



City of Kenora

Committee of the Whole Minutes

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

9:00 a.m.

City Hall Council Chambers

Live Stream Access: <https://kenora.civicweb.net/Portal/>

Present:

Mayor Andrew Poirier (arrived at 10:25 a.m.)
Councillor Robert Bernie (Chair until Mayor Poirier arrived)
Councillor Graham Chaze
Councillor Lindsay Koch
Councillor Barbara Manson
Councillor Lisa Moncrief
Councillor Kelsie Van Belleghem

Staff: Kyle Attanasio, CAO, Heather Pihulak, Director of Corporate Services/City Clerk, Roberta Marsh, Director of Human Resources, Risk and Insurance, Stace Gander, Director of Economic Growth & Recovery, David Pratt, Director of Fire & Emergency Services, Ryan Marsh, Director of Finance, Marco Vogrig, Municipal Engineer, Greg Breen, Director of Engineering & Infrastructure

Blessing & Land Acknowledgment – Councillor Koch

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 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.

A. Public Information Notices

As required under Notice By-law #160-2022 the public is advised of Council's intention to adopt the following at its February 15, 2023, 2022 meeting:-

- Adopt the 2023 Five Year Municipal Capital Budget
- Declare City owned lands known as a portion of Superior Street as surplus to the requirements of the Municipality and authorize sale

B. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest & the General Nature Thereof

- 1) On Today's Agenda
- 2) From a Meeting at which a Member was not in Attendance.

Councillor Van Belleghem declared a direct pecuniary interest as it relates to agenda item number 5.1 regarding the sale of municipal property as it relates to her employer.

Councillor Manson declared an indirect pecuniary interest as it relates to agenda item number 4.1 regarding an NOHFC application as her child manages the NOHFC fund.

C. Confirmation of Previous Committee Minutes

Resolution #1-Moved by Councillor K. Van Belleghem, Seconded by G. Chaze & Carried:

That the Minutes from the last regular Committee of the Whole Meeting held January 11, 2023 and the special Committee of the Whole Meeting held January 26, 2023 be confirmed as written and filed.

D. Deputations/Presentations

Community Safety and Well Being

Felix Munger from the Crime Prevention Network Presentation will soon be known as the Canadian Centre for safer communities. The vision for the organization is for Canadian communities where people are safe and feel safe. The mission is to inspire local action and foster community safety and well-being through national leadership, collaboration, capacity building and knowledge exchange.

They provide a lot of training, research and publications regarding rural crime prevention, social challenges/social inclusion, adverse childhood experiences, restorative justice.

Key safety issues in Canada include substance use and drug poisoning, mental illness, homelessness/houselessness, domestic and interpersonal violence, gun and gang violence and rising crime index.

60-80% of calls to police are not crime related. Police often do not have jurisdiction and are often not trained in the areas not related to the calls such as mental health crisis, homelessness and addiction. The revolving door with justice system brings attention to the fact that we cannot arrest our way out of these problems. We need to get to the sources and address the root causes. We need to think about a new approach to community safety. Kenora was one of the pilot sites for a community safety and well-being plan.

There are root causes and risk factors of crime and victimization are found in social, economic, cultural, and societal systems that can lead to inequities and disadvantages.

Communities are now mandated to have Community Safety and Well Being plans. Both federal and provincial governments are now using language that is often reflected in these plans. Rural communities are facing unique challenges but also implementing these plans.

Changes take time, and some communities are hiring staff to ensure that the contents of the plan is moving forward. These roles the staff lead brings the community partners together to advance the plan. Thunder Bay has a lead as a facilitator and the idea is to have the City as the convener. They have an ongoing steering committee that works together with the staff lead to advance the plan.

There is education required to educate that the sense of safety and the reality of safety may be different.

Council thanked Mr. Munger for his presentation and a copy was left with the Clerk.

2022 Bridge Inventory and Audit Presentation - Stantec

Eric Tranquada from Stantec provided an overview of the 2022 bridge inventory and audit.

Bridge condition index is a weighted scoring for each bridge and rates the structure from zero to 100 with 100 being brand new. The BCI is used as an indicator to determine a bridge's overall condition to help with resource and bridge management.

There is difficulty attracting qualified contractors to complete non-capital maintenance work. It is recommended grouping maintenance together into larger work packages for tendering and bidding. Costs have been found to increase following the pandemic while also proving to be volatile with short term validity for estimates.

Current investing recommendations total cost is \$410,000. The BCI comparison over the years from 2016, 2020 and 2022 which indicate consistent change with incremental decreases in BCI. There is an upward trend that is demonstrating that repair and rehabilitation is successful for asset value and BCI.

E. Reports:

1. Corporate Services / Finance / Human Resources

1.1 Section 357's

Recommendation:

That Council hereby approves Section 357 tax adjustments with potential refunds totaling \$742.90.

1.2 Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) Delegation Requests

The annual OGRA Conference will be held in Toronto this year April 16-19, 2023. One important part of these municipal conferences is the opportunity to meet with various Ministers and their staff to discuss important issues to the municipality. Delegation meetings with Cabinet Ministers are a key feature of the OGRA Conference and are a unique opportunity for council to engage with Ministers, Parliamentary Assistants and senior Ontario Government officials on local matters that impact our municipality. Registered OGRA conference delegates can now request an in-person meeting with a minister or parliamentary assistant at the OGRA conference. The deadline to submit our request is March 17, 2023. We have two members of Council registered to attend, Councillor Manson and Councillor Chaze.

Council supported submitting a request in regards to our ongoing challenges of the high costs of our infrastructure, specifically bridges. Every opportunity we get we need to emphasize the challenges we have with our bridges. Heather will submit one request for the OGRA conference by March 17, 2023.

1.3 Crime Prevention & Community Well-Being Advisory Committee Terms of Reference (Deferred from January 18th Council Meeting)

Recommendation:

That Council hereby amends the Terms of Reference for the Kenora Crime Prevention & Community Well-Being Advisory Committee; and further

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That bylaw number 63-2021 be hereby repealed; and further

That three readings be given to a bylaw to adopt a new Terms of Reference

Discussion: Council would like to add to the voting members: Judicial system, youth probation, member of Council, member from the business community. These will be added to the new bylaw for adoption at next week's meeting.

Discussion continued around the timing of the recruitment of members. Administration will begin to recruit and will reach out directly to these identified organizations to identify a person who would be a strong contributor to the work the committee will be doing.

1.4 2023 Five Year Capital Budget Approval

Recommendation:

That Council hereby approves the 2023 Five-Year Municipal Capital Budget, as amended; and further

That Council hereby directs staff to actively proceed with the projects included in that budget in accordance with the provisions of the City procurement bylaw; and further

That in accordance with Notice Bylaw 160-2022, public notice is hereby given that Council intends to adopt its 2023 Five-Year Municipal Capital Budget at its February 15, 2023 Council meeting; and further

That Council hereby gives three readings to a bylaw for this purpose.

Discussion: A number of budget meetings have occurred. As a result of those discussions, we will defer downtown revitalization Matheson & First Street South design and tender to 2026 and 2027 respectively; additional Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund of \$1,224,862 be allocated to roads infrastructure replacing net tax levy funding; replace office renovation and expansion net tax levy funding of \$242,000 with reserve funding.

There is no net tax levy that is included in the capital budget. Staff worked hard to find funding alternatives to not have the capital budget impact tax payers. Council thanked the province for their support in various funding. It is Council's role to maintain the financial integrity of the City and deliver on the strategic priorities of the City. We need to continue to consider the long term investment in our infrastructure and face the future needs and costs of that infrastructure.

2. Fire & Emergency Services

2.1 2022 Annual Compliance Report

Recommendation:

That Council hereby receives the Ontario Fire Marshal and Emergency Management Declaration of Annual Compliance Report (2022), Fire Department Profile Data and the Emergency Program Committee report from the Fire and Emergency Services Division.

Discussion: The City of Kenora continues to update the Office of the Ontario Fire Marshal and Emergency Management (OFMEM) the Municipal Fire Protection Profile form and report quarterly call summaries in regards to the public fire safety education and fire prevention requirements.

2.2 Municipal Forest Fire Management Agreement

Recommendation:

That three readings be given to a bylaw authorizing a Municipal Forest Fire Management Agreement with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to 31st of March 2028; and further

That By-Law Number 11-2018 be hereby repealed.

2.3 Fire & Emergency Services Fourth Quarter & Annual Summary Report

Recommendation:

That Council hereby receives the Fire & Emergency Services fourth quarter Report 2022 Annual Summary as presented.

3. Engineering & Infrastructure

3.1 Engineering & Infrastructure Fourth Quarter Report

Recommendation:

That Council hereby receives the Engineering & Infrastructure Departments quarterly & operational updates ending December 2022.

4. Community Services

4.1 Application to NOHFC – Rural Enhancement Fund

Recommendation:

That Council hereby authorizes an application for funding to Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) under its Rural Enhancement Funding Stream for a project identified within the City's capital plan; and further

That Council approves any cost overruns associated with this project.

Councillor Manson Abstained.

4.2 Seniors Community Grant Application

Recommendation:

The City of Kenora Council approves an application by The Muse to the Seniors Community Grant to provide funding for free/subsidized arts/heritage programming at the Lake of the Woods Museum and the Douglas Family Art Centre from October 2023-March 2024.

4.3 Community Services Fourth Quarter Report

Recommendation:

That Council hereby receives the Community Services Division fourth quarter report for 2022 as presented.

Discussion: Would like to see a communication piece on celebrating all the successes of the various departments. There was concern about the sunshade at the dog park. The sunshades are removed in the winter due to snow load. Stace will take that back to the department. Normalization of marketing amongst departments, and there is not a City of Kenora branding and may be an opportunity to normalize the communication stream.

5. Development Services

5.1 Declaration of Surplus Land – Superior Street

Recommendation:

That The Corporation of the City of Kenora identify the lands described in Schedule 'A', as surplus land; and

That Council hereby authorize Mayor and Clerk to authorize a purchase and sale agreements between the Corporation of the City of Kenora and Angela Breed and Kyle Hawkes for the sale of the identified lands in the amount of \$25,000 plus HST; and further;

That notice to the public of the intention of Council to pass this By-law has been given as required by The Corporation of the City of Kenora's Notice By-Law;

That three readings be given to a by-law for this purpose.

Councillor Van Belleghem abstained.

F. Proclamations

None

G. Other

H. Next Meeting

- Wednesday, February 8, 2023

I. Adjourn to Closed

Resolution #2 - Moved by Councillor Moncrief, Seconded by K. Van Belleghem & Carried:

That Pursuant to Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, authorization is hereby given for Committee to move into a Closed Session at 12:35 p.m. to discuss items pertaining to the following:-

- Education & Training Members of Council (3 matters – Fire Essentials for Municipal Leaders Training, Member of Provincial Parliament Greg Rickford, Mayor update)
- Labour Relations (1 matter – Realignment overview presentation)

J. Reconvene to Open Meeting

Council reconvenes to open session at 4:27 p.m. with no reports from its closed session.

K. Close Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.