

**The Corporation of the Town of Spanish
Council Minutes
Regular Meeting of
Wednesday, August 7, 2024
7:00 p.m., Council Chambers**

Present:	Karen Von Pickartz	Mayor
	Sandra Trudel	Deputy Mayor
	Mary-Louise Zarichney	Councillor
	Debra Joncas	Councillor
	Ted Clague	Councillor
	Pam Lortie	CAO/Clerk-Treasurer
	Chad Fisher	Public Works Supervisor

Excused:

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

At this time I would like to acknowledge that we are in the traditional territory of the Anishnabek People of our neighbors and friends Sagamok Anishnawbek and Genaabaajing (Gii -naw-baa-jing/ Serpent River First Nation)

I would like to acknowledge the commitment and responsibility we each have in learning the true history, accepting the culture and improving our relationship with the First People of the lands we now share. I would like to acknowledge Our Mother Earth, who provides all we need.

Our neighbors often say "Mino Bimaadziwin" (minnow be-maude-zah-win) which means to "live the good life" it is meant to imply to walk thru life in a good kind way. As we begin our meeting I would like to offer those words to keep in the back of our minds and hearts as we work together for the betterment of our Community.

The Mayor asked for the disclosure of any pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof. None were disclosed.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

RESOLUTION #24-08-01

MOVED BY: Sandra Trudel

SECONDED BY: Debra Joncas

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda for the regular meeting of August 7, 2024 be adopted as presented.

Carried

DELEGATION:

Mr. Scott Gardiner, Gardiner Marine attended to update Council on the project to remove the duckweed growth from the lagoon.

- Skimmer and excavator rake has a very effective removal method
- Directed weeds and algae to shore where pump could reach
- “coon tail” growing below the surface, not growing in the bottom, but is making stagnant water allowing weeds to grow. The wind is not able to create turbulence which would stop the growth
- Public Works has been removing cat tails from the perimeter of the cells, allowing air flow (wind). Cell #1 (south) has more movement and less duckweed or wind can blow the duckweed to the shore allowing the main part of the cell to remain clear of weeds
- Lagoon has a good eco system
- Duck weed can double it’s mass in 24 hours
- Hasn’t worked on south cell yet – no heavy weeds are apparent
- Cell #2 is the current active cell
- Large volume of weeds in Cell #2 needs to be removed
- Could bring in a specialized piece of equipment that has bucket, rake, can also dredge, can cut weeds
- Estimated depth is 3 – 5’
- Either lift or bulldoze to shore
- Perforated bucket for picking up algae
- Silt bags would work be collecting the duck weeds and letting the water flow through
- Work boat would come from Florida – one month delivery
- Silt bags are readily available
- Delaying for a month or more would be an advantage
- Would maintain rates for remainder of this year
- Minimum commitment of 10 working days
- Mechanical versus chemical is better choice to ensure the ongoing health of the lagoon
- When would MOE get involved?
- CAO advised that OCWA was coming tomorrow to look at the problem
- Gardiner would like to see this through
- Other possible solutions – aeration? Non-toxic dye ?
- Public Works Supervisor and CAO will report back to Council after meeting with OCWA for Council to a make a decision and get back to Scott

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

RESOLUTION #24-08-02

MOVED BY: Debra Joncas

SECONDED BY: Ted Clague

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of July 3, 2024 and special meeting of July 10, 2024 be accepted as presented.

Carried

INFORMATION AND ACTION ITEMS:

RESOLUTION #24-08-03

MOVED BY: Debra Joncas

SECONDED BY: Ted Clague

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Whereas the 2024-25 Seniors Community Grant Program Application was not successful; Therefore be it resolved that the Recreation Advisory Committee be requested to consider funding pickleball equipment from the Recreation Program Activities budget, with the cost being estimated at \$650.00.

Carried

RESOLUTION #24-08-04

MOVED BY: Debra Joncas

SECONDED BY: Ted Clague

BE IT RESOLVED THAT a BBQ be held at the marina on Saturday, September 7th, 2024 from noon – 4 p.m. and be advertised to the boaters and the public; And further that an upset budget of \$500.00 be set.

Carried

RESOLUTION #24-08-05

MOVED BY: Ted Clague

SECONDED BY: Debra Joncas

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CAO's Report of August 7, 2024 be accepted as presented.

Carried

Councillor Zarichney – Crime Stoppers Presentation and Site Meeting at Lagoon

Councillor Trudel – Site Meeting at Lagoon

Council Clague – Crime Stopper Presentation

Mayor Von Pickartz – Crime Stoppers Presentation, Meeting w/ OPP

RESOLUTION #24-08-06

MOVED BY: Debra Joncas

SECONDED BY: Ted Clague

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council verbal reports be accepted as presented.

Carried

RESOLUTION #24-08-07

MOVED BY: Ted Clague

SECONDED BY: Debra Joncas

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the draft tender for cemetery fencing be approved for release by invitation, with a closing date of August 22, 2024.

Carried

RESOLUTION #24-08-08

MOVED BY: Debra Joncas

SECONDED BY: Ted Clague

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the draft tender for financial audit services by approved for release by invitation, with a closing date of September 6, 2024.

Carried

RESOLUTION #24-08-09

MOVED BY: Ted Clague

SECONDED BY: Debra Joncas

BE IT RESOLVED THAT correspondence received from Ontario Parks – Expanding Protected Areas Project be noted as being presented.

Carried

RESOLUTION #24-08-10

MOVED BY: Sandra Trudel

SECONDED BY: Mary-Louise Zarichney

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Fire Chief be authorized to proceed with the purchase of a used 1996 GMC Topkick Pumper Tanker from Battleshield Fire Trucks at a cost of \$30,000; And further that fund be directed from the Funded Fire Reserve.

Carried

RESOLUTION #24-08-11

MOVED BY: Sandra Trudel

SECONDED BY: Mary-Louise Zarichney

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Spanish supports, in principle, rethink Green's application to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) for the Local Leadership for Climate Adaptation: Capacity Development Partner Grant.

Carried

RESOLUTION #24-08-12

MOVED BY: Sandra Trudel

SECONDED BY: Mary-Louise Zarichney

BE IT RESOLVED THAT WHEREAS the state of health care is in crisis, with 2.3 million Ontarians lacking access to a family doctor, emergency room closures across the province, patients being de-rostered and 40% of family doctors considering retirement over the next five years; and

WHEREAS it has become increasingly challenging to attract and retain an adequate healthcare workforce throughout the health sector across Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Northern Ontario School of Medicine University says communities in Northern Ontario are short more than 350 physicians, including more than 200 family doctors; and half of the physicians working in Northern Ontario expected to retire in the next five years; and **WHEREAS** Ontario municipal governments play an integral role in the health care system through responsibilities in public health, long-term care, and paramedicine; and **WHEREAS** the percentage of family physicians practicing comprehensive family medicine has declined from 77 in 2008 to 65 percent in 2022; and **WHEREAS** per capita health-care spending in Ontario is the lowest of all provinces in Canada; and **WHEREAS** a robust workforce developed through a provincial, sector-wide health human resources strategy would significantly improve access to health services across the province; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE** Council of the Corporation of the Town of Spanish urge the Province of Ontario to recognize the physician shortage in the Town of Spanish and Ontario, to fund health care appropriately and ensure every Ontarian has access to physician care.

Carried

RESOLUTION #24-08-13

MOVED BY: Mary-Louise Zarichney

SECONDED BY: Sandra Trudel

BE IT RESOLVED THAT correspondence received from Spanish River Resort & Campground regarding building inspections of campgrounds be noted as being presented; And further that the owner be advised that his concerns about trailers up the Spanish River from his property are being addressed.

Carried

RESOLUTION #24-08-14

MOVED BY: Sandra Trudel

SECONDED BY: Mary-Louise Zarichney

BE IT RESOLVED THAT WHEREAS employers across Northern Ontario are experiencing a critical shortage of skilled workers, contributing to a shrinking labour market with an estimated 50,000 newcomers needed by 2041 to sustain current Northern Ontario population levels; and

WHEREAS, the labour shortage is causing significant economic hardship for Northern Ontario communities, including reduced productivity and business closures; and

WHEREAS population and migration trends to 2021 suggest that Northern Ontario needs 100,000 newcomers by 2041 to sustain current population; and

WHEREAS the success of the federal Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP) demonstrates the effectiveness of allocating nomination spots to address regional labour shortages in attracting newcomers to Northern Ontario; and

WHEREAS, the Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program has been expanded from 9,750 nominees in 2022 to a goal of 21,500 nominees in 2024;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Spanish urges the Government of Ontario to address the critical market shortage of skilled labour in Northern Ontario by allocating 3,000 Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program spots to support the region's economic growth and development.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THOSE copies of this resolution be forwarded to: the Ontario Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training & Skills Development; local Members of Provincial Parliament; the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities; and the Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce

Carried

CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION – NO ACTION REQUIRED

RESOLUTION #24-08-15

MOVED BY: Mary-Louise Zarichney

SECONDED BY: Sandra Trudel

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following correspondence be noted as being presented:

- a) Spanish Fire Department – June 2024 Report
- b) The Great Waterfront Trail – Media Release
- c) Shedden Community Development Corporation, Spanish Motocross Committee – Minutes of June 24, 2024 and July 23, 2024
- d) Algoma District Services Administration Board – Minutes of May 9, 2024
- e) Suraci & Olszewski – Audit Findings – July 3, 2024
- f) Ontario Provincial Police – collective agreements
- g) Ontario Association of Police Services Boards – Insurance for Detachment Boards

Carried

BY-LAWS

RESOLUTION #24-08-16

MOVED BY: Mary-Louise Zarichney

SECONDED BY: Sandra Trudel

BE IT RESOLVED THAT a by-law being a by-law to enter into an agreement with 408761 Ontario Limited o/a Leroy Construction be read a first time, be considered read a second and third time, be passed, signed by the Mayor and CAO, numbered by-law #2024-39 and be engrossed in the by-law book.

Carried

NEW BUSINESS

- **Request update from Elliot Lake Family**
- **Update on Tuck Shop**
- **New 9-1-1 Next Generation – check if fire dept needs anything**
- **Support for Crime Stoppers – bring back to Council**

QUESTION PERIOD

MOTION/NOTICES OF MOTIONS

CONFIRMATION BY-LAW

RESOLUTION #24-08-17

MOVED BY: Sandra Trudel

SECONDED BY: Mary-Louise Zarichney

BE IT RESOLVED THAT a by-law being a confirmation by-law regarding a meeting of council held on the 7th day of August, 2024 be read a first time, be considered read a second and third time, be passed, signed by the Mayor and CAO, numbered by-law #2024-40 and be engrossed in the by-law book.

Carried

ADJOURN

RESOLUTION #24-08-18

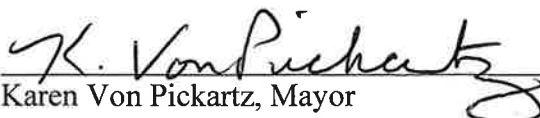
MOVED BY: Mary-Louise Zarichney

SECONDED BY: Sandra Trudel


BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do now adjourn to meet again on Wednesday, September 4, 2024 for a regular meeting of Council or at the call of the Mayor.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.



Karen Von Pickartz, Mayor



Pam Lortie, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer