

Minutes of Council Meeting February 12, 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

Council Members Present (Electronic):

Council Members Absent:

Town Staff Present:

Robin Paquette, CAO Kaila Zamojski, Town Clerk Jennifer Morawiec, General Manager, Client Services / Treasurer John Steckly, GM, Operations Scott Matthews, Waterworks Supervisor Lucas Power, Programs and Events Coordinator Graeme Ivory, Recreation Director Cory Nicholas, Deputy Fire Chief Rick Desarmia, Fire Chief Oliver Jacob, Client Services Coordinator

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 043-24 Moved by Dan Lynch Seconded by Tom Burnette **Be It Resolved That** the amended agenda, for the Regular Meeting of Council dated Monday, February 12, 2024 be adopted.

Resolution Carried

5. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest None

6. Question Period None

7. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

Resolution Number 044-24 Moved by Billy Denault Seconded by Lynn Cloutier **That** the minutes of the Regular Meeting and Special Meetings of Council listed under Item 7 (a) and (b) on the Agenda be adopted (Regular Meeting of Council – January 29, 2024; Special Meeting of Council – February 5, 2024).

Resolution Carried

8. Awards/Delegations/Presentationsa) FamFest - Program and Events Coordinator

The Program and Events Coordinator provided a presentation on the fourth annual FamFest event, providing barrier free recreation through community collaboration and community sponsorship, taking place on Family Day, February 19th, 2024.

9. Public Meetings

None

10. Matter Tabled/ Deferred/ Unfinished Business None

11. Notice of Motions

12. Staff Reports

a) WFP Filter #2 Media and Underdrain Replacement – General Manager, Operations Resolution Number 045-24

Moved by Lynn Cloutier Seconded by Billy Denault **That** Council authorize a by-law to award a project to Anthratech Western Inc. (AWI) for refurbishment of Filter #2 at the Water Filtration Plant (WFP), including supply and installation of new Phoenix Underdrain Laterals, feedboxes and optimized filter media in the amount of \$223,970.00 (plus applicable taxes).

Further that Council authorize the CAO to execute the agreements, and related documents with AWI to implement the defined scope of work.

Resolution Carried

b) Elevator Rescue – Fire Department Response – Deputy Fire Chief

Resolution Number 046-24 Moved by Tom Burnette Seconded by Dan Lynch **That** Council adopt a by-law to amend "Appendix C" of By-Law No. 7102-20 to include "Elevator Rescue" at the "Operations Level" in the list of approved Fire Department core services.

 c) Arnprior Municipal Marina – Capacity and Pier 6 Usage Resolution Number 047-24 Moved by Lynn Cloutier Seconded by Chris Toner That Council direct staff to proceed with returning Pier 6 to regular use with rentable slips in the Municipal Marina.

Resolution Amended

Resolution Number 048-24 Moved by Chris Couper Seconded by Lynn Cloutier That Council Amend Resolution 047-24 to include a second paragraph as follows:

"And Further That Council direct staff to proceed with having four (4) seasonal slips for rent and four (4) transient marina slips available on Pier 6, during operating hours of the Marina."

Resolution Carried

Resolution Number 049-24 Moved by Lynn Grinstead Seconded by Chris Couper **That** Council direct staff to proceed with returning Pier 6 to regular use as rentable slips in the Municipal Marina.

And Further That Council direct staff to proceed with having four (4) seasonal slips for rent and four (4) transient marina slips available on Pier 6, during operating hours of the Marina."

Resolution Carried as Amended

d) Zoning By-law Amendment – Pegasus Village Creek Block 139 - CAO

Resolution Number 050-24 Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Chris Toner

That Council receives an application for an amendment to Zoning By-law 6875-18 for the Pegasus Village Creek Block 139 lands from R4(H1) to R3 (H1) with an exception to recognize the lands as one block for zoning purposes and alternative development standards as described in Document 5.

That pursuant to Section 34(12) of the Planning Act, Council holds a public meeting on Monday, March 11th, 2024, regarding the proposed amendment, to allow for public review and comment.

 e) Proclamation – Rare Disease Day (February 28, 2024) Resolution Number 051-24 Moved by Dan Lynch Seconded by Chris Couper That Council proclaim February 28, 2024 as Rare Disease Day in the Town of Arnprior.

Whereas Rare Disease Day was established in 2008 and is coordinated by EURORDIS and 65+ national alliance patient organization partners; and

Whereas Rare Disease Day is the globally coordinated movement on rare diseases, working towards equity in social opportunity, healthcare, and access to diagnosis and therapies for people living with a rare disease; and

Whereas Rare Disease Day has played a critical part in building an international rare disease community that is multi-disease, global, and diverse, but united in purpose; and

Whereas there are more than 6,000 known rare diseases, including over 200 rare cancer types; and

Whereas up to 5.9% of the population has a rare disease with 79% of these diseases being classified as genetic disorders; and

Whereas Rare Disease Day takes place on the 28th of February each year and is recognized globally; and

Whereas the colours of Rare Disease Day are blue, green, pink, and purple. Various monuments around the world are lit up in these colours, on the last day of February each year, to show support for individuals living with rare diseases.

Now Therefore I, Lisa McGee, Mayor of the Town of Arnprior, do hereby proclaim February 28, 2024 as Rare Disease Day in the Town of Arnprior and note that the Arnprior and District Museum's clock tower will be lit up with the colours of blue, green, pink and purple to show our support.

Resolution Carried

13. Committee Reports and Minutes

- a) Mayor's Report
 - I had a meeting with staff and members of First Baptist Church to discuss their desire to create partnerships in the community and eventually produce a development that will include some affordable housing in Arnprior. These are preliminary discussions, however we will continue to be as helpful and supportive of their project as we can be.
 - I have had ongoing dialogue with staff as well as representatives of a developer, regarding the development of lands on Daniel Street near the Canadian Tire in Arnprior. We will be seeing a report back to Council regarding this in the near future.
 - MPP John Yakabuski called me to follow-up Arnprior Council's Delegation to ROMA, noting he is committed to supporting our needs.
 - I have had several discussions with a company that wants to set up their business at the former LCBO at the corner of Daniel and William Street. Staff will be bringing a report forward to Council in the near future.

b) County Councillor's Report

County Councillor Lynch reported the following from Renfrew County Council:

- The County had two delegations at our last meeting. They included:
 - Warden Jane Toller, MRC Pontiac, who presented a proposal to build a 400,000-ton energy-from waste facility in the MRC Pontiac, which could receive municipal waste from the City of Ottawa, County of Renfrew, City of Pembroke and other regions in the Outaouais. An energy-from-waste facility works by taking waste that cannot be recycled or composted and converting its potential energy into any type of usable energy, with the three main forms being heat, electricity and transportation fuels. It is proposed the MRC Pontiac facility could produce 45 megawatts of electricity and steam heat for district heating.
 - Representatives from Ainsworth, the County's Climate Action consultant, provided an overview of the process of developing the County of Renfrew's Climate Change Action Plan, which will be completed by the consultants in July 2024.
 - Note: This presentation was forwarded to our Environmental Engineering Officer for her information.
- Councillor Neil Nicholson, Mayor of Whitewater, presented a motion on the unaffordability of rural and small urban water and wastewater systems. The motion received unanimous support from members of County Council.
- County staff are working towards creating an all-encompassing by-law in relation to governing activities in County of Renfrew-owned forests, as well as on trails including the Algonquin Trail and K & P Recreational Trail. To assist with this process, staff is requesting input on the trails through a Zencity public engagement page, which is open until February 29, 2024 for participation.
- The first phase of the future Eganville Paramedic Base was completed in December 2023. The next phase, which includes the interior design and office renovation fit-up for the first and second level, has been contracted to TS General Contracting, Pembroke, Ont.
- c) Committee Reports and Minutes None

14. Correspondence & Petitions

a) Correspondence Package – I-24-Feb-03

Resolution Number 052-24 Moved by Lynn Cloutier Seconded by Billy Denault **That** the Correspondence Package Number I-24-Feb-03 be received as information and filed accordingly.

Resolution Carried

County Councillor Lynch noted the following items:

 Page 5 – The Ontario government is investing an additional \$44.6 million per year to connect children and youth to mental health services across the province so they have access to the care they need, when they need it. As well, they have 2,200 clinical training spots at Children's Mental Health Ontario (CMHO) (HQ in Toronto) to train clinicians who treat to children and youth with complex service needs.

- Page 12 The Ontario government, in partnership with Ontario Health, has approved the West Parry Sound Ontario Health Team, bringing the total number of Health teams to 58. Of note there is an initial group of 12 Ontario Health Teams (not identified) that have been chosen to accelerate their work and deliver home care in their local communities starting in 2025.
- Page 18 Ontario is making it easier and more convenient to access government services at six Staples stores. There are no Staples Stores in Ottawa offering government services at this time. However, a central service hub with Employment Ontario will be located in Eganville.
- Page 21 The Ontario government is investing more than \$100 million in two programs that will train more than 32,000 new personal support workers (PSWs) and nurses in long-term care, over the next three years.
- Page 48 Not a statistic we want to hear, but the number of opioid related deaths in Arnprior and Area (including McNab/Braeside) from 2018 to 2023 was 6 with the County recording at total of 62.
- Page 58 The Intact Centre for Climate Adaptation has released resources for municipalities on basement flooding, extreme heat and wildfire protection, to be shared through municipal websites and tax notices.
 - In response to County Councillor Lynch the CAO noted that staff have not initiated dissemination of this information to the public at this time. However, we will share this information with the Environment Advisory Committee and consider including in our publications that are available to the public.
- Page 60 The AMO Survey on Workforces Development Matters saw over 2,400 municipal employees responding. Some of the highlights included:
 - Municipalities of our size contributed to 16% of survey results;
 - o 60% of municipal employees reside in their community;
 - On the question as to "why pick municipal government for employment?" -52% indicated pension and benefits;
 - On the question of "overall job satisfaction" 25% were highly satisfied; with 35% somewhat satisfied;
 - And lastly, when asked if they would be working in their municipality in two years from now - the answer was 66% yes.
- Page 60 Free webinars dealing with Housing Enabling Water Systems Fund were offered to municipalities.
 - In response to County Councillor Lynch the CAO noted that staff have attended and are continuing to take advantage of these webinars.
- Page 61 July 1, 2024 is the Energy Reporting deadline, requiring 2 years of consumption data and a new 5-year Conservation Plan. LAS is offering services to meet our goals.
 - In response to County Councillor Lynch the CAO noted the Operations staff is working on this reporting to ensure compliance with the deadline.

Councillor Billy Denault noted the following item:

- Page 60 Rural Economic Development Strategy– The province is conducting a survey to inform the creation of a Rural Economic Development Strategy. This was showcased at the ROMA conference by Lisa Thompson, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.
 - In response to Councillor Denault the CAO noted that staff will be providing comment on this survey.

Councillor Chris Couper noted the following item:

• Page 5 – Expansion of One Stop Talk – the Province of Ontario is expanding virtual mental health services for children. For information, over 1,264 children and youth to date have been assisted through this virtual mental health counselling service. Visit onestoptalk.ca to access these services and for more information.

b) Correspondence Package A-24-Feb-03

Resolution Number 053-24 Moved by Billy Denault Seconded by Lynn Cloutier **That** the Correspondence Package Number. A-24-Feb-03 be received, and that the recommendations outlined be brought forward for Council's consideration.

Resolution Carried

15. By-laws & Resolutions

a) By-laws

Resolution Number 054-24 Moved by Dan Lynch Seconded by Tom Burnette That the following by-law be and is hereby enacted and passed:

• By-law Number 7461-24 – Adopt 2024 Operating and Capital Budgets

At the request of Councillor Denault, a recorded vote was taken:

Councillor Tom Burnette Y	es
Councillor Lynn Cloutier N	0
Councillor Chris Couper Y	es
Councillor Billy Denault Y	es
County Councillor Dan Lynch Y	es
Councillor Chris Toner Y	es
Mayor Lisa McGee Y	es

Resolution Carried

Resolution Number 055-24 Moved by Billy Denault

Seconded by Chris Toner

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

- By-law Number 7460-24 Appointment of Town Clerk
- By-law Number 7462-24 Adopt 2023 Works in Progress (WIP)
- By-law Number 7463-24 Adopt 2024 User Fees and Charges By-law
- By-law Number 7464-24 Amend By-law No. 7102-20 (Elevator Rescue)
- By-law Number 7465-24 Authorize WFP Filter Media and Underdrain Replacement

b) Resolutions i. 20 Year Long Range Capital Forecast (2025-2044) Resolution Number 056-24 Moved by Dan Lynch Seconded Lynn Cloutier Whereas the Long Range Capital Forecast is a span shot in tir

Whereas the Long Range Capital Forecast is a snap shot in time of known future budget pressures, relies on master plan and asset management data, is subject to various changing factors and is set on a twenty-year timeframe to align with the nature and longevity of municipal infrastructure; and

Whereas the 20 Year Long Range Capital Forecast (2025-2044) was presented to Council on January 8, 2024 and further discussed on February 5, 2024;

Therefore Be It Resolved That Council approve the 20 Year Long Range Capital Forecast (2025-2044) as a financial planning tool, to be used to inform the annual budget process, as well as, other financial planning processes and documents; and

Further That staff continue to update the Long Range Capital Forecast as part of the annual budget process.

Resolution Carried

ii. Seniors Active Living Centre (SALC) – In-Kind Contribution

Resolution Number 057-24

Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded Chris Toner

Whereas Council of the Town of Arnprior, at their budget meeting of December 6, 2023 received a request for \$12,500 of cash support and \$7,500 of in-kind support from the Seniors Active Living Centre (SALC); and

Whereas at the February 5, 2024 budget meeting, Council directed that cash support for the Seniors Active Living Centre be included in the 2024 budget at an amount of \$12,500;

Therefore Be It Resolved That the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior authorize \$7,500 of in-kind support for services including staff and facility use of the Nick Smith Centre.

Resolution Carried

iii. Arnprior Airport Grant

Resolution Number 058-24 Moved by Dan Lynch Seconded by Tom Burnette **Whereas** the Council of the Town of Arnprior at their budget meeting of December 6, 2023 received a request for a 2024 grant of \$60,000 from the Arnprior Airport; and

Whereas at the February 5, 2024 budget meeting, Council directed that the 2024 grant for the Arnprior Airport be included in the 2024 budget at an amount of \$55,000 with conditions;

Whereas the completion of audited annual financial statements helps ensure fiscal responsibility, appropriate internal controls and the identification any material misstatements;

Therefore Be It Resolved That the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior authorize the \$55,000 annual grant to the Arnprior Airport on following conditions:

- (a) 25% of the grant be issued by March 31, 2024 subject to completion of Audited Financial Statements for the 2022 fiscal year; and
- (b) For the remaining 75% of the grant funds, the Town of Arnprior reserves the right to issue in whole, in part or withhold, dependent upon the results of the 2022 and 2023 financial statements.

Resolution Carried

iv. Arnprior Public Library – Development Charges

Resolution Number 059-24 Moved by Chris Couper Seconded by Tom Burnette

Whereas Council of the Town of Arnprior, at their budget meeting of December 6, 2023 received a 2024 budget submission from the Arnprior Public Library which included a request for \$1,000 of Development Charges for Library materials; and

Whereas the Development Charges Background Study, By-Law 7368-23 includes a provision for Library materials.

Therefore Be It Resolved That the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior authorize a transfer \$1,000 from the Development Charges Reserve Fund to the Arnprior Public Library in 2024.

Resolution Carried

v. Resolution for Support – Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – AMO Social and Economic Prosperity Review

Resolution Number 060-24 Moved by Lynn Cloutier Seconded by Billy Denault

That the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior receive the correspondence from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Town of Orangeville and the Town of Hanover as information;

Whereas current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life;

Whereas nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

Whereas municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation, and unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

Whereas municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

Whereas inflation, rising interest rates and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity and property taxpayers, including people on fixed incomes and small businesses, can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

Whereas the Town of Arnprior has experienced significant reductions in provincial transfer programs including a combined \$254,399 reduction in the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) and Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) programs for 2024;

Whereas municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration;

Therefore Be It Resolved That Council call on the Province of Ontario to commit to undertake a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances, in partnership with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all municipalities across Ontario;

Further That a copy of this motion be sent to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Finance, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) for Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke.

Resolution Carried

vi. Resolution of Support – Township of Clearwater – Cemetery Transfer, Abandonment, Administration and Management Support Resolution Number 061-24

Moved by Lynn Cloutier Seconded by Chris Toner

That Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior receive the correspondence from the Township of Clearwater, Township of Wainfleet, Town of Plympton-Wyoming and Municipality of Calvin as information;

Whereas the *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act* ("Act") regulates the establishment, operation, maintenance and abandonment of cemetery sites across the Province of Ontario;

Whereas the Act currently requires the local municipality in which a cemetery is located to become the owner and operator of cemeteries that are abandoned within their municipal borders;

Whereas the Town of Arnprior currently operates two (2) cemeteries, being the Albert Street Cemetery and the Malloch Road Cemetery, and the Town is aware of one additional privately owned and operated cemetery located within Town's borders (Oblates Cemetery);

Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure for local communities and the reasonable costs for interment rights, care and maintenance funds, burials, monument installations and administration charges do not sufficiently support the full operations of municipal cemeteries;

Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance funds of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of cemetery operations;

Therefore Be It Resolved That Council requests that the Province of Ontario, through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO), consider the following recommendations to assist in the long-term management of cemeteries:

- Provide stable and sustainable annual funding to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of active and inactive cemeteries; and
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration;

Further That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery, the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO), and the Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) for Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke.

Resolution Carried

vii. Resolution of Support – Township of Asphodel-Norwood – Rising Insurance Costs for Municipalities

Resolution Number 062-24 Moved by Dan Lynch Seconded by Tom Burnette

That Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior receive the correspondence from the Township of Asphodel-Norwood as information;

Whereas the Ontario Municipalities are experiencing higher insurance rates at each renewal with limited access to insurance providers willing to quote on municipal insurance needs;

Whereas these annual increases are unsustainable and divert funds from critical municipal services as one of the most significant constraints in limiting yearly tax levy increases;

Whereas the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) have prepared several reports and papers on the Future of Municipal Liability and Risk Management over the years and AMO continues to advocate to the Government of Ontario for legislative changes that would help to reduce insurance costs for municipalities;

Therefore Be It Resolved That Council of the Town of Arnprior supports the work of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) to call on the Province of Ontario to take action to reduce insurance costs for municipalities;

Further That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Finance, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) for Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke.

viii. Municipal Grants Application – The Dementia Society of Ottawa and Renfrew County (Daisy Café Pilot Program)

Resolution Number 063-24 Moved by Chris Couper Seconded by Tom Burnette **That** Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior receive the Municipal Grant request from the Dementia Society of Ottawa and Renfrew County; and

Whereas the Dementia Society of Ottawa and Renfrew County is an eligible organization under the Municipal Grants Policy and provides supports services to persons with dementia and their families in our community;

Whereas the Daisy Café is a community-based pilot program that provides a social setting for persons living with dementia and allows their caregivers to have a respite period;

Therefore Be It Resolved That Council approve the request for waiving the Nick Smith Centre Community Hall rental fees (value of approximately \$800.00 plus HST) for the Daisy Café Pilot Program to be held weekly on Wednesday afternoons between April 10th, 2024 and May 29th, 2024; and

Further That the Dementia Society of Ottawa and Renfrew County be advised that it is mandatory to carry sufficient liability insurance and have the Town of Arnprior added as an additional insured for their events.

Resolution Carried

16. Announcements

County Councillor Lynch made the following announcement(s):

• Howard Robbins, the previous owner of Robbins Shell Gas Station and Robbins Confectionary in Braeside, passed away on Wednesday, February 7, 2024. Condolences to his family during this difficult time.

Councillor Chris Couper made the following announcement:

• The Obrien Theatre is re-opening this weekend after their recent renovations of new seats, new floors and the addition of cupholders.

17. Media Questions

None

18. Closed Session (8:07 p.m.)

Resolution Number 064-24 Moved by Lynn Cloutier

Seconded by Billy Denault

That Council move into closed session pursuant to Section 239 (2) (b) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* to discuss one personal matter about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees (Striking Committee – Community Members).

Resolution Number 065-24 (8:50 p.m.) Moved by Dan Lynch Seconded by Tom Burnette That Council resume to open session.

Resolution Carried

Resolution Number 066-24 Moved by Lynn Cloutier Seconded by Billy Denault **That** Council direct staff to facilitate the appointments of Community Members to the following Advisory Committees, as directed in Closed Session:

- Accessibility and Age Friendly Advisory Committee
- Culture and Diversity Advisory Committee
- Environmental Advisory Committee; and

Further That Council direct staff to bring forward an Advisory Committees appointment bylaw at the February 26th Regular Meeting of Council.

Resolution Carried

19. Confirmatory By-Law

Resolution Number 067-24 Moved by Tom Burnette Seconded by Chris Couper **That** By-law No. 7466-24 being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Meeting of Council held on February 12, 2024 and it is hereby enacted and passed.

Resolution Carried

20. Adjournment

Resolution Number 068-24 Moved by Lynn Cloutier Seconded by Billy Denault **That** this meeting of Council be adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Signatures

Lisa McGee, Mayor

amojski, Town Clerk