

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAR FALLS

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting of Ear Falls Council #12
Ear Falls Municipal Council Chambers
September 4, 2024 @ 2:30 p.m.

1 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kevin Kahoot called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

2 ROLL CALL

Mayor Kevin Kahoot, Councillor Brad Mountain, Councillor Daniel Sutton, Councillor Kim Thain, Councillor Doug Woolsey, Clerk Treasurer Administrator Kimberly Ballance, and Deputy Clerk Shawna Weston.

3 DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

None Declared.

4 DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

None.

PART I – CONSENT AGENDA

(For the purpose of convenience and for expediting Meetings, matters of business of repetitive or routine nature are included in the Consent Agenda, and all such matters of business contained in the Consent Agenda are voted on collectively.

A particular matter of business may be singled out from the Consent Agenda for debate or for a separate vote upon the request of any Member of Council. In the case of a separate vote, the excluded matter of business is severed from the Consent Agenda, and only the remaining matters of business contained in the Consent Agenda are voted on collectively.

Each and every matter of business contained in the Consent Agenda is recorded separately in the Minutes of the Meeting.)

Council requested clarification on Item Nos. 7.1.2., 7.1.3, 7.1.5, 7.1.11, 7.1.12, 7.2.1, and 7.7.

RESOLUTION NO. 136

Moved by Doug Woolsey. Seconded by Kim Thain.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls hereby adopts the Items in Sections 5 – 7 of Part 1 – Consent Agenda.

Carried.

5 MINUTES

C04-MI

5.1 The review and passing of the Minutes of the previous Meetings.

5.1.1 July 31st, 2024 – Regular Meeting of Council Minutes

RESOLUTION NO. 137

Moved by Daniel Sutton. Seconded by Doug Woolsey.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls accepts the Minutes of the previous Meetings of Council numbered 5.1.1 at the September 4th, 2024, Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried.

5.2 Minutes of Committees.

C06-JO

5.2.1 March 27, 2024 - Health & Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

C06-JO

5.2.2 July 29, 2024 - Health & Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

RESOLUTION NO. 138

Moved by Doug Woolsey. Seconded by Daniel Sutton.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls receives and files the Minutes of Committees numbered 5.2.1 and 5.2.2 at the September 4th, 2024, Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried.

5.3 Minutes from other Agencies / Organizations.

A01-NO

5.3.1 May 24, 2024 – Northwestern Health Unit Board Meeting Minutes

RESOLUTION NO. 139

Moved by Daniel Sutton. Seconded by Doug Woolsey.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls receives and files the Minutes from other Agencies / Organizations numbered 5.3.1 at the September 4th, 2024, Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried.

6 TENDERS / PROPOSALS / QUOTES

None.

7 MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS

7.1. Correspondence.

D05-MI

7.1.1 Letter dated August 1, 2024, from the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada, re: Notice of Commencement of the Impact Assessment for the Great Bear Gold Project

A01-MU

7.1.2 Letter dated August 8, 2024, from Minister Paul Calandra Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH), re: Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) delegation

Council requested clarification on this letter.

A01-NO

7.1.3 Letter dated July 16, 2024, from Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA), re: Letter to the Nurse Practitioners' Association of Ontario to support Nurse Practitioners to obtain Billing Numbers

Council requested clarification on this matter and whether NOMA is promoting additional training and recruitment for the region.

S08-NO

7.1.4 Letter dated August 14, 2024, from the Northwestern Health Unit (NWHU), re: Release of the NWHU Alcohol Trends Dashboard

M06-ON

7.1.5 Ontario News, dated August 14, 2024, re: Ontario Helping Seniors in Northwestern Ontario Stay Fit, Healthy and Active

Council requested clarification on this funding.

M06-ON

7.1.6 Ontario News, dated August 15, 2024, re: More Child Care Fee Reductions coming for Families for Ontario Families

M06-ON

7.1.7 Ontario News, dated August 19, 2024, re: Ontario Supporting Communities with New and Upgraded Sport and Recreation Facilities

M06-ON

7.1.8 Ontario News, dated August 19, 2024, re: Premier Doug Ford Speech at AMO Conference

M06-ON

7.1.9 Ontario News, dated August 20, 2024, re: Giving Municipalities the Tools to Build More Homes Faster – Update to the Provincial Planning Statement (PPS)

F11-IN

7.1.10 Email dated August 21, 2024, from Inclusive Community Grants, Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility re: Funding Denial under the Inclusive Community Grant – Plaza Curb Cut project

M06-ON

7.1.11 Ontario News, dated August 20, 2024, re: Advancement of Berens River Bridge Construction

Council requested clarification on the location of the bridge and the connection to the existing road network.

M06-ON

7.1.12 Ontario News, dated August 20, 2024, re: Ontario Investing \$400 Million in Roads and Bridges to Enable More Homes

Council requested clarification on this funding.

RESOLUTION NO. 140

Moved by Kim Thain. Seconded by Doug Woolsey.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls receives and files the documents numbered 7.1.1 to 7.1.12 at the September 4th, 2024, Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried.

7.2 Monthly Reports to Council

C11-MU

7.2.1 Public Service and Operations – August 2024

Council requested clarification on the Nymark Storm Drain work planned in the 2025 budget and an update on Arena Ice Installation.

P01-BY

7.2.2 By-Law Enforcement Officer – August 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 141

Moved by Kim Thain. Seconded by Daniel Sutton.

RESOLVED THAT Council receives and files the Monthly Report to Council numbered 7.2.1 to 7.2.2 at the September 4th, 2024, Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried.

- 7.3 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures – year to date (dated August 30, 2024).

Council reviewed the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures - year to date (August 30, 2024) in accordance with By-Law 2283-20.

- 7.4 Email dated August 21, 2024, from Dr. Tom Ding re: Request to Waive Penalties

RESOLUTION NO. 142

Moved by Doug Woolsey. Seconded by Daniel Sutton.

WHEREAS rent for Account No. 000396 was billed on May 2, 2024, penalties for non-payment were applied on June 1, 2024, and payment was made on June 11, 2024; and

WHEREAS the account is typically prepaid for periods of five months or more;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLED THAT the Council of the Township of Ear Falls agrees to waive penalties on a one-time basis for Account No. 000396 in the amount of \$29.34.

Carried.

- 7.5 Municipal Property Assessment Corporation’s Response to the Application made under Section 357 for the 2024 Tax Year.

RESOLUTION NO. 143

Moved by Doug Woolsey. Seconded by Kim Thain.

RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls has no objection to the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation's Response to the Application made under Section 357 of the Municipal Act, 2001 for the 2024 Tax Year regarding the property identified as:

	CURRENT PHASED-IN ASSESSMENT	REVISED PHASED-IN ASSESSMENT
ROLL NUMBER		

6042-000-001-31100-0000	\$5,700 RT	\$4,300 E
-------------------------	------------	-----------

Carried.

7.6 Municipal Property Assessment Corporation’s Response to the Application made under Section 357 for the 2024 Tax Year.

RESOLUTION NO. 144

Moved by Daniel Sutton. Seconded by Doug Woolsey.

RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls has no objection to the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation's Response to the Application made under Section 357 of the Municipal Act, 2001 for the 2024 Tax Year regarding the property identified as:

ROLL NUMBER	CURRENT PHASED-IN ASSESSMENT	REVISED PHASED-IN ASSESSMENT
6042-000-001-38200-0000	\$4,300 RT	\$4,300 E

Carried.

F00-SC

7.7 Subscriptions and Memberships Listing Renewal – 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 145

Moved by Daniel Sutton. Seconded by Kim Thain.

RESOLVED THAT the Subscriptions and Memberships be renewed for the year 2025, in accordance with the attached listing, as amended.

Carried.

F00-TR

7.8 2025 Annual Travel and Attendance List

RESOLUTION NO. 146

Moved by Doug Woolsey. Seconded by Daniel Sutton.

RESOLVED THAT travel and attendance be hereby authorized in accordance with the attached 2025 Annual Travel and Attendance List.

Carried.

*F11-FI

- 7.9 Application to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry for the FireSmart Community Grants Program

RESOLUTION NO. 147

Moved by Kim Thain. Seconded by Daniel Sutton.

RESOLVED THAT Clerk Treasurer Administrator Kimberly Ballance is hereby authorized and directed to submit an application for funding to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry for the FireSmart Community Grants Program to Update the Community Wildland Fire Protection Plan.

Carried.

*F11-FI

- 7.10 Application to the Ministry of the Solicitor General for the Fire Protection Grant

RESOLUTION NO. 148

Moved by Doug Woolsey. Seconded by Daniel Sutton.

RESOLVED THAT Clerk Treasurer Administrator Kimberly Ballance is hereby authorized and directed to submit an application for funding to the Ministry of the Solicitor General for the Fire Protection Grant Program to purchase Bunker Gear for the Ear Falls Fire Department.

Carried.

8 BY-LAWS

Council requested clarification on Item Nos. 8.5 and 8.6

- 8.1 By-Law No. 2582-24, a By-Law to Affirm Minor Decisions by Council.

L07-LA

- 8.2 By-Law No. 2583-24, a By-Law to Authorize the Sale of 125 Forest Drive, Plan M700 Lot 61 to Justin Michael Kruse.

L07-LA

- 8.3 By-Law No. 2584-24, a By-Law to Authorize the Purchase of 78 Forest Drive, Plan M700 Lot 180, from Randall James Attoe.

L07-LA

- 8.4 By-Law No. 2585-24, a By-Law to Authorize the Purchase of 80 Forest Drive, Plan M700 Lot 179 from Kristana Lin Attoe.

C01-SC

8.5 By-Law No. 2586-24, a By-Law to Adopt the 2025 Schedule of Fees.

Council requested clarification on some of the fees including planning application fees. Council also requested clarification on the links to the Schedule of Fees on the website.

F22-TA

8.6 By-Law No. 2587-24, A By-Law to Authorize the Execution of a Tax Arrears Extension Agreement Pursuant to Section 378 of the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended.

Council requested clarification on the procedures for Tax Arrears Extension Agreements.

RESOLUTION NO. 149

Moved by Daniel Sutton. Seconded by Doug Woolsey.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls hereby considers By-Law Nos. 2582-24, 2583-24, 2584-24, 2585-24, 2586-24 and 2587-24 as passed.

Carried.

PART II – OTHER ITEMS

9 ITEMS FOR DIRECTION

C11-MU

9.1 Report to Council dated August 30, 2024, from Fire Chief Darryl Desjardins and Clerk Treasurer Administrator Kimberly Ballance re: Kenora District Services Board's (KDSB) request for Ear Falls Volunteer Fire Department assistance

Council discussed the report as presented and the current concerns with land ambulance service delivery in the community and the region due to a lack of paramedics. Council directed the Clerk Treasurer Administrator to work towards the development of an amended agreement for review by Council. This will include the development of procedures for an agreement's implementation in a manner that will not negatively impact the Township of Ear Falls Fire Department certification requirements or service levels.

9.2 Central Park Subdivision Sketch

Council discussed the sketch as presented and directed Administration to make further adjustments to the interior roadway to straighten it and make the necessary lot line realignments.

9.3 Shared Service Agreement with Municipality of Machin for Water Treatment Operation Services.

Council reviewed the agreement as presented and requested a small cost adjustment, prior to the draft going to Machin for their review.

9.4 Kenora District Municipal Association (KDMA) – Group Insurance Quote request

Council discussed the request and directed Administration to respond to the KDMA advising the Ear Falls will participate in group insurance quote if it is completed through a formal Request for Proposal Process open to all insurance companies, in accordance with the municipality's Procurement Policy.

10 REPORTS OF MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Councillor Kim Thain

Community Health Centre Board

- The Board has not had many meetings over the summer but will be meeting on Monday.
- A Community BBQ was planned but due to bad weather is being rescheduled.
- They are also running a fitness and health program.

Councillor Doug Woolsey

Attended the Township of Ear Falls' Health and Safety Meeting on August 28, 2024.

Advised that he has not yet participated in the Red Lake/Ear Falls Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Detachment Board because the Board is still working to source insurance for its board members.

Mayor Kahoot

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference

- Was unable to attend the AMO Conference with Councillor Sutton due to flight cancellations. Refunds are being processed for flights and hotels.

Kinross Great Bear Mine

- Met with Mac Potter about their Environmental Assessment Permits which remain underway. Kinross is hopeful that they will get these in place prior to Winter 2024. They are also interested in setting up a joint meeting with Ear Falls and Red Lake stakeholders.

Councillor Sutton left the meeting at this point

- Kinross is still moving forward on job posting processes for their

construction work. They are continuing to work with NPL Canada Ltd. on the natural gas line installation which will be used to generate power until the Environmental Assessment Permit for an electrical transmission line is approved and built.

Interfor

- Met with the Mill Manager, Denise Kuntz about updates in the sawmill with their SCADA and other technology. They also discussed issues with the softwood lumber agreement and their continuing efforts to attract and retain trucking contractors.

Springpole

- Met with Laird Tomalty about progress on their mine site and they will be hiring some maintenance employees for this winter. They are also moving forward with a bridge installation.

Councillor Sutton returned to the meeting.

Met with Jack Dawson about Ear Falls potentially hosting a team in the Lakehead Junior Hockey League for the 2025/2026 season. This is Junior B level hockey. Provided him with a tour of the Arena last week to show him what Ear Falls has to offer in terms of local facilities. Jack is working with the Lakehead Junior Hockey League's board of directors on it. If this proceeds, the team would likely have to travel more than other teams in the league due to proximity to the other teams, but the ice availability locally would suit a Junior B team which would need more weekday and weekend rental times.

Councillor Dan Sutton

Kenora District Services Board

- Advised that the Sunset Leisure Place renovation is moving forward, although it is slightly delayed from the original schedule. It will be completed in a reasonable timeline despite the delays.

11 CLOSED MEETING

None.

12 CLOSED REPORT

None.

13 ADJOURNMENT

13.1 RESOLUTION NO. 150

Moved by Doug Woolsey. Seconded by Kim Thain.

RESOLVED THAT this Regular Meeting of Council adjourn at the hour of
3:37 p.m.

Carried.

Mayor

Clerk