



**Minutes of Council Meeting
November 27th, 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

Council Members Present (Electronic):

Council Members Absent:

Town Staff Present

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

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 385-23

Moved by Lynn Cloutier
Seconded by Billy Denault

Be It Resolved That the agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council dated Monday, November 27th, 2023 be adopted.

Resolution Carried

5. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

I, Chris Couper, declare a pecuniary interest on Item No. 15 (a) (iv) on the November 27th, 2023 Council agenda. I am making this declaration as I live in close proximity to the subject lands.

6. Question Period

None

7. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

Resolution Number 386-23

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Chris Couper

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

a) Presentation

i) Waterfront Trail and 2023 Parks Project Update, Director of Recreation

Staff presented Council with an update highlighting the progress of the redeveloped Waterfront Trail, as well as Legion and Caruso Parks upgrades.

9. Public Meetings

None

10. Matter Tabled/ Deferred/ Unfinished Business

None

11. Notice of Motions

**a) Request for Support for the Further Development of the Arnprior Station Rest Stop
Resolution Number 387-23**

Moved by Dan Lynch

Seconded by Tom Burnette

Whereas the Council of the Town of Arnprior recognizes that the Algonquin trail provides recreational, health, economic and social benefits to our communities; and

Whereas Arnprior is proud to be part of the Algonquin Trail portion of the Ottawa Valley Rail Trail (OVRT) as a connecting link to the rest of the Algonquin Trail and the Lanark portion of the OVRT; and

Whereas on March 27, 2023 Council passed a resolution directing staff to send a letter to the County of Renfrew Algonquin Trail Advisory Committee requesting that the name "Arnprior Station:" be designated to identify the newly seeded Algonquin Trail land located on John Street South at Meehan Street; and

Whereas on August 30, 2023 the Development and Property Committee for the County of Renfrew granted approval to the Town of Arnprior to erect signage and additional trees along the Algonquin Trail for the purpose of identifying the Town's business centre and a park and further that the park name "Arnprior Station" be approved; and

Whereas further development, as outlined in Drawing A, of the “Arnprior Station” as a dedicated rest stop along the Algonquin Trail would be beneficial for trail users, encourage visitors to the Town’s business centre and would be completed at little to no cost through volunteers and donations.

Therefore Be It Resolved That Council provide a letter of support to the County of Renfrew for the further development of an “Arnprior Station Rest Stop” on the Algonquin Trail at its intersection with John Street North.

Resolution Carried

b) Naming for Developed Waterfront Trail

Resolution Number 388-23

Moved by Dan Lynch

Seconded by Billy Denault

Whereas one of the first Waterfront Master Plan projects completed is the waterfront pathway surfacing improvements which enhances accessibility, adds lighting and seating, from the intersection of Madawaska Street and the Madawaska Bridge, stretching along the western shore of the Madawaska River to Robert Simpson Park;

And Whereas while waterfront trails have existed in various forms for decades, the current trail layout was re-developed with support from the Government of Canada in 1999/2000 under the Canada Millennium Partnership Program;

And Whereas under this Millennium Project, three (3) walking trails were created at that time (Gillies Trail, McLachlin Trail and Heritage Trail) by a Millennium Ad Hoc Committee, who through outside consultation, informally adopted these trail names for the creation of maps and brochures; and

Therefore Be It Resolved That Council formally adopt the names formed by the Millennium Ad Hoc Committee for the three (3) walking trails (Gillies Trail, McLachlin Trail and Heritage Trail).

Resolution Carried

12. Staff Reports

a) Contract Award – Joint Solid Waste Collection Tender

Resolution Number 389-23

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Billy Denault

That Council award a five-year contract with the option of two one-year extensions for the Collection of Solid Waste in the Town of Arnprior to Topps Environmental Solutions (803836 Ontario Inc) with the amount of \$430,429.48 (including HST) for year one of the contract; and

Further That should the volume discount criteria be met, that the \$20,000 annual volume discount be applied; and

Further That Council direct staff to update the draft 2024 Waste Management Operating Budget and 2024 Waste Management User Fee Rate to reflect the results of this contract award.

Resolution Carried

**b) Asset Retirement Obligations (ARO) Policy
Resolution Number 390-23**

Moved by Dan Lynch
Seconded by Chris Couper

That Council enact a By-Law adopting Policy No. FS-CA-03 (Asset Retirement Obligations).

Resolution Carried

**c) 2024 Calendar of Meetings
Resolution Number 391-23**

Moved by Lynn Cloutier
Seconded by Chris Toner

That Council approve the attached 2024 Calendar of Meetings.

Resolution Carried

13. Council Committee Reports and Minutes

a) Mayors Report

Mayor McGee reported on the following:

- The Mayor attended the ribbon cutting grand opening ceremony for Kirk Orthodontics & the unveiling of the Steelheads and Strikes newly renovated interior.
- Met with Bruce Firestone, formerly with the Ottawa Senators, along with the owners of Humble Creek Homes. Humble Creek is a company that builds tiny homes. They are keen to bring their ideas forward and to work with federal partners to see if they can assist with the housing crisis and gaps in affordable housing. The Mayor directed them to the County of Renfrew for further discussion.
- Saturday was the 2023 Arnprior Santa Claus Parade in honour of the late Theresa Carron. Council handed out chocolate to hundreds of spectators and attended the Legion afterwards where they met with Santa.
- Delegation forms for the upcoming ROMA conference have been submitted. Councillor Denault, Councillor Couper, County Councillor Lynch and Mayor McGee will be attending and they are looking forward to meeting with Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport to discuss the Nick Smith Centre upgrades, the Cultural Night Market and the Waterfront Master Plan. Mayor McGee will be working with staff to prepare a presentation. The Mayor confirmed that she

has submitted a joint delegation with Mayor MacKenzie from the Township of McNab Braeside, along with the Councillor from the City of Ottawa adjacent ward, with the Minister of Health concerning how local residents are being directed to use the emergency room due to family Physicians being fined when their patients use the VTAC service. Mayor McGee is hoping to discuss these healthcare challenges and to find solutions that work for residents.

b) County Councillor's Report

County Councillor Lynch reported the following:

- **Taste of the Valley** - Upcoming event dates include:
Pembroke – December 16. (10am-3pm)
Vendors are sold out.
- The Statistics from A Point-In-Time Count (Homelessness Enumeration) report from Friday, October 27, 2023, indicates that Arnprior has two persons who are currently homeless.
- On December 12th, 2023, Warden Emon will be acclaimed County Warden for 2024 at the inaugural meeting.
- The next County Council meeting is scheduled for November 29th, 2023.

Councillor Toner reported on the following:

- The Seniors Active Living Centre membership is up to over 350 people, in large part to speaking at retirement homes and an increase of Facebook posts.
- The new and successful walking club will be continuing throughout the winter.
- Tech workshops on chrome books will be starting up again and they are hoping to add cybersecurity training as part of the training.
- SALC is continuing with the popular bus trips. The next trip scheduled for Dec. 14th to Morrisburg. Travellers will enjoy a turkey buffet dinner at McIntosh Inn then off to Upper Canada Village where they will walk off dinner through the Alight at Night Extravaganza with over one million lights.
- There will be a live music tribute to Gaston Moreau on Thursday, November 30th from 1-3pm. Gas' Gang of Musicians will be on hand to pay tribute to the man who launched the live music events at the SALC 5 years ago. Please rsvp to the SALC as seating is on a first come first serve basis.
- The SALC Advisory Committee also discussed logistics on renting out space. Several inquiries have come forward, especially since the Library meeting space is currently unavailable. The folks from L'Arche have confirmed and they will be having an event in the centre.
- Councillor Toner was the Arnprior SALC representative at the Revitalizing and Reactivating Communities collaboration meetings on October 26th at Laurentian Valley Fit & Feisty, and again on November 16th at the Centre Lajoie. These collaborative meetings are made possible from a grant received by Eganville & District Seniors through the Government of Canada

Community Services Recovery Fund. The goal of the meetings is to come together to look at our strengths and challenges as individual groups and as a collective group to address how we can revitalize our organizations. The monthly meetings will discuss common challenges, share our strengths, brainstorm and work together on projects and training that will benefit everyone. From attending the last two meetings I can report that the Arnprior and McNab SALC is functioning extremely well.

Update from the Arnprior and District Museum:

- The museum offered a two-day Canadian Conservation Institute workshop on Care of Objects to four regional organizations. The event had fifteen participants who attended and museum staff were able to meet and work with colleagues from across Renfrew and Lanark Counties.
- The museum has also developed a series of workshops in partnership with an Indigenous Education Consultant from RCDSB and a grade 5/6 class from Walter Zadow school; 23 students and 2 staff have visited to participate in the cardboard community-building workshops.
- The Lego Robotics team have been meeting twice a week for the past two months at the museum.
- The local ESL group have been meeting on Friday mornings at the Museum while the Library remediation repairs are continuing.
- A full day of programming was offered to homeschool families and the museum looks forward to future opportunities to continue that relationship.
- The museum has also partnered with the Renfrew County Youth Wellness Hub to provide tours and workshops over the last three months. On average between 6-10 staff and young people attend these events.
- There have been several events at the museum including the Opportunity Shop Coat Sale with 323 visitors; the Opportunity Shop Christmas Sale with 484 visitors and the Halloween Witch Walk with 566 visitors.
- Emily has also held Storytelling Workshops at Sawmill Flats and Island View. These workshops are stimulating for the brain and an opportunity to learn about local history through stories.
- Museum collection staff developed and put together a Remembrance Day pop up exhibit with two interactive stations that resulted in 38 visitors that saw their family members celebrated.
- A small community group gathered to begin drafting a proposal for a co-created exhibit on peace and alternative responses to violent conflict.
- Digitization of the collection continues despite staffing obstacles. Scanning of 2D belongings will wrap up by the end of November thanks to a large number of remarkable volunteers that stepped up to help.
- The Programming and Outreach Coordinator and Digitization Assistant positions remain open.
- Our Curator submitted a report to the Parks Canada Architectural Historian who is developing a report with respect to our request for historic designation.
- The museum has been accepted to the MASS Culture's Data Narratives for the Arts Program (DNA). MASS Culture is an organization that supports the arts community through workshops such as the DNA program. The DNA

program will help make decisions according to the data that museums collect and use this data to market our organization.

- Our Museum Curator was elected to the Ontario Museum Association Board of Directors. The current Museum Board have welcomed the new proposal for a Culture and Diversity Advisory Committee and look forward to its development.
- There have been some early planning sessions between the Museum, the Historical Society and the Friends of the Museum to host several events in the new year.

Councillor Denault reported on the following:

- Airport Commission held a special meeting on Wednesday, November 22nd, 2023, to discuss the budget which will be presented at the December 6th, 2023 budget consultations meeting.

Councillor Couper reported on the following:

- At the last Library meeting the board was updated that the clean up after the flood is now complete, but the restoration is not expected until March of 2024. The Library CAO has been working with suppliers to secure 2024 pricing for some of the capital items that were lost in the flood.
- Staff has been working with Service Ontario to assist residents to update their OHIP cards. At this time only OHIP cards can be updated.
- The Library is getting ready for the 2024 budget deliberations. The Board Chair met with Councillors in Arnprior to discuss adding a community Librarian to the 2024 budget request.
- The Community Fridge Project is currently on hold due to pressures from the flood.
- The Board provided an update concerning the expansion. Due to the flood, the naming of the expansion has been delayed. The library will be adding a bench with a land acknowledgment on one side and a message from the Algonquin Nation on the other side of the bench. The bench will be in the shape of a book. Landscaping ideas are being supplied from the Butterflyway Project to encourage pollination.
- The Strategic Planning process has been put on hold due to the retirement of the consultant and the OLS will be looking at replacing the position in the near future.
- Programming updates included author visits from Wit Fraser, Dr. Brian Goldman and the Right Honourable David Johnston.
- Tickets are now on sale for the New Years Eve, Black and White Literary Gala. The library has received donations for the event, and they will cover the rental costs for the event.
- Local musicians will be performing once a month on Tuesdays at the library for a Busker's Café.
- Other programs include: Tuesday Chess Club, Senior Book Clubs and the Whatknots Knitting Group.
- The ESL group is currently meeting at the Museum to allow for the Friday morning Storytime to take place at the library.

- The library has tried to accommodate meetings with Renfrew County Social Workers and they have set up office space at the library for at risk youth and those struggling with homelessness.
- Class visits are in full swing, and Baby Rhyme Time is at full capacity.

14. Correspondence & Petitions

i) Correspondence Package – I-23-NOV-20

Resolution Number 392-23

Moved by Chris Couper

Seconded by Dan Lynch

That the Correspondence Package Number I-23-NOV-20 be received as information and filed accordingly.

Resolution Carried

County Councillor Lynch noted the following items:

- Page 13 - Ontario is exploring additional tools to help fund municipal water infrastructure to support housing growth, such as providing improved flexibility for municipalities to access loans under the Infrastructure Ontario Loan Program. In response to County Councillor Lynch, the General Manager, Client Services / Treasurer confirmed that we use the Infrastructure Ontario Loan Program for both Water and Wastewater Plant Expansions in 2011-12, Downtown Revitalization Loan (2017) and the purchase of the Quint fire truck (2018). Depending on the size and nature of future water infrastructure projects, if financing is required, we will consider using this loan program again.
- Page 18 -The Ontario government is strengthening regulations to clamp down on landfill site owners who contravene environmental laws. The changes will allow the province to take stronger action against illegal activity by giving enforcement officials the ability to issue monetary penalties. This could include (but is not limited to): industrial or commercial noise or odour pollution waste being dumped into the natural environment improper disposal of commercial waste. In response to County Councillor Lynch, staff indicated they have reviewed the change in regulations for landfill penalties, and no concerns were noted for our landfill site. Staff have shared this information with McCrea's (our landfill operator and site attendant) to keep them up to date with the changes.
- Page 26 - Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, announced "On behalf of the people of Ontario, it is an honour to congratulate Edith Dumont on being installed as the 30 Lieutenant Governor of Ontario and the first ever Francophone Lieutenant Governor in our province's history."
- Page 34 -The government of Ontario is also taking action to further protect the safety of children by requiring all licensed childcare operators to implement a Safe Arrival and Dismissal Policy by January 1, 2024. This will ensure that when a child does not arrive at the licensed childcare program or is not picked up as expected, parents will be informed in line with existing protocols within Ontario's publicly funded schools.

- Page 40 - Registered Early Childhood Educators will receive a increase in pay as of January 2024. Wages will be raised to \$23.86/hour from the planned \$20/hour. This 19.3 per cent increase will apply to all new hires and current employees getting paid less than \$23.86/hour.
- Page 43 - Ontario is investing an additional \$15 million over three years in the Racialized and Indigenous Supports for Entrepreneurs (RAISE) program to provide free access to business coaching, training and grants. The program will launch and grow successful businesses, creating great jobs for Ontarians, providing goods and services people need and fostering vibrant and inclusive communities.
- Page 47 - AMO is conducting a survey of Ontario municipal employees to learn about their work experience. In response to County Councillor Lynch on if staff have completed the survey, the General Manager, Client Services / Treasurer responded that staff have had the opportunity to complete the survey while it was open. Staff have not received any statistics from AMO at this time on who completed the survey.
- Page 48 - The Ontario Fire Marshal is conducting an online survey for volunteer firefighters and Fire Chiefs to inform their understanding on recruiting and retaining volunteer firefighters. Staff responded that full-time fire department staff have completed the survey, and it has been forwarded to our volunteers for their participation.
- Page 52 - The ChargeON Program will provide up to 75% provincial funding for municipalities to install Electric Vehicle charging stations. Canoe Procurement Group and Flo will be hosting webinars on November 29th, 2023 and the Ministry of Transportation will be hosting on November 30th. In response to County Councillor Lynch regarding participation in the program, the General Manager, Client Services / Treasurer responded that the municipality is looking at this grant program for possible expansion of electric vehicle charging stations at the Nick Smith Centre and in municipal parking lots. The grant application is due in January 2024 and staff will bring further information forward to Council either in a report or with 2024 budget.

ii) Correspondence Package – A-23-NOV-17

Resolution Number 393-23

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Billy Denault

That the Correspondence Package Number A-23-NOV-17 be received, and the recommendation outlined be brought forward for council consideration.

Resolution Carried

15. By-laws & Resolutions

a) By-Laws

Resolution Number 394-23

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Chris Couper

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

- By-law Number 7441-23 – Award Joint Solid Waste Collection
- By-law Number 7442-23 – Adopt Asset Retirement Obligations (ARO) Policy
- By-law Number 7443-23 – Adopt 2024 Occupational Health and Safety Statement

Resolution Carried

Councillor Couper left the Council table at 7:49 PM

Resolution Number 395-23

Moved by Dan Lynch

Seconded by Tom Burnette

That the following by-law be and is hereby enacted and passed:

- By-law Number 7444-23 – Part Lot Control (Marshall's Bay Meadows)

Resolution Carried

Councillor Couper returned to the Council table at 7:49 PM

b) Resolutions

Municipal Grant Application – Community Choir and Valley Concert Band (2024 Music! Music! Music!)

Resolution Number 396-23

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Chris Toner

That Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior receive the Municipal Grant request from the Arnprior Community Choir and Valley Concert Band; and

Whereas the Arnprior Community Choir and Valley Concert Band has hosted the “Music! Music! Music!” event for the past six years and provides an opportunity to showcase and experience musical talent in the local community;

Therefore Be It Resolved That Council approve the request for waiving the Nick Smith Centre Community Hall rental fees (value of approximately \$350.00 plus HST) for the 2024 “Music! Music! Music!” event on March 2nd, 2024; and

Further That the Arnprior Community Choir and Valley Concert Band be advised that it is mandatory to carry sufficient liability insurance and have the Town of Arnprior added as an additional insured for the event.

Resolution Carried

**Municipal Grant Application – Arnprior and Area Physician Recruitment Committee
(Doctors Dining Duel)**

Resolution Number 397-23

Moved by Dan Lynch

Seconded by Tom Burnette

That Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior receive the Municipal Grant request from the Arnprior and Area Physician Recruitment Committee; and

Whereas the Arnprior and Area Physician Recruitment Committee is an eligible organization under the Municipal Grants Policy with a mandate to support the recruitment of family physicians in the Greater Arnprior area;

Whereas the Doctors Dining Duel is one of the annual fundraising events which fund the attraction and retention of family physicians to support our community;

Therefore Be It Resolved That Council approve the request for waiving the Nick Smith Centre Community Hall rental fees (value of approximately \$450.00 plus HST) for the Doctors Dining Duel on Thursday, April 25th, 2024; and

Further That the Arnprior and Area Physician Recruitment Committee be advised that it is mandatory to carry sufficient liability insurance and have the Town of Arnprior added as an additional insured for the event.

Resolution Carried

Municipal Grant Application – Arnprior Minor Hockey Association (Trivia Night and Dance Fundraiser)

Resolution Number 398-23

Moved by Chris Couper

Seconded by Billy Denault

That Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior receive the Municipal Grant request from the Arnprior Minor Hockey Association; and

Whereas the Arnprior Minor Hockey Association is an eligible not-for-profit organization under the Municipal Grants Policy who support the participation of local youth in the sport of hockey by providing a fun and safe environment for all participants;

Therefore Be It Resolved That Council approve the request for waiving the Nick Smith Centre Community Hall rental fees (value of approximately \$450.00 plus HST) for the AMHA Trivia Night and Dance Fundraiser on January 27th, 2024; and

Further That the Arnprior Minor Hockey Association be advised that it is mandatory to carry sufficient liability insurance and have the Town of Arnprior added as an additional insured for the event.

Resolution Carried

16. Announcements

Mayor McGee noted the following announcements:

- Service Ontario is currently working on having a full-service permanent location in the near future and asked residents to stay tuned for future updates.
- Mayor McGee received a letter from John Okum, Director of Protective Services and Fire Chief in North Grenville, to congratulate the Deputy Fire Chief, Cory Nicholas on receiving his certification as a Level 3 Certified Municipal Manager from the Ontario Municipal Manager's Institute. Council extended a warm congratulations to Cory for his accomplishments.

Councillor Toner announced the following:

- December 2nd is the Annual Penny Stashick Ugly Sweater Walk in support of Arnprior Regional Health. The walk will take place at Robert Simpson Park in memory of Penny.

17. Media Questions

None

18. Closed Session

None

19. Confirmatory By-Law

Resolution Number 399-23

Moved by Dan Lynch

Seconded by Tom Burnette

That By-law No. 7445-23 being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Meeting of Council held on November 27th, 2023 be and it is hereby enacted and passed.

Resolution Carried

20. Adjournment

Resolution Number 400-23

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Billy Denault

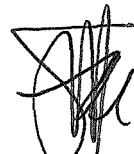
That this meeting of Council be adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Resolution Carried

Signatures



Lynn Cloutier, Deputy Mayor



Shelley Mackenzie, Town Clerk