Number 369-23

Moved by Chris Couper

Seconded by Lynn Cloutier

That Council move into a public meeting to inform the public concerning one (1) planning application.

Resolution Carried

Mayor McGee called the public meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. and welcomed those present. The CAO noted that written submissions and a copy of the meeting minutes would be provided to the County of Renfrew prior to the granting of Draft Conditions.

a) Westhaven Gate Subdivision Application 47-T-21004

The CAO outlined the location and details of the property and advised Council and those in attendance at the public meeting that the County is the approval authority for plans of subdivision. The CAO also outlined that there have been provincial changes to the Planning Act under Bill 23 that have removed the requirements for public meetings to be held for subdivision applications and the Town of Arnprior staff recommend that these meetings still be held on subdivision applications received before the changes to the Planning Act.

The proposed plan of subdivision would consist of 64 single detached lots, 38 townhomes, and 4 semi-detached homes for a total of 106 dwelling units, on three internal public roads and including one stormwater management block and one pedestrian pathway link to Seventh Avenue.

The floor was opened to the public for comments:

Name	Address
Barb Dugal	45 Seventh Avenue
Julia Hall	78 Fourth Avenue
Maureen Meek	57 Seventh Avenue
Gerald Cantrell	157 Riverview Drive
Brenda Reed	74 Fourth Avenue
Devon St. John	96 Third Avenue

A summary of comments is as follows:

- Concerns over increased traffic and the single entrance/exit in the subdivision.
- Questions whether the development would cause odours from Pump Station #3 near the Madawaska Bridge.
- Concerns were voiced over construction noise.
- Will privacy measures such as fencing be installed for properties including the proposed pathway in the existing Hydro easement?
- Concerns raised regarding increased pedestrian traffic on the rear yards of existing properties on Riverview Drive.
- Concerns regarding stormwater management and drainage impacts on existing properties.

Resolution No 370-23 (6:55 p.m.)

Moved by Chris Couper

Seconded by Billy Denault

That Council resume to the Regular Meeting.

Resolution Carried

Mayor McGee called a short break at 6:55 p.m.
Council resumed their meeting at 6:58 p.m.

10. Matter Tabled/ Deferred/ Unfinished Business

None

11. Notice of Motions

County Councillor Lynch requested that two notices of motion come forward at the next Council meeting held on November 27th, 2023.

- Ask staff to draft a letter of support to the County of Renfrew regarding an Arnprior Station Rest Stop along the Algonquin Trail.
- Ask staff to create an online survey to request input for the naming of the Waterfront Trail.

12. Staff Reports

a) **2024-2027 Strategic Plan**

Resolution Number 371-23

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Billy Denault

That Council approve and adopt the 2024-2027 Strategic Plan, and

That Council direct the CAO to report annually on the Action Plans for current year, as well as the Report Card for the previous year, and

That Council approve the following Advisory Committees / Working Groups being:

- Environment
- Culture and Diversity

- (c) Accessibility and Age-friendly
- (d) Economic Development

That Council direct the Client Services Department to prepare draft Terms of Reference for Council consideration.

Resolution Carried

b) **Official Plan Amendment No. 7 & Zoning By-Law Amendment No. 5/23 (Arthur Street)**

Resolution Number 372-23

Moved by Lynn Cloutier
Seconded by Chris Toner

That Council passes by-laws to adopt Official Plan Amendment #7 and implementing Zoning By-law amendment (ZBLA-5/23) for the site municipally known as 0 Arthur Street to redesignate the lands from 'Environmental Protection Area' to 'Established Residential Area' and 'Environmental Protection – Exception 46' for the purpose of implementing a site-specific policy to reduce the required water setback from an existing watercourse from 30 metres to 15 metres.

Resolution Carried

c) **Zoning By-Law Amendment No. 6/23 (Temporary Use – 50 Carss St)**

Resolution Number 373-23

Moved by Lynn Cloutier
Seconded by Dan Lynch

That Council refuses to adopt a by-law to allow for a Zoning By-law Amendment (ZBLA 6/23) for the property known municipally as 50 Carss Street to rezone the subject property from "Residential One (R1)" to "Residential One – Temporary Two (R1-T2)"; and

Further that the following reasons be provided to the applicant for the refusal:

1. The potential for environmental concerns with the operation of a contractor's yard;
2. The proposed use is not considered to be compatible with adjacent land uses and the character of the surrounding neighbourhood;
3. The proposed use may create traffic circulation problems within the area, and have an adverse effect on the volume and/or type of traffic serviced by the roads in the area;
4. The proposed use may not provide the necessary parking facilities required entirely on-site; and
5. The proposed use would not be considered beneficial to the neighbourhood or the community as a whole.

Resolution Carried

d) **FoodCycler Pilot Program**

Resolution Number 374-23

Moved by Chris Couper

Seconded by Dan Lynch

That Council directs staff to work with Food Cycle Science to implement a pilot program for food waste recycling for up to 100 residences in the Town of Arnprior.

Further That Council direct staff to include within the 2024 Waste Management Operating Budget, an additional \$11,200 net impact to subsidize the pilot program.

Further That Council directs staff to report back to Council by the end of 2024 on the status of the pilot program.

Resolution Carried

e) **Municipal Grant Application – Special Olympics Ontario – Arnprior Community**

Resolution Number 375-23

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Billy Denault

That Council waive 100% of the user fees and charges for the Special Olympics Ontario – Arnprior Community municipal grant request for the use of the Nick Smith Centre Community Pool on Sunday mornings (from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.) for the period of November 5, 2023 to May 26, 2024 and the McLean Ball Diamonds on Monday evenings (for two hours) for thirteen (13) dates for the period of May 27, 2024 to August 26, 2024 (total value \$4,101.00); and

Further That the Special Olympics Ontario – Arnprior Community be advised that it is mandatory to carry sufficient liability insurance and have the Town of Arnprior added as an additional insured.

Resolution Carried

13. Council Committee Reports and Minutes

a) **Mayors Report**

Mayor McGee reported on the following:

Mayor McGee attended the following events during the last three (3) weeks

- In late October the Mayor was honoured to receive the first poppy of the season from the Arnprior Legion President
- Halloween at the Nick Smith Centre with children aged 5-12 where she participated in the Monster Mash dance and haunted house organized by the recreation team.
- Along with Councillor Denault and Councillor Burnette, Mayor McGee attended the Airport Committee meeting as their official Recording Secretary
- Together with Jennifer Charlebois Robillard and Adrian Moyes, Mayor McGee served as an official judge for the annual Chili Fest contest.

- Together with County Councillor Lynch, Councillor Cloutier and Councillor Denault, the Mayor attended the Nick Smith Centre to view and comment on the display boards for the Recreation Master Plan.
- 11 more sleeps until the Arnprior Santa Claus Parade and organizers are expecting more than 50 floats.
- Mayor McGee met with the Library Board Chair Josie Scott, to discuss current pressures and challenges for the Library.
- November 11th she was honoured to attend the Remembrance Day ceremony and represent the Town of Arnprior.
- Mayor McGee attended the official ribbon cutting ceremony to open the Arnprior Art Loft.
- Together with town staff, she attended a meeting at the Town Hall with the JK/SK classes from Walter Zado Public School to discuss garbage and recycling.

b) **County Councillor Report**

County Councillor Lynch reported the following:

- **Taste of the Valley** - Upcoming event dates include:
Pembroke – December 16. Vendors are sold out.
All events are held from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Delegations at October County Council meeting included:

- Sarah Hall, Dean, and Jamie Bramburger, Manager of Community and Student Affairs, at the Algonquin College Pembroke Campus, provided an update on enrolment, college priorities and strategic initiatives. Colonel Jason Guiney, Commander of Garrison Petawawa, and Chief Warrant Officer Jimmy Cote, Formation Sergeant Major, provided an update on Garrison activities. The Garrison currently employs 5,500 Canadian Armed Forces personnel in addition to 1,000 civilians.
- Pembroke Mayor Ron Gervais and Councillor Troy Purcell appeared before County Council to discuss a warming centre in the city to provide a safe place for vulnerable members of the community during the winter months for 2023/24.

County Council approved the following 2024 ROMA Delegation:

- Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing / Minister of Finance
- Solicitor General
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Infrastructure / Ministry of Transportation
- Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport

As previously mentioned, the County is completing a Traffic Study that is expected to be completed by 2025. The County is requesting resident participation in the survey. The closing date for comments is December 1st, 2023. If you wish to participate you can go to the County of Renfrew website and search the Transportation Master Plan. The approximate time to complete the survey is 8 minutes.

At a Special Council meeting held on November 9th, the Agenda included:

- Asset Management - Finance staff will be providing updated statistics dealing with how to fund the 2024 Budget; The County will allot \$80,000 to the Grind Shelter in Pembroke; and the retirement of the Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer Jeff Foss.

November 14th, 2023 – Development & Property

- Delegation dealing with Frontenac Communal Service – a presentation was sent to Council and Staff
- The Province is now accepting applications for the EC Charge ON program. Deadline for applications is January 31st, 2024.
- The OVCATA AGM will be held on Dec 2, from 10am to 12pm at St. John's Lutheran Church in Arnprior.
- Development Charges – Warden and CAO will make a presentation in 2024.

November 14th, 2023 – Operations

- The County has developed a policy for the naming of bridges and culverts. Residents may wish to comment on this policy by contacting the Director of Public Works, Lee Perkins.

The next County Council Meeting will be held on November 29th, 2023.

c) **Councillor Denault Report**

Councillor Denault reported the following:

- On November 1st, 2023, he attended the Airport Commission Meeting which centered around the annual budget.

14. Correspondence & Petitions

a) Correspondence Package – I-23-NOV-19

Resolution Number 376-23

Moved by Dan Lynch

Seconded by Tom Burnette

That the Correspondence Package Number I-23-NOV-19 be received as information and filed accordingly.

Resolution Carried

County Councillor Lynch reported on the following:

- Page 3 - Property owners should note the Ontario government is seeking public input on ways to address and reduce the harmful and inappropriate use of Notices of Security Interest (NOSIs) against unsuspecting consumers. A NOSI is a notice that can be registered on the land registry system by a business when it finances or leases certain equipment on a property such as an HVAC unit.

- Page 16 - Good news for low income families when it comes to electricity. The Ontario government is investing an additional \$50 million in the Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP), and is increasing the income eligibility thresholds for the program by up to 35 per cent in order to provide thousands of additional low-income families access to the program's on-bill credits and help make electricity more affordable. The updated OESP income thresholds will come into effect on March 1st, 2024.
- Page 20 - Good news for residents – it looks like our hydro bill could be reduced by \$312.00 year. The Ontario government is keeping electricity costs down for families and small businesses by increasing the on-bill Ontario Electricity Rebate (OER) from 11.7 per cent to 19.3 per cent, reducing a typical household electricity bill by a total of \$26.00 a month – or \$312.00 a year.
- Page 36 - The Minister of Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, has made it a priority to review past decisions, including minister's zoning orders and official plans, to ensure that they support our goal of building at least 1.5 million homes in a manner that maintains and reinforces public trust. In reviewing how decisions were made regarding official plans, it is now clear that they failed to meet this test. In response to County Councillor Lynch, the CAO confirmed that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing did not make any amendments to the Town of Arnprior's Official Plan when it was adopted and the Town's Official Plan will not be part of this review
- Page 38 -The Ontario government is investing \$5 million to ensure communities across the province have the resources and equipment they need to prepare for natural disasters and emergencies. The government is now accepting applications for the new Community Emergency Preparedness Grant. In response to County Councillor Lynch, the CAO confirmed that staff are currently drafting an application for this grant to fund additional IT equipment in our emergency control centre.
- Page 49 - Good news for businesses - your WSIB payments will remain the same for 2024.
- Page 83 - LAS is pleased to announce it has secured a fixed hedge price for the 12-month term from January 1 to December 31, 2024, for the 145 participants in the program. County Councillor Lynch asked the General Manager of Finance if we are one of the 145 municipalities that participate, and the General Manager of Finance confirmed that we do participate in the program.
- Regional Market dealing with rent. County of Renfrew index for income designated to rent:

Income \$21K	\$520
Income \$27,400	\$680
Income \$37,100	\$930
Income \$46,800	\$1,170

And for present day monthly rates:

Bachelor	\$1,179
1 Bedroom	\$1,350
2 Bedroom	\$1,555
3 Bedroom	\$1,835

- County Councillor Lynch extended a congratulations and thanked Denise Johnston for organizing this years Terry Fox Run which exceeded its goal of \$5000 by \$3049.50.

Councillor Denault noted the following items:

- An Arnprior Airport Commission meeting was held on November 1st and they discussed the annual budget.

b) Correspondence Package – A-23-NOV-16

Resolution Number 377-23

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Billy Denault

That the Correspondence Package Number A-23-NOV-16 be received, and the recommendation outlined be brought forward for council consideration.

Resolution Carried

15. By-laws & Resolutions

a) By-Laws

Resolution Number 378-23

Moved by Dan Lynch

Seconded by Chris Couper

That the following by-laws be and are hereby enacted and passed:

- i) By-Law Number 7436-23 – Official Plan Amendment No. 7 (Arthur Street)
- ii) By-Law Number 7437-23 – Zoning By-Law Amendment No. 5/23 (Arthur Street)
- iii) By-Law Number 7438-23 – Official Plan Amendment No.8 (Norma and Charlotte)
- iv) By-Law Number 7439-23 – Zoning By-Law Amendment No. 6/23 (Norma and Charlotte)

Resolution Carried

b) Resolutions

Request for Support- City of Cambridge and Catherine Fife, MPP (Bill 21 – Fixing Long Term Care Amendment Act (Till Death Do Us Part), 2022)

Resolution Number 379-23

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Chris Toner

That Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior receive the correspondence from the City of Cambridge and Catherine Fife, MPP for Waterloo;

Whereas the care, support, and happiness of older adults in the Town of Arnprior is a priority for Council;

Whereas older adults deserve dignity in care and should have the right to live with their partner as they age;

Whereas within the Province of Ontario couples do not have the right to be accommodated together when entering long term care facilities;

Whereas the separation of spouses upon entering long term care facilities is a common occurrence across Ontario;

Whereas Bill 21, Fixing Long-Term Care Amendment Act (Till Death Do Us Part) was first introduced in the provincial legislature in 2019 and was re-introduced in 2022;

Whereas Bill 21 would amend the Residents' Bill of Rights set out in section 3 of *Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021* by adding the right of residents not to be separated from their spouse upon admission and to have accommodation made available for both spouses so they may continue to live together;

Whereas the Government of Ontario has indicated a willingness to bring forward a new Bill that, in principle, supports the intent of Bill 21 to fix the *Long-Term Care Amendment Act*;

Therefore Be It Resolved That Council supports any future Bill to fix the Long-Term Care Amendment Act to address the issue of partners being separated in long-term care settings and requests the provincial legislature enact any current and/or future proposed Bills to fix the *Long-Term Care Amendment Act, 2021*;

Further That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Stan Cho, Minister of Long-Term Care; and Catherine Fife, MPP for Waterloo.

Resolution Carried

**Request for Support – Town of Rainy River (Water Treatment Training Programs)
Resolution Number 380-23**

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Billy Denault

That Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior receive the correspondence from the Town of Rainy River;

Whereas the Town of Arnprior employs licensed operators to operate the water treatment facilities, water distribution facilities, wastewater treatment facilities and wastewater collection facilities which service the residents of the Town of Arnprior;

Whereas the Town of Arnprior has been fortunate in obtaining a full staff compliment eager to take on the responsibilities of water treatment and distribution and wastewater collection and treatment operations;

Whereas all licensed water and wastewater operators require ongoing certification and training which is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain and procure;

Therefore Be It Resolved That Council support the Town of Rainy River's advocacy to the Province of Ontario to expand water treatment training opportunities for communities across Ontario;

Further That the training should be delivered in a method that is both flexible and affordable for small, rural and northern municipalities;

Further That the Province should consider utilizing existing networks for on-line exam preparation and exam supervision;

Further That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks; and all Renfrew County municipalities.

Resolution Carried

Request for Support – Association of Municipalities of Ontario (Social and Economic Prosperity Review)

Resolution Number 381-23

Moved by Billy Denault

Seconded by Chris Toner

That Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior receive the correspondence from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario;

Whereas the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) has been advocating to the Government of Ontario to relieve the burden on municipal governments in areas of provincial responsibility;

Whereas in 2022, municipalities spent \$3.8 billion more than they received in areas of provincial responsibility like social housing, long-term care, land ambulance, social services, and child care as a result of current cost sharing arrangements;

Whereas the AMO Board has established a goal to co-develop a sustainable, accountable provincial-municipal relationship where both orders of government can fulfill their responsibilities, guided by the principles of:

- fiscal sustainability for both orders of government;
- fairness for taxpayers and affordability for residents;
- coordinated and timely infrastructure investment resilient to climate realities;
- increased housing supply and affordability;
- robust health and social services supporting increased economic participation;
- long-term economic development and prosperity for Ontario and its communities;
- modern, effective, and streamlined service delivery;

Therefore Be It Resolved That Council supports the Association of Municipalities of Ontario proposal for the development of a Social and Economic Prosperity Review, in collaboration with municipalities, to begin as soon as possible in an effort to address the fiscal imbalances between levels of government; and,

Further That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance; and all Renfrew County municipalities.

Resolution Carried

**Public Notice for the 2024 Operating and Capital Budgets – Alternate Form of Notice
Resolution Number 382-23**

Moved by Dan Lynch

Seconded by Tom Burnette

Whereas Appendix A of the Town of Arnprior's Public Notice Policy #AS-CP-08, passed by By-law No. 6639-16 as amended, outlines specific public notice requirements for the budget public consultation meeting and adoption of the annual operating and capital budgets; and

Whereas the specific public notice requirements related to the annual budget process include notice to be published once in a newspaper at least 10 days in advance of the public participation or Council meeting; and

Whereas the local public newspaper, the Arnprior Chronicle Guide, is no longer in circulation within the Town; and

Whereas section 3(b) of the Public Notice Policy #AS-CP-08 allows for Council to direct an alternate form of manner of public notice or deems that notice is not required;

Therefore Be It Resolved That Council authorize the alternate forms of public notice for the annual budget process including, but not limited to: Town website, social media, facility digital screens, online feedback form, winter edition of Arnprior Life, and posters on local message boards.

Resolution Carried

c) Announcements

Councillor Couper noted the following items:

- The Town of Arnprior is being featured on CTV News tonight – Rocky Mountain House joined Ottawa Valley Coffee to offer residents the opportunity to purchase food and beverage items and those in need can use the ticket to receive a free meal or beverage.

- Thank you to the offices of MPP John Yakabuski and MPP Caroline Mulroney for getting the four (4) electric charging stations up and running. The stations are located in the MTO Park and Ride (Highway 29 and Keatley Rd).
- Councillor Couper extended a happy 40th birthday to Audrey's Fashions on John Street.
- Steelheads and Strikes will be holding a "pay what you can day" on November 25th from 11am-3pm to celebrate their hard work with renovations.

d) Media Questions
None

e) Closed Session
None

f) Confirmatory By-Law
Resolution Number 383-23
Moved by Lynn Cloutier
Seconded by Billy Denault

That By-law No. 7440-23 being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Meeting of Council held on November 14th, 2023 be and it is hereby enacted and passed.

Resolution Carried

g) Adjournment
Resolution Number 384-23
Moved by Lynn Cloutier
Seconded by Tom Burnette
That this meeting of Council be adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Resolution Carried

Signatures

Lisa McGee, Mayor

Shelley Mackenzie, Town Clerk

