



Town of Petawawa
Regular Meeting of Council Minutes
February 18, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Mayor Gary Serviss
Deputy Mayor Theresa Sabourin
Councillor Lisa Coutu
Councillor Karen Donovan (attended virtually)
Councillor Adam Driscoll
Councillor Murray Rutz

Regrets:

Councillor James Carmody

Also Present:

Scott Randolph, CAO
Colin Howard, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
Chris Mantha, Director of Public Works
Jodie Gervais, Human Resources Coordinator
Erika Doell, Coordinator, Ending Violence Alliance Renfrew County
Lori Norwood, Ending Violence Alliance Renfrew County
Roberta Della-Picca, Ending Violence Alliance Renfrew County
Kim Charlebois
William Coutu
Henry Coutu

Call to Order

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Land Acknowledgement

The land acknowledgement including a Truth and Reconciliation Commission Call to Action was read.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Mayor Serviss asked those in attendance to stand for a moment of silent reflection.

Approval of Agenda

Resolution #1

Moved by Theresa Sabourin

Seconded by Murray Rutz

That the agenda for the February 18, 2025 regular meeting of Council be adopted.

Carried

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

Approval of Minutes

1. **Council Meeting (February 3, 2025)**

Resolution #2

Moved by Lisa Coutu

Seconded by Adam Driscoll

That the minutes of the regular meeting of Council held February 3, 2025, be approved as printed and circulated.

Carried

Presentations

1. **Ending Violence Alliance (EVA) Renfrew County – Erika Doell, Coordinator**

Deputy Mayor Theresa Sabourin welcomed Erika Doell, Coordinator with EVA Renfrew County, along with Lori Norwood and Roberta Della-Picca. Ms. Doell thanked Council for the opportunity to present this evening. Ms. Doell proceeded to provide background on the history of EVA Renfrew County and the importance of the jury recommendations from the inquest into the murders of Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk and Nathalie Warmerdam. Ms. Doell informed Council of the work the EVA Renfrew County and Victim Services of Renfrew County have done to eliminate violence against women in Renfrew County. Deputy Mayor Theresa Sabourin recommended that the Town of Petawawa consider passing a resolution declaring intimate partner violence against women an epidemic.

Resolution #3

Moved by Theresa Sabourin

Seconded by Lisa Coutu

Be It Resolved That the Council for the Town of Petawawa recognizes the issues of violence against women in rural communities as serious to the health and wellness of local families; and

Be It Further Resolved That the Council for the Town of Petawawa recognizes the rural Renfrew County Inquest as important to all rural communities; and

Be It Further Resolved That the Council for the Town of Petawawa is committed to engaging with community partners to educate and support our residents about the seriousness and long-term danger of violence in our community; and

Be It Further Resolved That the Council for the Town of Petawawa declares IPV (intimate partner violence)/VAW (violence against women) an epidemic as per recommendation #1 of the Renfrew County jury recommendations.

Carried

Mayor Serviss on behalf of Council, thanked Erika Doell, Lori Norwood and Roberta Della-Picca for their informative presentation.

Council broke for a short recess at 7:07 p.m.

Council reconvened at 7:09 p.m.

By-laws

1. By-law 1723/25 – being a by-law to provide for an interim tax levy for the 2025 tax year and to provide for the payment of taxes

Resolution #4

Moved by Murray Rutz

Seconded by Adam Driscoll

That By-law 1723/25, being a by-law to provide for an interim tax levy for the 2025 tax year and to provide for the payment of taxes, be read a first and second time.

Carried

Resolution #5

Moved by Karen Donovan

Seconded by Theresa Sabourin

That By-law 1723/25, be read a third and final time and passed.

Carried

2. By-law 1724/25 – being a by-law to authorize the execution of a lease extension and amending agreement with His Majesty the King in Right of Ontario as represented by the Minister of Infrastructure for 1913 Petawawa Boulevard

Resolution #6

Moved by Lisa Coutu

Seconded by Adam Driscoll

That By-law 1724/25, being a by-law to authorize the execution of a lease extension and amending agreement with His Majesty the King in Right of Ontario as represented by the Minister of Infrastructure for 1913 Petawawa Boulevard, be read a first and second time.

Carried

Resolution #7

Moved by Karen Donovan

Seconded by Murray Rutz

That By-law 1724/25, be read a third and final time and passed.

Carried

3. By-law 1725/25 – being a by-law to amend By-law 1462/21, being a by-law to appoint an Integrity Commissioner

Resolution #8

Moved by Murray Rutz

Seconded by Adam Driscoll

That By-law 1725/25, being a by-law to amend By-law 1462/21, being a by-law to appoint an Integrity Commissioner, be read a first and second time.

Carried

Resolution #9

Moved by Theresa Sabourin

Seconded by Lisa Coutu

That By-law 1725/25, be read a third and final time and passed.

Carried

4. By-law 1726/25 – being a by-law to amend By-law 1701/24, being a by-law to adopt Schedule “D” Electronic Guidelines for Meetings of Council for the Corporation of the Town of Petawawa

Resolution #10

Moved by Murray Rutz

Seconded by Karen Donovan

That By-law 1726/25, being a by-law to amend By-law 1701/24, being a by-law to adopt Schedule “D” Electronic Guidelines for Meetings of Council for the Corporation of the Town of Petawawa, be read a first and second time.

Carried

Resolution #11

Moved by Adam Driscoll

Seconded by Lisa Coutu

That By-law 1726/25, be read a third and final time and passed.

Carried

Correspondence

1. Women’s Sexual Assault Centre Renfrew County – “We Stand with Survivors Campaign Request” – Kim Charlebois, Status Project Coordinator

Mayor Serviss provided an overview of the letter received from the Women’s Sexual Assault Centre Renfrew County to request a motion to allow the banner “We Stand with Survivor’s” to be displayed again this year for the month of May on the Civic Centre and that Petawawa businesses be encouraged to also support their campaign.

Resolution #12

Moved by Lisa Coutu

Seconded by Theresa Sabourin

That Council approves the We Stand with Survivors Awareness Campaign request and supports the advertising of the banner at the Civic Centre for the Sexual Assault Awareness month of May 2025.

Carried

2. Letter of Financial Assistance to Renfrew County 55+ Games – Denise Lavallee, Fundraising Chair

Mayor Serviss provided an overview of the letter received from the organizing committee for the Renfrew County 55+ Games.

Receive as information.

3. Request the Redistribution of Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding – Mayor Tom Mrakas, Town of Aurora

Mayor Serviss summarized a letter from Maor Tom Mrakas of Aurora, requesting support for a resolution advocating the redistribution of a portion of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to municipalities. This redistribution would provide a sustainable funding source for local infrastructure projects without imposing new

tax burdens on residents. It would enable better long-term planning, support local economic growth, and enhance community services.

Resolution #13

Moved by Murray Rutz

Seconded by Karen Donovan

Whereas municipalities face growing infrastructure needs, including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services, which are essential to community well-being and economic development; and

Whereas the current sources of municipal revenue, including property taxes and user fees, are insufficient to meet these increasing demands for infrastructure investment; and

Whereas the Province of Ontario currently collects the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions in municipalities across the province, generating significant revenue that is not directly shared with municipalities; and

Whereas the Federal Government collects the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on property transactions, a portion of which could be directed to municipalities to address local infrastructure needs; and

Whereas redistributing a portion of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to municipalities would provide a predictable and sustainable source of funding for local infrastructure projects without creating a new tax burden on residents or homebuyers; and

Whereas a redistribution of a portion of the existing Land Transfer Tax and GST would allow municipalities to better plan and invest in long-term infrastructure initiatives, supporting local economic growth and improving the quality of life for residents.

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That Council of the Corporation of the Town of Petawawa formally requests the Provincial Government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to municipalities; and Be It Further Resolved That Council of the Corporation of the Town of Petawawa calls on the Federal

Government to allocate a percentage of the GST collected on property sales to municipalities; and

2. Be It Further Resolved that this redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST should be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs; and
3. Be It Further Resolved that copies of this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs); and
4. Be It Further Resolved that copies of this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

Carried

Minutes

1. Council-In-Committee Meeting (February 10, 2025)

Resolution #14

Moved by Lisa Coutu

Seconded by Theresa Sabourin

That the minutes of the Council-In-Committee meeting held on February 10, 2025, be accepted by Council, and that resolutions from that Committee become resolutions of Council.

Carried

2. Petawawa Business Advisory Network Meeting (December 3, 2024)

Councillor Murray Rutz provided an overview of the recent activities of the Petawawa Business Advisory Network.

Resolution #15

Moved by Murray Rutz

Seconded by Adam Driscoll

That the minutes of the Petawawa Business Advisory Network meeting held on December 3, 2024, be adopted as information.

Carried

3. Petawawa OPP Detachment Board Meeting (December 18, 2024)

Deputy Mayor Theresa Sabourin provided an overview of the recent activities of the Petawawa OPP Detachment Board.

Resolution #16

Moved by Theresa Sabourin

Seconded by Murray Rutz

That the minutes of the Petawawa OPP Detachment Board meeting held on December 18, 2024, be adopted as information.

Carried

Staff Reports

1. PW-03-2025 – Award Request for Proposal PW-01-2025 – Janitorial Services Contract

Chris Mantha, Director of Public Works provided an overview of the report.

Resolution #17

Moved by Murray Rutz

Seconded by Karen Donovan

That Council awards Request for Proposal PW-01-2025, Janitorial Services- Multiple Town Owned/Leased Buildings, to GC Janitorial (1809699 Ontario Inc.) in the amount of \$266,730.00 plus HST for Year One (April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026) of the three-year janitorial services contract.

Carried

Councillor Reports

Deputy Mayor Theresa Sabourin reported she attended a Petawawa OPP Detachment Board meeting on January 22, 2025, and an Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee meeting on January 29, 2025. Deputy Mayor Sabourin also reported that she chaired a Seniors Advisory Committee meeting on February 5, 2025.

Councillor Lisa Coutu reported she participated in Community Champions Training through the Moose Hide Campaign.

Councillor Adam Driscoll reminded residents of the upcoming Public Meeting scheduled for March 3, 2025 on the 2025 Municipal Budgets.

Councillor Karen Donovan reported she attended a Petawawa Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting on January 23, 2025, and a Pembroke and Area Warming Centre Committee meeting on January 27, 2025. Councillor Donovan also reported that she attended in a virtual webinar hosted by Canadian Nuclear Laboratories on February 11, 2025.

Councillor Murray Rutz reported he attended a Petawawa Business Advisory Network meeting on February 4, 2025, and he provided comments from this meeting on the appointment of Chairperson Richard McNish, the review of the Terms of Reference and the commencement of the Municipal Accommodation Tax. Councillor Rutz also reported he chaired a Festival Hall Committee meeting on February 13, 2025.

Mayor Gary Serviss reported he attended a Town Logo and Branding meeting on February 5, 2025, the County of Renfrew 2025 Budget meeting on February 6, 2025, and a meeting to discuss pickleball on February 14, 2025. Mayor Serviss also reported that he attended several events throughout Cabin Fever. Mayor Serviss commented on the upcoming arrival of the Mayor of Leeuwarden on April 15, 2025. Mayor Serviss also commented on his participation earlier today at the young entrepreneur event held at Valour School.

Closed Meeting

Resolution #18

Moved by Murray Rutz

Seconded by Karen Donovan

That the meeting be closed pursuant to Section 239 (2) (b) of the *Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25* to discuss personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees.

Carried

Council went into closed session at 7:41 p.m.

Council reconvened to open session at 8:10 p.m.

Business Arising From Closed Session

A closed meeting was held. Council discussed a personnel matter involving a municipal employee.

There is nothing further to report at this time.

Confirming By-law

Resolution #19

Moved by Murray Rutz

Seconded by Lisa Coutu

That By-law 1727/25 be read a first, second and third time and passed.

Carried

Adjournment

Resolution #20

Moved by Lisa Coutu

Seconded by Karen Donovan

That the meeting adjourn to the call of the Mayor.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Signature of the Mayor (Original Signed)

Signature of the Clerk (Original Signed)