



# MINUTES

**Of a Meeting of the Council of the City of Kenora  
Tuesday, March 16, 2021  
12:00 p.m.  
Virtual Attendance**

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Council met electronically as permitted by Council's Procedural Bylaw. Citizens and our Media Partners are encouraged to view the virtual meeting via the Public Live Stream Event at:

<http://video.isilive.ca/kenora/2021-03-16.html>

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**With** Mayor D. Reynard in the Chair, Councillor M. Goss, Councillor R. McMillan Councillor A. Poirier, Councillor K. Ralko, Councillor S. Smith, Councillor C. Van Wallegghem

**Staff:** Kyle Attanasio, CAO, Heather Pihulak, Manager of Administration/City Clerk, Adam Smith, Manager of Development Services, Charlotte Edie, Manager of Finance/Treasurer, Stace Gander, Manager of Community Services/Acting Manager of Operations & Infrastructure, Roberta Marsh, HR Manager, Kevan Sumner, City Planner

## **Call to Order**

Mayor Reynard called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

## **Blessing & Land Acknowledgment Delivered by Councillor Van Wallegghem**

As we gather, we recognize that we are on Treaty Three Lands which are steeped in rich Indigenous history and home to many First Nations and Metis people today. We continue to be thankful for the partnerships with our Indigenous people.

We give thanks for the many blessings we enjoy in the City of Kenora. We seek wisdom in our minds, clearness in our thinking, truth in our speaking and always love in our hearts, so that we may try always to unite the Citizens of Kenora. Let these principles guide us in our decision making.

## **Public Information Notices as per By-law Number 144-2007**

Mayor Reynard then read the following notices:-

As required under Notice By-law #144 -2007, Council hereby advises the public of its intention to adopt the following at today's meeting:-

- Establish tax ratios and tax rates for 2021
- Authorize budget amendments for the following:
  - \$90,000 to be funded through the Parkland Reserve to prepare the grounds, install fencing and develop trails in the park for the development of an off-leash dog park

- \$3,600 to modify the scope of the Five Year Economic Development and Tourism planning project to allow for additional work related to monitoring and evaluation
- \$23,000 to be funded from the Roads Reserve to increase the funds for the 2021 Urban Street and Highway Line Painting works project

### **Declaration of Pecuniary Interest & General Nature Thereof**

Mayor Reynard then asked if any Member of Council had any Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof pertaining to any items as follows:-

- i) On Today's Agenda or from a previous Meeting
- ii) From a Meeting at which a Member was not in Attendance

There were none declared.

### **Moment of Silence**

Mayor Reynard reflected on the one year anniversary of COVID-19 and the impacts to our community.

One year ago today the global pandemic changed the lives of everyone not only here in Kenora, but globally. On behalf of Council, I want to take a moment to recognize the significance of today and reflect on the impacts of this pandemic to our community and our citizens.

There has been an extraordinary burden on individuals, families and businesses in our City and it has created uncertainty for everyone impacting levels of mental health.

Over the past year citizens have followed public health restrictions and did their part to help stop this virus from spreading and overall our community has been respectful, compliant and were truly cognizant of what it would take to keep our community safe.

This crisis has also demonstrated incredible acts of kindness, compassion and generosity. Community members have worked together to support our local businesses to ensure they are here when this pandemic ends. People have supported others that do not have people to help them with groceries and personal items. People are reaching out to others just to let them know they are not alone.

We have seen the tremendous determination and personal sacrifice of our essential and frontline health care workers in our hospital, long-term care homes, and other health care supporting fields to care for our sick and most vulnerable citizens, and ensure they were prepared for COVID related impacts within our limited health care options. Our first responders remain dedicated to keeping us safe and front-line retail workers serving everyone to ensure we keep food on our tables and have access to the essential items we continue to need. Our teachers remain committed to guiding our children through a time where learning is difficult and helping youth believe there is a purpose and future to their education.

As we move forward with vaccines locally, I am hopeful that this could mark the beginning of the end of COVID-19. Everyone needs to continue to follow the NWHU advice and

measures to protect themselves and their loved ones. It is not time to let our guards down.

I know the past year has been extremely difficult for everyone, but this pandemic has demonstrated that citizens of Kenora are compassionate, kind and resilient and I am confident we will get through this crisis together to build a stronger Kenora. We will reflect back and remember to focus on the things that matter most to us and become a better overall community together.

A moment of silence was then held to reflect on the impacts of COVID-19 and think of all who have been directly impacted by this pandemic over the past year.

### **Special Recognition**

Kyle Attanasio, CAO, acknowledged staff through this pandemic and in the spirit of recognition of staff an event was held for all staff in the City. Today is the one year anniversary of the COVID-19 pandemic emergency here in the City of Kenora. The pandemic and the resulting global public health challenges have had significant effects on the City of Kenora. Due to the nature of these challenges, responsive actions in our community have been required on many levels. The City and its employees have taken steps to contribute to the safety of our community and to participate responsibly in the effort to address this pandemic alongside many other hard working organizations in our region.

Often when we overcome challenges, we neglect to take the time to enjoy our successes and reflect on the experience. As a leader, it's easy to get moving on to the next thing without celebrating our successes and achievements. This anniversary is a perfect opportunity for us to take a break from our busy schedules and truly celebrate the obstacles that we have overcome as an organization throughout the past year.

In this spirit, an employee recognition event was held yesterday to celebrate our employees' accomplishments over the past year. While it was disappointing that we were unable to come together collectively as an organization as a result of the current health restrictions, it was a fantastic day as we gathered in small teams to reflect on the challenges we overcame. It has truly been a privilege to join an organization with so many passionate and energetic staff members. I am grateful to the staff for the many sacrifices they have made for the City over the past year.

While our community regularly confronts challenges, often serious ones, the challenges created by the pandemic have a quality that is discordant with many aspects of how a community functions. One reason the pandemic is so discordant with the City's culture is that our culture is one of connection, engagement, and social interaction. This is so central to our culture, for good reason, that the necessity of social distancing is challenging not only for personal reasons, but for the nature of the relationship between our City and community as a whole. I want to express my thanks to you for the resilience and commitment that Council has shown to the City, reflecting its values, its mandate, and for serving our community through exceptionally challenging times.

To this end, I want to celebrate this accomplishment with a token of appreciation: a challenge coin. Challenge coins are essentially small tokens or medallions that signify

that people are members of certain organizations. A tradition has grown from this event whereby coins are distributed to prove membership, or to celebrate the accomplishment of a shared mission. Honouring someone with a challenge coin is a way for senior leadership to show their appreciation for a phenomenal job. It is a sign of gratitude for a job well done and part of a long and thoughtful lineage of tradition.

As Chief Administrative Officer, I am humbled to virtually present Council this City of Kenora commemorative challenge coin signifying your contributions and sacrifices for the City and the community that we collectively serve. It is my sincere hope that you receive this coin as more than just a thank you or a pat on the back – it is something tangible to remember this moment by. A moment in which you came together with your fellow councillors and staff to achieve something that could only be achieved together through cooperation, adaptation, and resilience.

It has been a pleasure to work with this Council and am very excited about what we will accomplish together in the future. Thank you all.

### **Confirmation of Minutes**

#### **1. Moved by M. Goss, Seconded by & C. Van Wallegem & Carried:-**

That the following Minutes of the Council of the City of Kenora be adopted as circulated:-  
Regular Council – February 16, 2021  
Special Council –February 23, 2021

### **Deputations**

#### **Nikki Faulds, Lake of the Woods Employment Action Project (LEAP)**

Nikki Faulds from the Lake of the Woods Employment Action Project presented information on the youth programs available through LEAP. There are several programs available for youth who are seeking employment, or additional education. LEAP is focusing on the youth and they are offering various options for employers to assist with getting youth into the workforce.

Mayor Reynard thanked Ms. Faulds for her presentation and a copy of the materials was left with the Clerk.

### **Presentations**

#### **Dan Penner, Urban Systems – Strategic Plan Process**

Dan Penner from Urban Systems presented Council with an overview of the upcoming strategic planning project and related planning process, deliverables and engagement process.

Key objectives of the project is to include an effective guide for Council, senior management and staff in decision-making and resource allocation. Builds off existing work to create a fresh vision, mission and values for Kenora. Includes broader goals and objectives broken down into tangible actions and outcomes. Is developed through robust

engagement with Council, staff, stakeholders and broader community. Includes a focus on implementation, sounds reporting processes and monitoring protocols

Several stakeholders have been identified and they will be conducting a variety of stakeholder engagement over the next several months.

The plan is scheduled to be completed and released in August 2021.

Mayor Reynard thanked Mr. Penner for his presentation and a copy was left with the Clerk.

### **Additions to the Agenda**

None

### **2020 Capital & Unusual Spend**

#### **2. Moved by C. Van Walleggem, Seconded by & A. Poirier & Carried:-**

That Council hereby accepts the 2020 Capital and Unusual Spending report.

### **January 2021 Financial Statements**

#### **3. Moved by A. Poirier, Seconded by K. Ralko & Carried:-**

That Council hereby accepts the monthly Financial Statements of the Corporation of the City of Kenora at January 31, 2021.

### **2021 Tax Ratios & Rates**

#### **4. Moved by K. Ralko, Seconded by R. McMillan & Carried:-**

That Council hereby adopts 2021 Starting Tax Ratios for 2021 as there was no re-assessment and Revenue Neutral Tax Ratios are not available; and

That Council hereby provides three readings to the following By-laws:

A By-law to set tax ratios and to set tax rate reductions for prescribed property classes and subclasses for municipal purposes for the year 2021; and

A By-law to adopt the estimates for all sums required for the year, to establish rates to be levied for same and to provide for penalty and interest in default of payment thereof for 2021; and further

That in accordance with Notice By-law #144-2007, public notice is hereby given of Council's intention to set tax ratios and tax rates for 2021 at its March 16, 2021 meeting.

### **2020 Kenora Drinking Water System Summary**

#### **5. Moved by R. McMillan, Seconded by S. Smith & Carried:-**

That the Council of the City of Kenora hereby receives the 2020 Kenora Drinking Water System Summary Report, for the period January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020, as prepared by Ryan Peterson, Water Treatment Plant Chief Operator.

## **Budget Amendment & Tender Award – 2021 Line Painting**

### **6. Moved by S. Smith, Seconded by M. Goss & Carried:-**

That the tender submitted by North-West Lines Ltd. in the amount of \$214,050.00 (plus HST) with an hourly rate of \$200.00 (plus HST) for extra work for the 2021 Urban Street and Highway Line Painting works be hereby accepted; and further

That Council hereby approves a budget amendment in the amount of \$23,000 to be funded from the Roads Reserve to increase the funds for the 2021 Urban Street and Highway Line Painting works project; and further

That in accordance with Notice By-law Number 144-2007, public notice is hereby given that Council intends to amend its 2021 Operating Budget at its March 16, 2021 meeting for this purpose; and further

That three readings be given to a By-law to amend the 2021 operating budget for this purpose.

## **Budget Amendment – Off Leash Dog Park**

### **7. Moved by M. Goss, Seconded by C. Van Wallegghem & Carried:-**

That Council hereby authorizes the use of a portion of the Municipal lands adjacent to the A+W Ball Diamonds with the legal description Plan M44 Lot 1 to 60, Parcel Number PCL1371 as an off-leash dog park; and further

That Council hereby approves a budget amendment in the amount of \$90,000 to be funded through the Parkland Reserve to prepare the grounds, install fencing and develop trails in the park; and further

That in accordance with Notice By-law Number 144-2007, public notice is hereby given that Council intends to amend its 2021 Capital Budget at its March 16, 2021 meeting for this purpose; and further

That Council gives three readings to a By-law to amend the 2021 capital budget for this purpose.

## **Kenora Condominium Corp No. 2 Lease Renewal**

### **8. Moved by C. Van Wallegghem, Seconded by A. Poirier & Carried:-**

That Council authorizes the Mayor and Clerk to enter into a five year lease renewal agreement between the Corporation of the City of Kenora and the Kenora Condominium Corporation No. 2 for the use of a portion of Colonization Road for parking purposes; and further

That the appropriate by-law be passed for this purpose.

## **Agreement of Resolution LPAT File PL190146**

### **9. Moved by A. Poirier, Seconded by K. Ralko & Carried:-**

That the parties to LPAT Case File Number PL 190145 have reached an agreement of resolution on the appeal to Zoning By-law Amendment 41-2019 in the Area of 543 Lakeview Drive; and further

That Council hereby adopts the recommended settlement in the Area of 543 Lakeview Drive, LPAT Case File Number PL 190146.

### **Application to Skills Development**

#### **10. Moved by K. Ralko, Seconded by R. McMillan & Carried:-**

That Council approves an application to the Skills Development Fund in the amount of \$45,000 for the delivery of the Small Business STRONG Resiliency Series.

### **Budget Amendment – Economic Development & Tourism Strategy**

#### **11. Moved by R. McMillan, Seconded by S. Smith & Carried:-**

That Council hereby approves a budget amendment in the amount of \$3,600 to modify the scope of the Five Year Economic Development and Tourism planning project to allow for additional work related to monitoring and evaluation; and further

That in accordance with Notice By-law Number 144-2007, public notice is hereby given that Council intends to amend its 2021 Operating & Capital Budget at its March 16, 2021 meeting to allocate funds from the Municipal Accommodation Tax (MAT) reserves; and further

That Council give three readings to a by-law to amend the 2021 capital budget for this purpose.

### **Municipal Modernization Funding**

#### **12. Moved by S. Smith, Seconded by M. Goss & Carried:-**

That Council accepted the 2021 Service Delivery Review Report as prepared by Optimus SBR under the Municipal Modernization Funding Program Intake 1; and further

That Council has directed administration to continue to improve the data underlying the plan and strategies with which to manage the City's infrastructure; and further

That Council directs staff to apply for a grant opportunity under Intake 2 of the Municipal Modernization Program Intake 2, which may include the following project scope:

- CityWide Permits
- CityWide Route Patrol Advanced Functionality
- CityWide Asset Collector
- CityWide Citizen Request Portal

### **Waterpower Day Charter**

#### **13. Moved by R. McMillan, Seconded by S. Smith & Carried:-**

That waterpower has supported community development in Kenora and is an important source of clean, reliable energy for the region and across the Province; and further

That Council hereby signs the Ontario Waterpower Champions Charter recognizing the value and importance of waterpower.

### **D09-21-01 & D14-21-01 Official Plan Amendment & Zoning Bylaw Amendment – Central Park**

**14. Moved by M. Goss, Seconded by C. Van Walleghem & Carried:-**

That Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment, File Number D-09-21-01 and D14-19-07, to change the Official Plan Designation from Open Space to Established Area and change the zoning of the property from "OS" Open Space Zone to "R3" Residential – Third Density Zone, be hereby approved; and further

That three readings be given to two bylaws for this purpose.

### **2020 Council Remuneration**

**15. Moved by C. Van Walleghem, Seconded by A. Poirier & Carried:-**

That Council receive the reports prepared by Charlotte Edie, Manager of Finance/Treasurer dated February 26, 2021 as required under Section 284 of The Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, setting out the Annual Statement of Remuneration and Expenditures for Members of Council in accordance with Remuneration By-law #48-2013.

### **Health & Safety Policy Statements**

**16. Moved by A. Poirier, Seconded by K. Ralko & Carried:-**

That Council of the City of Kenora hereby accepts the City of Kenora Occupational Health and Safety Policy, the City of Kenora Workplace Harassment Policy and the City of Kenora Workplace Violence Prevention Policy; and further

And that the signatures of the Mayor and CAO are affixed to said policies along with the date of endorsement and are posted in all workplaces.

### **NOHFC Canada Day Festivities Funding Application**

**17. Moved by K. Ralko, Seconded by R. McMillan & Carried:-**

That Council hereby direct staff to complete an application to the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Cultural Supports program for Canada Day 2021, in the amount of \$7,000; and further

That Council hereby approves any cost overruns associated with the project.

### **Recreation Year End Report**

**18. Moved by R. McMillan, Seconded by S. Smith & Carried:-**

That Council hereby accepts the 2020 Year End Report for the Recreation Services Department.

### **Safe Restart Agreement – Public Transit Funding Stream**

**19. Moved by S. Smith, Seconded by M. Goss & Carried:-**

That three readings be given to a by-law to execute an agreement between the Corporation of the City of Kenora Her Majesty the Queen in Right of the Province of Ontario represented by the Minister of Transportation for the Province of Ontario for the provision of funding for the Safe Restart Agreement – Public Transit Funding Stream Phase 2 in the amount of \$69,566; and further

That the Mayor & Clerk be authorized to execute this agreement.

### **Various Committee Minutes**

#### **20. Moved by M. Goss, Seconded by C. Van Walleghem & Carried:-**

That Council hereby adopts the following Minutes from various City of Kenora Committees:

- January 28, 2021 – The Muse

That Council hereby receives the following Minutes from other various Committees:

- October 29, 2020 & December 3, 2020 - District of Kenora Home for the Aged Board of Management
- January 28, 2021 - Kenora Police Services Board
- Kenora Handi Transit – February 10, 2021; and further

That these Minutes be circulated and ordered filed.

### **Water Wastewater Systems Monthly Summary – January 2021**

#### **21. Moved by C. Van Walleghem, Seconded by A. Poirier & Carried:-**

That Council of the City of Kenora hereby accepts the January 2021 Kenora Water and Wastewater Systems Monthly Summary Report, as prepared by City administration.

### **Repair Works Beggs Arch Culvert & Lajeunesse Bridge Tender**

#### **22. Moved by A. Poirier, Seconded by K. Ralko & Carried:-**

That the tender submitted by KEM Construction, in the amount \$544,390.00 (plus HST) for repair works for the Beggs Arch Culvert and Lajeunesse Bridge be hereby accepted.

### **Approval of By-laws**

#### **23. Moved by R. McMillan, Seconded by S. Smith & Carried:-**

That the following By-laws be now read a First & Second Time, and approved in their present form and presented for Third & Final Reading:~

- #26-2021 – Confirmatory
- #27-2021 - 2021 Tax Ratios
- #28-2021 – 2021 Tax Rates
- #29-2021 – Budget Amendment - 2021 Line Painting
- #30-2021 – Budget Amendment – Off Leash Dog Park
- #31-2021 – Kenora Condominium Corp No. 2 Lease Renewal

#32-2021 – Budget Amendment – Economic Development & Tourism Strategy  
#35-2021 – Safe Restart Agreement – Public Transit Funding Stream

### **Approval of By-laws**

#### **24. Moved by K. Ralko, Seconded by R. McMillan & Carried:-**

That the following By-laws be now read a First & Second Time, and approved in their present form and presented for Third & Final Reading:~

#33-2021 – D09-21-01 Official Plan Amendment –Central Park  
#34-2021 – D14-21-01 Zoning Bylaw Amendment – Central Park

### **Notices of Motion**

None

### **Proclamations**

- Autism Awareness Day – April 2, 2021
- Green Shirt Day – April 7, 2021
- Waterpower Day – June 20, 2021

### **Announcements**

#### **The following was highlighted by Council:**

1. Councillor Van Wallegghem congratulated Jeff Gustafson on winning the Bass Masters tournament and acknowledged the national recognition he gave to Kenora.
2. Councillor Ralko thanked everyone involved in the vaccine efforts.
3. Councillor McMillan appreciated the words on the one year recognition of COVID. He acknowledged surrounding First Nations communities in addressing COVID and the efforts each community is undertaking to keep their communities safe.
4. Councilor Smith referenced the upcoming vaccine clinic and there is a call out for volunteers from the NWHU. She encouraged people to reach out to the NWHU if they could assist with the clinic.
5. Mayor Reynard echoed the celebration of local fisherman Jeff Gustafson and his success. Jeff is a great ambassador in our community and a great role model for youth. As a reminder, the decisions Council make they do because they believe they are right for the community as a whole and will make our community a better place. We have strong staff and a good group of Council that can hear each other and respect each member.

### **Adjourn to Closed Session**

#### **25. Moved by S. Smith, Seconded by M. Goss & Carried:-**

That pursuant to Section 239 of the Municipal Act, as amended, authorization is hereby given for Council to move into a Closed Session at 1:19 p.m. to discuss items pertaining to the following:-

- i) Education & Training Members of Council (3 matters – KDSB, CAO & Mayor updates)
  - ii) Labour Relations (1 matter-IBEW negotiations)
  - iii) A proposed acquisition of land for municipal purposes (1 matter-land purchase)

- iv) A position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality (1 matter-Fingerboard application)

**Reconvene to Open Meeting**

Council reconvenes to open session at 4:03 p.m. with one report from its closed session:

**Fingerboard Sign Application-The Reef Store**

**25a. Moved by S. Smith, Seconded by A. Poirier & Carried:-**

That Council hereby receives the request from The Reef Store to reconsider a new sign application for the placement of fingerboard signage in the City of Kenora; and further

That policies established in 2017 to embark on a wayfinding program in the Harbourtown Centre that displays unified signage wherein no new fingerboard signage would be approved which would create cohesive, attractive signage throughout the municipality to effectively guide the public to places of interest; and further

That the Federal Cannabis Act, Section 17(1) prohibits the promotion of cannabis or a cannabis accessory or any service related to cannabis and wherein this directional signage application would see signage placed on public property which the municipality views as prohibited; and further

That in keeping with these practices and policies Council hereby supports Administration’s position for the sign license application for fingerboard signage for The Reef Store be hereby disallowed.

**Close of Meeting**

**26. Moved by M. Goss, Seconded by C. Van Walleghem & Carried:-**

That this meeting be now declared closed at 4:03 p.m.

**The Corporation of the City of Kenora:**

**Confirmed As Written This .....Day**

**Of.....2021**

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**Mayor**

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**City Clerk**