



***Minutes of the Special Budget Meeting
April 23th, 2025
1 Johnson Drive, Desbarats***

The following minutes are comprised of resolutions and the Clerk's interpretation of the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

Present: R. McKinnon, J. Kern, K. Stobie, E. McKinnon

Regrets: G. Grant

Staff: J. Maguire, J. Boucher, T. Phillips, R. Smith, D. Methot, P. Trotter, R. Ford, F. Labelle

Delegation:

Recognition of the Land Acknowledgment was given by Mayor Reg McKinnon

No Declaration of Pecuniary Interest was filed at this time.

Res. 2025-060 J. Kern, E. McKinnon

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL called the regular meeting to order at 6:00pm. (cd)

Council reviewed the budget as presented. The proposed budget represents a 2.86% tax rate increase over last year. Noted below is a summary of the items that resulted in the recommended tax rate increase.

- The Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund – the municipal operating grant, has been maintained at last year's level. Many municipalities saw an increase in this grant – given the increase in policing. We did not
- Municipal insurance costs have increased 11% (\$15,362.00)
- Computer Supplies and Services budget increased to allow for a fee increase from the service provider as well as the purchase of two new laptops.
- Algoma District Social Services budget represented a substantial increase this year of 6% (\$22,164.00)
- Algoma Public Health budget represented a 9% increase (\$2,890.00)
- The Sand Shed was complete in 2024 and the annual roads capital program continues. Approximately 2 KM of Gordon Lake Road will be surface treated, as well as culvert improvements, gravel on various roads and regular roads operations.

- Policing costs increased \$6,757.00. Though this is substantially lower than originally proposed, it still represents a 4% increase
- Fire Protection budget reflected a generator grant in 2024 and that project was completed. In addition, a PPE grant (Personal Protective Equipment) from the Fire Marshall's Office was received in December. Approximately \$3000.00 of the \$8500.00 grant remains and will be utilized in 2025. Other items such as WSIB contributed to this year's budget.
- Utilities – Water and Sewer – it is being proposed that there be a 5% increase in the water and sewer billings. A standard bill is currently \$98.50. The increase would result in a \$5.00 a month increase and the monthly bill would be approximately \$103.50. There was no increase in 2024.
- Recreation programming and arena operations were relatively comparable to other years, not including capital projects. The All -Season Surface is near completion, barring the fencing and that will be done in 2025. Large capital work such as a new generator project as well as other capital work to improve operating efficiencies are underway.
- Other budgetary increases include overall inflationary increases to utilities, supplies and services, increased fuel costs and so on.

Examples of the tax increase related to sample assessments is noted below for information purposes only.

Sample Assessments	2024 Taxes	2025 Taxes
\$50,000	\$959.98	\$987.41
\$100,000	\$1919.95	\$1974.82
\$150,000	\$2879.93	\$2962.23
\$200,000	\$3839.90	\$3949.65
\$250,000	\$4799.88	\$4937.06

The proposed blended tax rates for 2025:

Class	Subclass	General Tax Rate	Education Tax Rate	Total
Residential	Occupied	0.01821823	0.00153000	0.01974823
Multi-residential	Occupied	0.01821823	0.00153000	0.01974823
Commercial	Occupied	0.02619235	0.00880000	0.03499235
Commercial	Excess Land	0.01833465	0.00880000	0.02713465
Commercial	Vacant Land	0.01833465	0.00880000	0.02713465
Commercial	On-Farm Bus. 1	0.00654809	0.00220000	0.00874809
Commercial	On-Farm Bus. 2	0.00654809	0.00220000	0.00874809
Industrial	Occupied	0.02619235	0.00880000	0.03499235
Industrial	Excess Land	0.01702503	0.00880000	0.02582503
Industrial	Vacant Land	0.01702503	0.00880000	0.02582503
Aggregate Extraction	Occupied	0.02131289	0.00511000	0.02642289
Landfills	Occupied	0.02866925	0.00880000	0.03746925
Pipelines	Occupied	0.01538712	0.00707060	0.02245772
Farm	Occupied	0.00455456	0.00038250	0.00493706
Managed Forests	Occupied	0.00455456	0.00038250	0.00493706

Res. 2025-061 E. McKinnon, K. Stobie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL accepts the minutes for the April 16, 2025 meeting as presented. (cd)

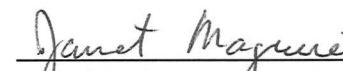
Res. 2025-062 J. Kern, K. Stobie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL adopts By-Law 2025-1140 being a confirming by-law for the proceedings of the Special Budget on April 23, 2025, as presented. (cd)

Res. 2025-063 E. McKinnon, J. Kern, K. Stobie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL adjourns at 7:00 pm and agrees to meet again on May 7, 2025 or at the call of the Mayor, as presented. (cd)


 Mayor: Reg McKinnon


 CAO/Clerk Janet Maguire

April 23, 2025

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