

**The Corporation of the Town of Spanish
Council Minutes
Regular Meeting of
Wednesday, October 16, 2024
7:00 p.m., Council Chambers**

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

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:05 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 #24-10-26

MOVED BY: Sandra Trudel

SECONDED BY: Debra Joncas

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda for the regular meeting of October 16, 2024 be adopted as presented.

Carried

DELEGATION: None

TENDERS - None

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

RESOLUTION #24-10-27

MOVED BY: Debra Joncas

SECONDED BY: Sandra Trudel

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of October 2, 2024 be accepted as presented.

Carried

INFORMATION AND ACTION ITEMS:

RESOLUTION #24-10-28

MOVED BY: Sandra Trudel

SECONDED BY: Debra Joncas

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Public Works – October 2024 Work Plan be noted as being presented.

Carried

RESOLUTION #24-10-29

MOVED BY: Sandra Trudel

SECONDED BY: Debra Joncas

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the feedback on the proposed subdivision and rural cross sections as submitted by the Public Works Supervisor be accepted as presented and shared with the Planner.

Carried

RESOLUTION #24-10-30

MOVED BY: Ted Clague

SECONDED BY: Debra Joncas

BE IT RESOLVED THAT a Committee of the Whole meeting be held on Wednesday, October 30, 2024 to discuss the blue box transition.

Carried

RESOLUTION #24-10-31

MOVED BY: Debra Joncas

SECONDED BY: Ted Clague

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the revised quote to install a solar streetlight at the end of Colonization Road and relocate that existing light to Deagle Crescent park be accepted and the work scheduled prior to winter if possible.

Carried

RESOLUTION #24-10-32

MOVED BY: Ted Clague

SECONDED BY: Debra Joncas

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CAO Report of October 16, 2024 be noted as being presented.

Carried

Council Verbal Reports

Karen Von Pickartz- Spoke on the Presentation regarding blue box transition and the Joint Task Force meeting with Serpent River First Nation, attended Planning & Economic Development

Sandra Trudel- attended Planning & Economic Development

Mary-Louise Zarichney- n/a

Debra Joncas- Recreation – finalizing Hallowe'en

Ted Clague- Has missed 2 Library meetings, next one scheduled next month

RESOLUTION #24-10-33

MOVED BY: Debra Joncas

SECONDED BY: Ted Clague

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council's Verbal Reports be accepted as presented.

Carried

RESOLUTION #24-10-34

MOVED BY: Ted Clague

SECONDED BY: Debra Joncas

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Draft Request for Proposal – Municipal Tax Sale Services be approved as presented and released, with a closing date of November 18, 2024.

Carried

RESOLUTION #24-10-35

MOVED BY: Debra Joncas

SECONDED BY: Ted Clague

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the 2024/2025 group insurance renewal be accepted, with an 11.4% increase in premiums, or \$420.33 per month increase for the employer portion and \$51.42 per month increase for the employee portion;

And further that the group insurance package be enhanced by adding the Equitable Health Connector, which provides virtual access to primary healthcare practitioners, at the rate of \$3.40 per month, per employee.

Carried

RESOLUTION #24-10-36

MOVED BY: Ted Clague

SECONDED BY: Debra Joncas

BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Corporation of the Town of Spanish supports the SolvethCrisis.ca Campaign and requests that the Provincial and Federal Governments take Action to Address the Growing Mental Health, Addictions and Homelessness Crisis in Ontario Whereas there is a humanitarian crisis unfolding on the streets in our cities, large and small, urban and rural, across Ontario. The time for words is over, we need immediate action at all levels of government, starting with the Province of Ontario Whereas the homelessness, mental health and addictions crisis continues to grow with 3432 drug related deaths in Ontario in 2021 and over 1400 homeless encampments across Ontario communities in 2022; and Whereas the province has provided additional funding and supports, such as the recent investment of \$378 million for HART Hubs and approximately 375 beds with wraparound supports, it does not adequately address the growing crisis and the financial and social impact on municipalities and regions across the province; and Whereas municipalities and regions are stepping up and working with community partners to put in place community-specific solutions to address this crisis, but municipalities and regions lack the expertise, capacity, or resources to address these increasingly complex health care and housing issues alone; and Whereas this is primarily a health issue that falls under provincial jurisdiction and municipalities and regions should not be using the property tax base to fund these programs; and Whereas there is no provincial lead focused on this crisis leading to unanswered questions that span over a dozen ministries, and a lack of support to manage the increasing needs of those who are unhoused. Therefore, be it resolved that The Corporation of the Town of Spanish supports the SolvethCrisis.ca Campaign; And calls on provincial and federal governments to commit to immediate action to solve the Humanitarian Crisis that Ontario is facing as the numbers of unhoused individuals and those suffering with mental health & addictions grows exponentially; AND that the province officially makes Homelessness a Health Priority; AND appoints a responsible Minister and Ministry with the appropriate funding and powers as a single point of contact to address the full spectrum of housing needs as well as mental health, addictions and wrap around supports; AND that the provincial government strike a task force with broad sector representatives including municipalities, regions, healthcare, first responders, community services, the business community and the tourism industry to develop a Made in Ontario Action Plan; AND that this provincial task force reviews current programs developed by municipalities, regions and community partners that have proven successful in our communities, to ensure that solutions can be implemented quickly and effectively to tackle this crisis. AND that the federal government is included in these conversations. AND that both levels of government provide adequate, sufficient and sustainable funding to ensure that municipalities have the tools and resources to support individuals suffering with mental health and addictions, including unhoused people and those from vulnerable populations that may be disproportionately impacted;

And that this Council calls on the residents of The Corporation of the Town of Spanish to join us in appealing to the provincial and federal governments for support by visiting SolveTheCrisis.ca and showing your support;

AND further that a copy of this motion be sent to:

- The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada
- The Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada
- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
- The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health
- The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- The Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
- The Honourable Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions
- Local MPs
- Local MPPs and
- Ontario's Big City Mayors

Carried

RESOLUTION #24-10-37

MOVED BY: Debra Joncas

SECONDED BY: Ted Clague

BE IT RESOLVED THAT WHEREAS official statistics from the Government of Ontario confirm that rural roads are inherently more dangerous than other roads;

AND WHEREAS, despite only having 17% of the population, 55% of the road fatalities occur on rural roads;

AND WHEREAS, rural, northern, and remote municipalities are fiscally strained by maintaining extensive road networks on a smaller tax base;

AND WHEREAS, preventing crashes reduces the burden on Ontario's already strained rural strained health care system;

AND WHEREAS, roadway collisions and associated lawsuits are significant factors in runaway municipal insurance premiums. Preventing crashes can have a significant impact in improving municipal risk profiles;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Spanish requests that the Government of Ontario take action to implement the rural road safety program that Good Roads has committed to lead. It will allow Ontario's rural municipalities to make the critical investments needed to reduce the high number of people being killed and seriously injured on Ontario's rural roads; and

FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation, Hon. King Surma, Minister of Infrastructure, Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Lisa Thompson, Minister of Rural Affairs, Hon. Trevor Jones, Associate Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response, and Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health, and Good Roads.

Carried

CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION – NO ACTION REQUIRED

RESOLUTION #24-10-38

MOVED BY: Ted Clague

SECONDED BY: Debra Joncas

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

- a) Committee of Adjustment – Minutes of Public Hearing – October 1, 2024
- b) Spanish Health Centre Committee – Minutes of October 7, 2024
- c) Spanish Fire Department – Months of August and September, 2024
- d) Tulloch – Weekly Status Report No. 9
- e) OCWA – Monthly Report – September 2024 – Water and Wastewater
- f) Ontario Provincial Police – 2025 Annual Billing Statement
- g) 2025 Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) Formula Funding
- h) Jamie Batchelor, JL Richards – EP Zone
- i) Algoma Public Health, re: Northern MOH Letter on Funding Review

Carried

BY-LAWS –

NEW BUSINESS – Councillor Trudel read notes she had taken from Customer Appreciation Day at the Marina in September – there were requests from boaters for restaurant/bar, place to have glass of wine, dish soap that is water friendly, Gatorade, large bags of chips

QUESTION PERIOD

MOTION/NOTICES OF MOTIONS

CLOSED SESSION – N/A

RETURN TO OPEN COUNCIL – N/A

CONFIRMATION BY-LAW

RESOLUTION #24-10-39

MOVED BY: Debra Joncas

SECONDED BY: Ted Clague

BE IT RESOLVED THAT a by-law being a confirmation by-law regarding a meeting of council held on the 16th Day of October, 2024 be read a first time, be considered read a second and third time, be passed, signed by the Mayor and CAO/Clerk-Treasurer, numbered by-law #2024-47 and be engrossed in the by-law book.

Carried

ADJOURN

RESOLUTION #24-10-40

MOVED BY: Ted Clague

SECONDED BY: Debra Joncas

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do now adjourn to meet again on Wednesday, November 6, 2024 for a regular meeting of Council or at the call of the Mayor.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Karen Von Pickartz, Mayor

Pam Lortie, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer

DRAFT