



City of Kenora
Committee of the Whole
Minutes

Wednesday, May 10, 2023

9:00 a.m.

City Hall Council Chambers

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

Present:

Mayor Andrew Poirier
Councillor Robert Bernie
Councillor Graham Chaze
Councillor Lindsay Koch
Councillor Barbara Manson
Councillor Lisa Moncrief
Councillor Kelsie Van Belleghem

Staff: Kyle Attanasio, CAO, Stace Gander, Director of Economic Growth and Recovery, Greg Breen, Director of Engineering & Infrastructure, Ryan Marsh, Director of Finance, Roberta Marsh, Director of Human Resources, Risk & Insurance, David Pratt, Director of Fire & Emergency Services, David Mellor, General Manager of Engineering, Andrew Smith, General Manager of Recreation and Culture, Kelly Galbraith, Deputy Clerk/Customer Services Manager

Land Acknowledgment – Councillor Van Belleghem

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 May 17, 2023 meeting:-

- Establish the 2023 tax rates & ratios
- Amend the 2023 Operating & Capital Budget for the following purposes:
 - to withdraw funds from debt financing in the amount of \$95,942 to offset the cost of the purchase of a fire tanker truck
 - to withdraw funds from the Roads Reserve in the amount of \$124,900 to offset the cost of the line painting works

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.

There were none declared.

C. Confirmation of Previous Committee Minutes

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

That the following Minutes of the last regular Committee of the Whole Meeting held April 12, 2023 be confirmed as written and filed.

D. Deputations/Presentations

BEHR Integrated Solutions – Master Fire Plan

Jeff Carlisle & Isaac Comandante, Senior Fire and Emergency Operations and Management Specialists presented the City of Kenora Fire and Emergency Services Master Fire Plan. The Master Fire Plan can be referred to as 'road map' to the future and used as a guiding document for current and future fire service leaders and municipal decision makers. Goals of the plan include but are not limited to enhance firefighter safety, enhance cost control and containment, identify the right sized service to meet the current and future needs of the community and increase efficiency and effectiveness.

Discussion:

Mayor Poirier thanked Jeff and Isaac for the information provided.

Prudent Investors – Investment Presentation

Keith Taylor, CFA, Chief Investment Officer and Jennifer Hess, Manager, Investment Services Municipal Finance Officer's Association (MFOA), presented to Council. ONE Investment is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to serving the investment needs of the Ontario municipal sector managing over \$2.95 billion in portfolio holdings as of December 2022.

Discussion:

Council extended their appreciation to Keith and Jennifer for their time.

Planning 101 Presentation/Training

Kevan Sumner, City Planner presented an overview of the Planning framework in Ontario, the Official Plan and Zoning By-law, Planning Tools, and Council and the Planning Advisory Committee.

Discussion:

The group thanked Kevan for his informative presentation. Council requested that Planning 101 be included in Council Orientation.

E. Reports:

1. Corporate Services / Finance / Human Resources

1.1. Council Committee Work Update

Information Only

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Councillor Manson – Handi-Transt meetings fall on the same date as Committee of the Whole, Councillor Manson has requested the meetings date/time be amended. Kenora Public Library Board - nothing to report.

Councillor Koch – The MUSE is far into recruitment for the Director position with a third-party recruiter. The MUSE will have policy updates coming to Council. The Douglas Family Art Centre has a textile exhibit called In the Middle of the World until June 17th. The MUSE currently has the Something to Talk About exhibit on the 1973 Kenora Bank Robbery which closes on June 10th. Councillor Koch is participating in Drowning Prevention Research Centre sessions to focus on the development of a community drowning prevention and boating injuries study.

Councillor Bernie – The BIZ will be meeting next week. The group is looking at formalizing their meeting dates for the 3rd Thursday of every month at 5:00 p.m. In conjunction with Tourism Kenora, the BIZ is looking at hosting 3 downtown markets, including one in the evening with live music. Hennipen Lane beautification is a project the BIZ is exploring. Simple things to rejuvenate the area and direct traffic there would be a big win. The Northwestern Health Unit Board (NWHU) – Several members of Council and NWHU board members attended NOMA. Locally, Dr. Kitt Young Hoon is a member of the expert panel advisory committee on cannabis, alcohol, tobacco and opioids. The region is represented and there will be a report in the fall of 2023. Crime Prevention and Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee – The City is looking forward to getting the committee established. There have been a number of applications received for the committee. The City is still in the process of hiring the Community Safety Coordinator.

Councillor Chaze – No updates at this time.

Councillor Van Belleghem – As a member of the Police Services Board Councillor Van Belleghem will be attending the Ontario Association of Police Services Board Conference in Niagara at the end of May. Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) - National AccessAbility Awareness Week is May 28th to June 3rd. At the May AAC meeting Shaun Clifford, Facilities Manager presented new park upgrades and developments. Accessibility and inclusion features are integrated into all new park upgrades and developments. Consultation took place with FireFly to create an autism calming centre, also known as a miracle museum, at Norman Park. The majority of new installations will include a rubber matting ground cover. The need for seating was also identified to encourage inter-generational play.

Councillor Moncrief – Earlier this month was the flag raising for the Kenora Festival of the Arts. There were two Kenora District Services Board (KDSB) finance and audit meetings. The auditors presented and the reports will be made public after the next board meeting. Councillor Moncrief, Councillor Koch and Councillor Van Belleghem attended the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Foundations in Planning course. Councillor Moncrief expressed the course was very helpful and would like to see this part of Council orientation. All Nations Health Partners (ANHP) – Councillor Chaze was unable to attend the ANHP meeting so Councillor Moncrief attended in his absence and found it very informative. There is a lot of conversation and a lot going on with the group. They are very aware of the City being a partner and continuing conversation. Although the City does not provide direct health services through the municipality the City does intersect with health providers. KDSB Board meeting – As a result of a discussion of a particular property that was under consideration for acquisition by the KDSB, it was reiterated that municipalities need to be included in conversations about the location of KDSB properties because the density of social programs and housing could substantially impact a neighbourhood. Kenora’s core is saturated and consultation is very important. Kenora Airport

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Authority – The airport is doing well despite slowed service levels during COVID and last year’s paving on the airport runway. They are geared up and ready for a busy summer. The board is looking forward to building a relationship with City as further opportunities come forward. Members of Council attended the Weyerhaeuser mill opening. It is an impressive plant. Historically as a municipality there is a lot of time and money spent attracting new business, hopefully the City can foster relationships with existing business and encourage healthy growth and development in our area. Culture and events in the community included A Sharing of Our Stories, Common Ground Story Telling, King Fisher Days at TryLight Theater and G Clef and Music Men Choir hosted a performance at Knox United Church. The Home and Leisure Show was held April 28th-30th, members of Council were in attendance and had lots of conversations, people are keen. Council heard you and will work your comments into conversations.

Mayor Poirier – The Kenora Health Care Centre Board of Directors meeting was attended by Councillor Koch and Mayor Poirier. The budget was passed, there was discussion on the space and what is available. Challenges with recruiting doctors were discussed, numbers are down which has a direct correlation with the budget and who pays what. Financially the Board is fine but vacancies need to be filled. Members of the board are working with groups that are tenants of the building, to come up with ideas. There was a discussion at the meeting regarding the membership of the committee. Currently the board has three Councillors, three members of the Kenora Medical Association, one member at large and one staff. The Kenora Medical Association is having difficulty filling board positions. There will have to be changes through by-law because it is non-profit corporation. The City Clerk has been reaching out to other organizations with a similar makeup. Council can go outside this body of Council, members can be whoever Council deems appropriate to represent the City on the committee. The City is connected to the organization because the City secures an extremely large mortgage on the building. If mortgage payments aren’t made, the City of Kenora is responsible for it. The mortgage is carried on the books as secured liability. Overall, it was a good board meeting and there will be more to come. Mayor Poirier was invited to the District Chamber of Commerce meeting. It was the swearing in for president, vice-president, etc., however some were unable to attend. Mayor Poirier has been asked to come back and swear in the members in the near future. Mayor Poirier provided a lot of information to the board on what Council and staff are doing in the community. There was discussion about the downtown and lobbying of governments, as well as a Q&A period. It is important that the City has a connection with the Chamber of Commerce. Mayor Poirier invited them to attend a Council meeting and provide information on what is going on. Kenora District Municipal Association (KDMA) had their first meeting. Prior to this there has been no formal meeting this term. The mandate and how to move forward with the organization were discussed. The group is looking at an all Mayors Council but not all municipalities are in favor. Mayor Poirier is the third Kenora Mayor on the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) board as a director from the Kenora district. The board is a very good group of people including Councillors, Mayors, CAOs, and other staff members of municipalities. Mayor Poirier attended his first meeting before the NOMA conference and the board will meet every two or three months. If you want to be heard you need to be seen. Kenora needs to be at the table, we are the second largest municipality in NOMA. At the Home and Leisure Show Mayor Poirier was approached and questioned if City Hall is moving to another location. To reassure people, Council and staff have not been involved in any discussion to move City Hall to the Operations Building.

1.2. 2023 Tax Rates & Ratios

Recommendation:

That Council hereby adopts Revenue Neutral Tax Ratios for 2023 to mitigate assessment impacts between property classes; and

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

A By-law to set tax ratios and to set tax rate increases for the prescribed property classes and subclasses for municipal purposes for the year 2023; 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 2023; and further

That in accordance with Notice By-law #160-2022, public notice is hereby given of Council's intention to set tax ratios and tax rates for 2023 at its May 17th, 2023 meeting.

1.3. 2023 BIZ Levy

Recommendation:

That Council hereby approves the Harbourtown Centre Business Improvement Board budget request in the amount of \$44,653.37 for 2023; and further

That Council gives three readings to a bylaw to adopt the estimates for funds to be raised for 2023 on behalf of the Harbourtown Centre Business Improvement Board; and further

That in accordance with Notice Bylaw Number 160-2022, public notice is hereby given that Council intends to formally adopt the 2023 Business Improvement Board Levy at its May 17th meeting.

1.4. Bail Reform Advocacy

Recommendation:

Whereas the cost of Policing and Emergency Services in Northern Communities is harming a community's ability to support local Social and Health issues; and

Whereas a small percentage of those affected by an Addiction in the communities of Northern Ontario are committing crimes; and

Whereas many of those committing crimes are not housed in the correctional system, therefore, remain in our communities, often those that do require treatment for their addiction issue receive none; and

Whereas some committing crimes become violent, but are released back into the community, due to the negative impacts Federal Bill C75; and

Whereas the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) believes that more must be done by the Federal Government on Bail Reform;

Therefore Be It Resolved That the City of Kenora, aligned with the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) requests the Federal Government make these Legislative changes by;

1. Creating a Designation of a chronic persistent offender.
2. Allowing community impact statements at bail and at bail hearings.
3. Creating reverse onus in bail for all firearms offences.
4. All bail-related gun charges go to the superior court for bail release; and

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That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Prime Minister, Federal Justice Minister, Premier of Ontario, The Attorney General, the Solicitor General, Minister of Infrastructure, Minister of Municipal Affairs, the Honourable Greg Rickford, Kenora-Rainy River MPP, Eric Melillo, Kenora MP, Leaders of the Opposition, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities.

Discussion:

It was asked if there has been any community consultation specifically in our area being that Kenora is a justice hub. There has not been consultation that City staff are aware of, this resolution was generated at the FONOM conference held last week. Council expressed concerns with the wording on guns related charges and requested this language be changed to weapons related charges.

Revised Recommendation:

Whereas the cost of Policing and Emergency Services in Northern Communities is harming a community's ability to support local Social and Health issues; and

Whereas a small percentage of those affected by an Addiction in the communities of Northern Ontario are committing crimes; and

Whereas many of those committing crimes are not housed in the correctional system, therefore, remain in our communities, often those that do require treatment for their addiction issue receive none; and

Whereas some committing crimes become violent, but are released back into the community, due to the negative impacts Federal Bill C75; and

Whereas the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) believes that more must be done by the Federal Government on Bail Reform;

Therefore Be It Resolved That the City of Kenora, aligned with the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) requests the Federal Government make these Legislative changes by;

1. Creating a Designation of a chronic persistent offender.
2. Allowing community impact statements at bail and at bail hearings.
3. Creating reverse onus in bail for all weapons offences.
4. All bail-related weapons charges go to the superior court for bail release; and

That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Prime Minister, Federal Justice Minister, Premier of Ontario, The Attorney General, the Solicitor General, Minister of Infrastructure, Minister of Municipal Affairs, the Honourable Greg Rickford, Kenora-Rainy River MPP, Eric Melillo, Kenora MP, Leaders of the Opposition, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities.

1.5. Municipal Milestone and Retirement Policy #HR-2-15

Recommendation:

That Council hereby accepts the revised HR-2-15 Municipal Milestone and Retirement Policy; and further

That amended Policy #HR-2-15 form part of the City's Comprehensive Policy Manual; and further

That bylaw number 50-2018 be hereby repealed; and further

That three readings be given to a bylaw for this purpose.

1.6. Q1 Human Resources Risk & Insurance Department Report

Recommendation:

That Council hereby receives the 2023 First Quarter Report for the Human Resources, Risk and Insurance Department.

1.7. Q1 Corporate Services Department Report

Recommendation:

That Council hereby receives the 2023 First Quarter Report for the Corporate Services Department.

2. Fire & Emergency Services

2.1 Fire Services Master Plan

Recommendation:

That Council receives the Fire Services Master Plan as completed by BEHR Integrated Solutions; and further

That the Fire Services Master Plan be used as a guiding reference document for Council and staff to develop a strategic approach to the delivery of fire services for the City of Kenora over the next five to ten years.

2.2 Budget Amendment – Fire Tanker Truck and Award of Contract

Recommendation:

That Council hereby accepts the tender submission from Fort Garry Fire Trucks for the purchase of a Fire Tanker Truck in the amount of \$545,942; and further

That Council hereby approves an additional allocation of \$95,942 to be funded through internal debt financing for the purchase of a Fire Tanker Truck; and

That in accordance with Notice By-law Number 160-2022, public notice is hereby given that Council intends to amend its 2023 Operating & Capital Budget at its May 17, 2023 meeting to withdraw funds from the debt financing in the amount of \$95,942 to offset the cost of this purchase; and further

That Council gives three readings to a by-law to amend the 2023 budget for this purpose.

2.3 Q1 Fire & Emergency Services Department Report

Recommendation:

That Council hereby receives the 2023 First Quarter Report for Fire & Emergency Services.

3. Engineering & Infrastructure

3.1 Budget Amendment–2023 Municipal Line Painting Contract

Recommendation:

That Council hereby accepts the tender submission from North West Lines to complete the municipal street line painting contract in the amount of \$350,000 (excl. HST); and further

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That Council hereby approves an additional allocation of \$124,900 to be funded from the Roads Reserve to complete the 2023 Municipal Line Painting and Marking Contract; and further

That in accordance with Notice By-law Number 160-2022, public notice is hereby given that Council intends to amend its 2023 Operating & Capital Budget at its May 17, 2023 meeting to withdraw funds from the Roads Reserve in the amount of \$124,900 to offset the cost of this purchase; and further

That Council give three readings to a by-law to amend the 2023 budget for this purpose.

3.2 Accessible Parking Addition-Moncrief Construction Sports Centre

Recommendation:

That Council hereby approves an amendment to the Traffic Regulation By-law Number 180-2015, Schedule "L" – Accessible Parking Spaces on Municipal or Private Property to add two additional accessible parking spaces; and further

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

3.3 Accessible Parking Removal-Knox United Church

Recommendation:

That Council hereby approves an amendment to the Traffic Regulation By-law Number 180-2015, Schedule "K" – Accessible Parking on Municipal Streets and Schedule "C" – Limited/Restricted parking on Municipal Streets to remove a designated accessible parking spot outside the Knox United Church located on 2nd Street S and be replaced with a 15-Minute Waiting-Anytime parking space; and further

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

3.4 Q1 Engineering & Infrastructure Department Report

Recommendation:

That Council hereby receives the 2023 First Quarter Report for the Engineering and Infrastructure Department.

4. Recreation & Culture

4.1 Request for User Fees to be Waived at Moncrief Construction Sports Centre

Recommendation:

That Council hereby supports a reduction in user fees for use of the Moncrief Construction Sports Centre for It's a Dogs Life rental August 10, 11 and 12, 2023 and the Kenora Minor Baseball League rental May 13, 2023 in the amount of 30% of the established rental rates for the facility.

4.2 Q1 Recreation & Culture Department Report

Recommendation:

That Council hereby receives the 2023 First Quarter Report for the Recreation and Culture Department.

5. Development Services

5.1 Development Contribution Analysis and Review

Recommendation:

That Council hereby directs Administration to proceed with the creation of a development

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Contribution by-law for certain developments that provide public benefit to the City of Kenora from private sector development.

5.2 Amendment to the Municipal Capital Facilities By-law

Recommendation:

That Council authorizes an amendment to the City of Kenora Municipal Capital Facilities By-law number 84-2022 for Municipal Housing Project Facilities to reflect alignment with the most recent Ministry of Municipal Affairs housing tables and other administrative revisions; and further

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

5.3 Q1 Economic Growth & Recovery Department Report

Recommendation:

That Council hereby receives the 2023 First Quarter Report for the Economic Growth and Recovery Department.

F. Proclamations

Mayor Poirier then read the following proclamations:

- Children's Mental Health Week – May 1-7, 2023
- Lyme Disease Awareness Month – May 2023

H. Next Meeting

- Wednesday, June 14, 2023

I. Adjourn to Closed

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

That Council now adjourn to a closed session at 2:22 p.m.; and further

That pursuant to Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, the Closed Session will discuss items pertaining to the following:-

- i) Personal Matters about an Identifiable Individual (1 matter-Sustainability Advisory Committee Application)
- ii) Educating & Training Members of Council (2 matter-Mayor & CAO updates)
- iii) Personal matters about an identifiable individual (1 matter-development)

J. Reconvene to Open Meeting

Council reconvenes to open session at 4:06 p.m. with the following reports from its closed session:-

Recommendation:

That Council hereby appoints Lisa Devlin to the Sustainability Advisory Committee for a term at the pleasure of Council no later than November 14, 2026.

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K. Close Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 4:07 p.m.