



ARNPRIOR

**Minutes of Council Meeting  
January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 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  
Kaila Zamojski, Deputy Clerk  
Graeme Ivory, Director of Recreation  
Oliver Jacob, Client Services Coordinator  
John Steckly, GM Operations  
Patrick Foley, Engineering Officer  
Rick Desarmia, Fire Chief

**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 013-24**

Moved by Lynn Cloutier  
Seconded by Billy Denault

**Be It Resolved That** the agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council dated Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 be adopted as amended to include a new By-law 7457-24 (ICIP Transfer Payment Amending Agreement), as well as an amended Confirmatory By-law number to be 7458-24.

Resolution Carried

**5. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest**

Councillor Chris Couper declared the following pecuniary interest:

“I Councillor Chris Couper declare a pecuniary interest in item 15(a)(i) on the January 29, 2024 Council Agenda. I am making this declaration because I live in close proximity to the subject lands.”

**6. Question Period**

None

**7. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)**

**Resolution Number 014-24**

Moved by Chris Couper

Seconded by Dan Lynch

**That** the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council listed under Item 7 (a) on the Agenda be adopted (Regular Meeting of Council – January 8, 2024).

Resolution Carried

**8. Awards/Delegations/Presentations**

**a) Presentations**

**i) Retirement – Steven Staye, Volunteer Fire Fighter**

Mayor McGee thanked Steve for his service of 25 years as a member of the Arnprior Fire Department. Council presented Steven with a token of appreciation and wished him and his family a very bright and fulfilling future in the years ahead.

**9. Public Meetings**

None

**10. Matter Tabled/ Deferred/ Unfinished Business**

None

**11. Notice of Motions**

Councillor Couper brought forward a notice of motion at the Regular Meeting of Council on January 8, 2024. The following motion is being put forward for Council consideration:

**Resolution Number 015-24**

Moved by Chris Couper

Seconded by Tom Burnette

**Whereas** the month of December sees additional demand for overnight parking due to visitors and holiday parties; and

**Whereas** there is currently no overnight municipal parking available, on roads or in municipal lots, in the Town of Arnprior, between the hours of 2am -7am, from December 1<sup>st</sup>– March 31<sup>st</sup> each year; and

**Whereas** there are sometimes extended periods of time between snowfall events and winter clean up events; and

**Whereas** the Town of Arnprior has a limited number of bylaw services hours; and

**Whereas** the Town of Arnprior supports strategies to stop impaired driving; and

**Whereas** on-call transportation services in Arnprior are often limited or unavailable; and

**Whereas** the Town of Carleton Place, City of Ottawa and City of Kingston do have provisions to allow for overnight winter parking when there is no weather event and/or make accommodations for overnight parking in prescribed areas.

**Therefore, be it resolved that** Town of Arnprior staff be directed to undertake a review of the Traffic and Parking By-Law No. 6357-14, section 14, and report back to Council, prior to the next winter season, with possible modifications and/or accommodations for conditional overnight winter parking in the Town of Arnprior.

Resolution Carried

Discussion ensued among Members of Council, beginning with Councillor Couper, providing an overview of his reasons for bringing this motion forward. The CAO noted staff will bring forward a report, for Council consideration, prior to the next winter season.

## 12. Staff Reports

### a) Draft 2024 User Fees and Charges By-law – General Manager of Client Services/Treasurer

#### Resolution Number 016-24

Moved by Dan Lynch

Seconded by Chris Couper

**That** Council pass a by-law at the February 12, 2024 Council meeting to implement the proposed changes to the User Fees and Charges By-law.

Resolution Carried

### b) Electrical Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations – Engineering Officer

#### Resolution Number 017-24

Moved by Chris Couper

Seconded by Lynn Grinstead

**That** Council direct Staff to apply to the EV ChargeON Program for a single level 3 charging unit at the municipal parking lot located at 60 Madawaska Street.

**That** Council authorize \$40,000 in funding from the Capital Expenditure Reserve Fund (CERF) be allocated in the 2024 Capital Budget.

Resolution Lost

Councillor Couper put forward the following motion, where no seconder was received:

Moved by Chris Couper

**That** Council move forward with Option #2 noted in the staff report, whereas Council direct staff to apply for the grant to establish four (4) level two (2) chargers, with a total Town Capital Cost being \$31,129.

Further discussion ensued among Members of Council, resulting in the following motion:

**Resolution 018-24**

Moved by Dan Lynch

Seconded by Billy Denault

**That** Council direct staff to pause on this EV Charger initiative and grant funding opportunity until the market becomes more predictable with the intent to reinvestigate within 2 years time.

Resolution Carried

**c) Revised 2024 Calendar of Meetings – Client Services Coordinator**

**Resolution Number 019-24**

Moved by Chris Toner

Seconded by Lynn Cloutier

**That** Council approve the attached Revised 2024 Calendar of Meetings.

Resolution Carried

**d) Proclamation for Black History Month (February 2024)**

**Resolution Number 020-24**

Moved by Billy Denault

Seconded by Chris Toner

**That** Council proclaim February 2024 as Black History Month in the Town of Arnprior.

Resolution Carried

**e) Proclamation for Wear Red Canada Day (February 13, 2024)**

**Resolution Number 021-24**

Moved by Dan Lynch

Seconded by Chris Couper

**That** Council proclaim February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 as Wear Red Canada Day in the Town of Arnprior.

Resolution Carried

## 13. Council Committee Reports and Minutes

### a) Mayor's Report

Mayor McGee reported the following:

- Rural Ontario Municipal Association Conference Highlights
  - Met with Dave Smith, MPP and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport and were joined by MPP John Yakabuski for this meeting. The meeting discussed the importance of increasing provincial sustainable funding to support recreation and culture programming, particularly for small and rural municipalities.
  - Met with Minister Jones, Minister of Health and was joined by Mayor Mackenzie of McNab/Braeside and City of Ottawa Councillor Kelly, as all communities are primarily served by the Arnprior Hospital. Shared the concerns of residents who received letters after accessing alternative healthcare services, such as VTAC, and were guided to use Emergency by their Family Doctors, to avoid having VTAC services charged back to their family doctor, which of course impacts our already struggling emergency department. VTAC is a valued service, and we want continue to be able to provide this service to members of the community. Prior to this delegation Mayor McGee had met with Chief Paramedic Mike Nolan, to gain a full understanding of the funding model for VTAC.
  - Had the opportunity to also catch up with many other municipalities and have discussions on many similar issues that we are all facing, including but not limited to: wastewater, P3s, swimming pools, Council-Staff Relations.
  - Tradeshow floor provided many vendors with different solutions for municipalities. This included Uber Reps, who are looking at changing their model of service, which may allow for some enhanced support for places like Arnprior, when our local taxis are out of service or at capacity.
- Breakfast meeting with the CEO of Arnprior Regional Health
  - Provided the CEO with a debriefing of the meeting with the Minister of Health as well as discuss some of initiatives she is hoping to move forward with as she prepares for her retirement.
- Working recently with Members of the Men's Shed who are seeking grant funding, from outside sources, to support their next phase.

## b) County Councillor's Report

County Councillor Lynch provided the following report on the January 29, 2024 County Council Meeting:

- Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) received approval for an amendment to their site licence for a Near Surface Disposal Facility.
- Town of Arnprior Cell Tower Information:
  - The Cell Tower in the Town of Arnprior, located on the land in front of the OPP\Fire Hall, may be sold in the near future. The County of Renfrew will be making a decision on the sale of this property on January 31, 2024.
- Land Use Agreement – Town of Arnprior Information:
  - A Land Use Agreement for encroachment on the Algonquin Trail lands by the Town of Arnprior for the purposes of a new below grade watermain crossing was discussed, as well as the costs associated with this encroachment being waived. The County decision on this item will take place on January 31, 2024.
- The 2024 Taste of the Valley series are scheduled for:
  - August 10 – Barry's Bay Railway Station
  - September 7 – Killaloe Municipal Parking
  - September 28 – Petawawa Civic Centre
  - October 12 – Cobden Fairgrounds
  - December Holiday Edition – date and location to be confirmed
- The County of Renfrew has applied for a grant through the EV ChargeON Program to have a charging station installed at the County of Renfrew Administration Building and Renfrew County Place.
- The production of the 2024 Ottawa Valley Road and Cycling maps is now complete. The 2024 road map will be distributed to all households in Renfrew County via Canada Post.
- The Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade's Associate Minister of Small Business, Nina Tangri, has confirmed the extension of the Enterprise Renfrew County's Starter Company Plus financing. Of note the 2023 Fall Session concluded with nine dedicated entrepreneurs earning a total of \$32,000 in grant funding.
- County Budget:
  - County of Renfrew Non-Union employee's will see a Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) adjustment of 4.7% raise in pay.
    - Of note my motion to waive the County Councillor (Non Union) COLA of 4.7% raise was defeated.
  - The resolution to Approve the 2024 Budget Levy set at 5.47% was carried.
- 2024 Rural Ontario Municipal Association Conference

- The County had delegations with:
  - Municipal Modernization Fund – Rob Flack
  - Community Well Being Program – Robin Martin
  - Ministry of Transportation – Vijay Thanigasalam
  - Ministry of Tourism – Laura Smith
  - Solicitor General – Michael Kerzner
  - Ottawa Cross Border Billing – Sylvia Jones

## 14. Correspondence & Petitions

### a) Correspondence Package – I-24-JAN-02

#### Resolution Number 022-24

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Billy Denault

**That** the Correspondence Package Number I-24-JAN-02 be received as information and filed accordingly.

Resolution Carried

County Councillor Lynch noted the following items:

- Page 9 - The Ontario government has created a new Investigations Unit to ensure every long-term care resident lives with dignity and experiences the quality of care they deserve. Supported by an investment of \$72.3 million, the new 10- person unit will be an effective deterrent and tool when escalated enforcement is needed to improve compliance and ensure resident safety.
  - For interest, it was noted at the ROMA Conference that this money could be better used in Long Term Care budgets.
- Page 17 - Minister Thompson announced the opening of the 2024/2025 Rural Economic Development (RED) Program applications. Municipalities, Indigenous communities and not-for-profit groups have until February 21, 2024 to apply for cost-share funding for projects that will drive economic growth.
  - In response to County Councillor Lynch, the CAO noted we are investigating projects that may be eligible for this funding opportunity.
- Page 17 - The Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund is an application-based program that will provide \$200 million over three years for the repair, rehabilitation and expansion of core water infrastructure to protect communities and enable new housing development. Ontario's Housing Enabling Water Systems Fund allows municipalities to nominate water infrastructure projects for funding (up to \$35 million). Applications and information webinars start early 2024. For details, e-mail [HEWS@ontario.ca](mailto:HEWS@ontario.ca).
  - In response to County Councillor Lynch, the General Manager of Client Services/Treasurer noted that staff have begun registering for these webinars and are investigating eligible projects for this funding opportunity.

- Page 25 - The province is conducting a survey to shape the development of a modular housing strategy. The survey on opportunities for modular and innovative home construction closes Feb 4, 2024. Of note, local business Metaligna was informed of this survey.

**b) Correspondence Package – A-24-JAN-02**

**Resolution Number 023-24**

Moved by Chris Couper

Seconded by Lynn Cloutier

**That** the Correspondence Package Number A-24-JAN-02 be received, and the recommendations outlined be brought forward for council consideration.

Resolution Carried

**15. By-laws & Resolutions**

**a) By-Laws**

Mayor McGee noted that we will look at each by-law separately, due to the declaration of pecuniary interest.

Councillor Chris Couper stepped away from the Council table at 7:54 pm.

**Resolution Number 024-24**

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Dan Lynch

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

- i) By-Law Number 7456-24 – Part Lot Control (Marshall’s Bay Meadows)

Resolution Carried

Councillor Couper resumed his seat at the Council table at 7:55 pm.

**Resolution Number 025-24**

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Billy Denault

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

- ii) By-Law Number 7457-24 – Transfer Payment Amending Agreement (ICIP - Legion and Caruso Park)

Resolution Carried



**b) Resolutions**

**Municipal Grants Application – Arnprior- Braeside- McNab Seniors At Home Program Inc. (Annual Butterfly Release)**

**Resolution Number 026-24**

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Tom Burnette

**That** Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior receive the Municipal Grant request from Arnprior-Braeside-McNab Seniors At Home Program Inc.; and

**Whereas** Arnprior-Braeside-McNab Seniors At Home Program Inc. is an eligible organization under the Municipal Grants Policy and provides supports services to local seniors and their families;

**Therefore Be It Resolved That** Council approve the request for waiving the Robert Simpson Park Gazebo rental fees (value of approximately \$280.50 plus HST) for the Annual Memorial Butterfly Release to be held on August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024; and

**Further That** Arnprior-Braeside-McNab Seniors At Home Program Inc 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 Grants Application – Grace St. Andrew’s United Church (2024 Christmas Craft Market)**

**Resolution Number 027-24**

Moved by Billy Denault

Seconded by Chris Toner

**That** Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior receive the Municipal Grant request from the Grace St. Andrew’s United Church; and

**Whereas** the Grace St. Andrew’s United Church is an eligible organization under the Municipal Grants Policy; and

**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 Grace St. Andrew’s United Church to be held in late January 2024; and

**Further That** the Grace St. Andrew’s United Church 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

County Councillor Dan Lynch noted the following items:

- There is funding that exists for Veterans, their Widow or Widower, and the fund is called the Soldiers Aid Commission. For more information on this funding, contact the Royal Canadian Legion.
- Council wish two of our Special Olympians, Hannah Rochon (Snowshoeing) and Robert Reid (5 Pin Bowling) the best of luck, as they are going to Calgary, Alberta to compete in the 2024 Special Olympics Canada Winter Games. There is a fundraising basketball tournament on the weekend of February 17<sup>th</sup> to support this cause.

Councillor Billy Denault noted the following item:

- An overview of his attendance at the Rural Ontario Municipal Association Conference noting:
  - To add to the Mayor's comments earlier this evening - The Councillors present at the Conference made a delegation to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Sport highlighting projects like the Nick Smith Centre rink redesign project, the Cultural Night Market, and the Waterfront Masterplan as well as the importance of sustainable funding in completing these projects.
  - I attended sessions on housing, economic development, and energy projects. Along with various speakers and panels ranging from municipal finance, healthcare and more.
  - I will highlight the AMO Social and Economic Prosperity Review Report which outlined the creep of provincial responsibility into the municipal realm and its impact on taxpayers.
  - All in all, it was a great opportunity to discuss with other municipal partners both near and far about the issues and challenges facing many small towns, as well as the solutions that innovative communities are undergoing. As always, I will write a report for members of council to share as much information as I can.

Councillor Chris Couper noted the following items:

- An overview of his attendance at the Rural Ontario Municipal Association Conference:
  - There were many excellent speakers and presentations at this Conference, as noted by my fellow Members of Council this evening.
  - I would like congratulate Mike Nolan, of Renfrew County for being a great ambassador for Renfrew County, when discussing a lot of the challenges that small and rural municipalities are seeing with health care.

- Residents may be receiving phone calls from what seems to be from the Ontario Energy Board, in relation to them coming into your home to do a review in order to receive rebates. I encourage residents to exercise caution if they receive any phone calls like this, as the Ontario Energy Board has put out a statement, saying that these calls are rebate scams for the most part. Most times people will find themselves in a situation where there is lean that is put on your home, and you don't discover this until you try to sell the home. Often the equipment being provided in these situations is being charged well above market value. Please be cautious in receiving phone calls where you did not initiate the call coming through.

The CAO noted that the Town is still looking for citizen members to put their names forward to sit on our newly established Advisory Committees. We encourage people to put their names forward if they have an interest, and haven't already done so. The Application Form can be found on the Town's website.

## 17. Media Questions

None

## 18. Closed Session

### **Resolution Number 028-24 (8:01 pm)**

Moved by Tom Burnette

Seconded by Chris Couper

**That** Council move into Closed Session regarding one (1) matter, pursuant to Section 239 (2) (b) to discuss a personal matter about an identifiable individual, including Municipal or Local Board Employees (Striking Committee – Members of Council).

Resolution Carried

### **Resolution Number 029-24 (8:19 pm)**

Moved by Billy Denault

Seconded by Lynn Cloutier

**That** Council resume to the Regular Meeting of Council.

Resolution Carried

### **Resolution Number 030-24**

Moved by Dan Lynch

Seconded by Lynn Cloutier

**That** Council direct staff to prepare an appointment by-law(s) appointing Members of Council to the Advisory Committees, as directed in Closed Session.

Resolution Carried

**19. Confirmatory By-Law**

**Resolution Number 031-24**

Moved by Tom Burnette  
Seconded by Dan Lynch

That By-law No. 7458-24 being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Meeting of Council held on January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 be and it is hereby enacted and passed.

Resolution Carried

**20. Adjournment**

**Resolution Number 032-24**

Moved by Billy Denault  
Seconded by Lynn Cloutier

That this meeting of Council be adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Resolution Carried

**Signatures**



Lisa McGee, Mayor



Kaila Zamojski, Deputy Clerk