

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAR FALLS

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting of Ear Falls Council #23
Ear Falls Municipal Council Chambers
December 3, 2025 @ 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 (electronically), Councillor Kim Thain, Councillor Doug Woolsey, Deputy Clerk Shawna Weston and 1 member of the public

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.)

RESOLUTION NO. 239

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 November 19, 2025 – Regular Meeting of Council Minutes

RESOLUTION NO. 240

Moved by Kim Thain. 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 December 3rd, 2025, Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried.

5.2 Minutes of Committees.

None.

5.3 Minutes from other Agencies / Organizations.

None.

7 MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS

7.1. Correspondence.

M06-ON

7.1.1 Email from Ontario Newsroom, dated November 17, 2025, re:
Ontario Investing \$16.5 Million to Protect Tariff-Impacted
Workers and Businesses

S08-NO

7.1.2 Letter from Marilyn Herbacz, Chief Executive Officer,
Northwestern Health Unit (NWHU) received November 17, 2025,
re: Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls NWHU Office

M06-ON

7.1.3 Email from Ontario Newsroom, dated November 20, 2025, re:
Province Protecting Ontario with the Buy Ontario Act

M06-ON

7.1.4 Email from Ontario Newsroom, received November 25, 2025, re:
Province Cracking Down on Dangerous Driving to Protect People
on Ontario Roadways

M06-ON

7.1.5 Email from Ontario Newsroom, dated November 25, 2025, re:
Ontario Investing \$8 Million to Build Winter Roads in the North

M06-ON

7.1.6 Email from Ontario Newsroom, dated November 27, 2025, re:
Ontario Investing \$2 Million to Build Indigenous Community
Centre in Thunder Bay

RESOLUTION NO. 241

Moved by Doug Woolsey. Seconded by Kim Thain.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls receives and files the documents numbered 7.1.1 to 7.1.6 at the December 3rd, 2025, Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried.

F22-TA

- 7.2 Declare Property Surplus – 103 Forest Drive (Plan M700, Lot 50, PCL 5544)

RESOLUTION NO. 242

Moved by Kim Thain. Seconded by Doug Woolsey.

WHEREAS Council authorized the Treasurer to Vest Plan M700 Lot 50 PCL 5544 (103 Forest Drive) by Resolution 195-24, dated November 6, 2024, following an unsuccessful tax sale; and,

WHEREAS due to the poor condition of the trailer, Council directed that it be demolished prior to passing a motion to surplus the property; and

WHEREAS the trailer has now been demolished and property leveled;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Ear Falls hereby declares Plan M700 Lot 50 PCL 5544 (103 Forest Drive) to be surplus to the needs of the Corporation; and

FURTHER THAT based on the Opinion of Value provided in accordance with By-Law No. 2230-19, the minimum bid will be set at \$6,700 for M700, Lot 50 PCL 5544; and

FURTHER THAT Offers to Purchase will be accepted on a first come - first served basis beginning January 5, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

Carried.

M03-DO

- 7.3 Community Well-Being Reserve Fund – Project Approval Listing.

- a) Township of Ear Falls, Swimming Lesson Program – August 11-15, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. 243

Moved by Doug Woolsey. Seconded by Kim Thain.

WHEREAS Council deems that the project identified on the Community Well-Being Reserve Fund – Project Approval Listing, dated November 24, 2025, complies with the Reserve Fund Criteria; and

WHEREAS the Township of Ear Falls has received a generous donation of \$684.92 from the Ear Falls Trappers Council to support the Swimming Lessons Program;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves the project, in accordance with the Community Well-Being Reserve Fund – Project Approval Listing, dated November 24, 2025, as attached.

Carried.

8 BY-LAWS

8.1 By-Law No. 2682-25, a By-Law to Affirm Minor Decisions by Council.

F22-TA

8.2 By-Law No. 2683-25, a By-Law to repeal By-Law 2662-25 being a By-Law to Authorize the Execution of a Tax Arrears Extension Agreement.

RESOLUTION NO. 244

Moved by Doug Woolsey. Seconded by Kim Thain.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls hereby considers By-Law Nos. 2682-25 and 2683-25 as passed.

Carried.

PART II – OTHER ITEMS

9 ITEMS FOR DIRECTION

E01-SE

9.1 Response letter to Doug Dornan, dated November 17, 2025, regarding Sewer Line Issues.

For Discussion.

Council reviewed the letter and expressed appreciation to administration for thoroughly investigating the matter and appropriately communicating the outcome to the resident.

R06-UL

9.2 Report to Council dated November 28, 2025, from the Acting Treasurer, re: Recommendation Against Amending Residency Verification Requirements for the Ultimate Pass Program.

For Discussion.

Council thanked administration for the report and discussed possible changes to the Ultimate Pass Program's qualifying requirements. Mayor Kahoot will meet with administration to review updates before bringing them back to Council.

10 REPORTS OF MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Councillor Mountain joined the Fire Department in a photo opportunity to acknowledge Enbridge's donation, which will be used to purchase training materials.

Councillor Woolsey

- Attended Joint Community Safety & Well-Being Committee meeting last week. The committee is currently working on an Inclusion and Diversity Engagement Plan. Councillor Woolsey noted that there is a national group that will write the plan for the community at a cost of \$700/year and the cost would be split between the two communities. Clerk of Red Lake will get in touch with Ear Falls Acting Treasurer to discuss.

Red Lake is in the process of establishing a detox centre/safe bed establishment. They have recently purchased a residence on Forestry Road, where they can house a person in need for 30 days only, then the individual would move on to a rehabilitation program elsewhere.

Kinross

- Kinross is purchasing a Christmas hamper for all sawmill employees affected by the closure.

Councillor Thain

- Community Health Centre (CHC) had an AGM, where there was a discussion on buses for seniors to appointments.

Councillor Thain inquired about the status of the mandated Recycling Program being implemented across Ontario. She has had inquiries from residents about the program. Mayor Kahoot advised that the Provincial government will provide funding to smaller communities, however, there are still a lot of unknowns such as is it full cost recovery, how will Ear Falls be compensated, will we have to have a depot. He will try to get some information while in attendance at Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA).

Councillor Sutton

- Kenora District Services Board (KDSB) is extending their strategic plan for 2 years, so new board of directors won't have to take this on a new plan, they can roll with a current plan in place.

Mayor Kahoot

- Met with Chief Bill Petiquan where they spoke on the senior's housing project. John Paul George will send correspondence to inquire about funding opportunities.
- Spoke to Kevin Holland about funding opportunities for housing project.

- Spoke with Minister Pirie - Ministry of Northern Economic Development and Growth – re: Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) projects and future projects. Discussed the need for a new golf course clubhouse.

Northern Ontario Municipality Association (NOMA)

- Attended a NOMA meeting where they discussed lumber tariffs, highways and policing costs.

Springpole Mine

- Reported that their winter road permits were denied.

Attended CHC meeting – had a discussion with Dennis Gushulak regarding bussing for seniors to appointments. Will continue to investigate some opportunities.

Every second Friday there is a conference call between Mayor/Acting Treasurer/Ministry of Natural Resources regarding cottage lots, sludge beds and crown land purchases. Permits for the roads for cottage lots are complete.

Interfor

- The hog pile at the sawmill has grown considerably. Mayor Kahoot is scheduled to meet with Denise Kuntz before Christmas to review and discuss management plans for it.

11 CLOSED MEETING

None.

12 CLOSED REPORT

None.

13 ADJOURNMENT

13.1 RESOLUTION NO. 245

Moved by Kim Thain. Seconded by Doug Woolsey.

RESOLVED THAT this Regular Meeting of Council adjourn at the hour of 3:25 p.m.

Carried.

Mayor

Clerk