



*Minutes of the Regular Meeting
May 21, 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, G. Grant

Regrets: E. McKinnon

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

Delegation: Jared Alcock, PUC – Annual reporting for the Water Treatment System

Recognition of the Land Acknowledgment was given by Mayor Reg McKinnon.

No Declaration of Pecuniary Interest was filed at this time.

Res. 2025-064 J. Kern, K. Stobie

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

Jared Alcock, C.E.T., Supervisor, Water Treatment Operations for PUC, was in attendance to provide the municipality with an overview of the 2024 operations.

Res. 2025-065 G. Grant, K. Stobie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL accepts the DWO presentation from PUC as presented. (cd)

An addendum to the original agenda was presented. The following resolution was passed.

Res. 2025-066 K. Stobie, G. Grant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL adopts the addendum for the May 21, 2025 meeting of Council. (cd)

Res. 2025-067 J. Kern, K. Stobie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL approves the minutes of the April 23, 2025 meeting of Council as presented. (cd)

Res. 2025-068 J. Kern, K. Stobie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL adopts the statement for the month of April, 2025. (cd)

Res. 2025-069 K. Stobie, J. Kern

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL adopts the Staff and Committee Reports for April, 2025. (cd)

Staff members provided additional information regarding their reports, including in kind donations for upcoming recreation. The following resolution was passed to support this initiative.

Res. 2025-070 K. Stobie, J. Kern

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL supports the request of the Recreation Coordinator for in kind donations to the Relay for Life, Sustain Algoma and Fiber to Fabric pursuant to her report to Council on 2025 05 21. (cd)

The following resolution was adopted regarding the 2025 budget, representing a 2.86% tax rate increase. Department heads provided draft budgets earlier in the year, and those were reviewed for comparison to 2024 actual costs, potential cost savings/options. Many of the municipal expenditures are beyond the authority of the municipality, and many of those represented increased levy requirements. Areas where increased requests/requirements are noted below as well as other notes of interest:

- 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.
- 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. There was no increase reflected on Johnson's operating grant.

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- 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. The fencing of this surface 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.

Res. 2025-071 G. Grant, J. Kern

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL adopts By-Law No. 2025-1141, being a by-law to adopt the budgeted estimates, tax rates and to further provide for penalty and interest in default of payment thereof for the year 2025. (c)

Res. 2025-072 G. Grant, K. Stobie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL acknowledges a Notice of Motion for the adoption of by-laws to authorize the increased water and sewer fees to be adopted at the June 18, 2025 Council meeting. (c)

As a Condition of Consent for **Application #J2023-12**, the following by-law #2025-1142 was adopted to accept parts Carter Side Road and Gordon Lake Road.

Res. 2025-073 K. Stobie, J. Kern

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL adopt By-Law No. 2025-1142, being a road assumption by-law to assume part of Gordon Lake Road, being Part 2, 1R13975 and to assume part of Carter Side Road, being Part 3 and 4, 1R13975 (c)

Consent Application #J2025-02 was presented to Council and the following direction was taken.

Res. 2025-074 K. Stobie, G. Grant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL receive Consent Application #J2025-02 and accompanying questionnaire for N ½ Lot 6, parcel 2074 ACS, Old Mill Road. (c)

Council was in receipt of correspondence from Hugh MacDonald, representing his client. The following resolution was adopted, regarding a recommendation to Mr. MacDonald.

Res. 2025-075 K. Stobie, G. Grant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL acknowledges receipt of correspondence from the Law Office of Hugh MacDonald, representing his client, Thorncamp;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Planner is available for consultations of this nature, at the applicant's expenses;

AND RECOMMEND that Mr. MacDonald be directed to contact the Municipal Planner to address the planning matters associated with Mr. MacDonald's correspondence. (c)

The following two resolutions were presented regarding the Landfill – one being a report required for the 2024 Audited Financial Statements and the second was regarding adopting the 2024 annual operations report.

Res. 2025-076 G. Grant, J. Kern

WHEREAS THE MUNICIPALITY is required to provide information on Landfill Site Closure costs and post closure costs to be included in the 2024 Annual Audit;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL acknowledges receipt of correspondence from Tulloch Engineering providing estimates of the remaining life expectancy of the Johnson Tarbutt Joint Landfill, Landfill Closure costs and Landfill Post Closure Costs. (c)

Res. 2025-077 J. Kern, K. Stobie

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL acknowledges receipt of the 2024 Annual Operations Report for the Johnson Tarbutt Joint Landfill Site. (c)

The 2025 Planning Board Budget was presented for Council approval. This budget represented an increase of \$1380.00.

Res. 2025-078 J. Kern, G. Grant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL acknowledges receipt of the 2025 Planning Board Budget. (c)

Circular Materials Operating Agreement for Recyclables (CMO) has been reviewed by the municipal lawyer and municipal insurer. Concerns were raised regarding several issues, including insurance, compensation and households, as well as municipal liability. Minor adjustments to the agreement have been made. The municipal Insurance Provider will not provide a Certificate of Insurance in its current state, but will provide a modified certificate. CMO has also acknowledged that there will be no further changes to the agreement. Staff is requesting Council approval to sign the agreement as written.

Res. 2025-079 J. Kern, G. Grant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Operating Agreement with Circular Materials for recycling operations, commencing December 31, 2025, be received and that staff be authorized to sign the agreement as presented. (c)

Further to a request for Municipal Information for Liquor Sales Licence being received for 4 Lake Huron Drive, Staff asked Council to revisit the Planning Report from 2023, to ensure the requirements stipulated in the report are still relevant. Council confirmed that they were and the following resolution was passed.

Res. 2025-080 K. Stobie, J. Kern

WHEREAS COUNCIL requested a Planning Report from Municipal Planning Services (2023 07 14) regarding an Application for a Liquor Licence at 4 Lake Huron Drive;

AND WHEREAS the completed report was provided to the Applicant of the Liquor Licence on 2023 07 19;

AND WHEREAS COUNCIL concurs with the recommendations in the report, as provided;

THEREFORE, the Clerk/CAO is authorized to submit the report as an attachment to the Municipal Information for Liquor Sales Licence Application. (AGCO) (cd)

Council moved into closed session as noted below, to address Municipal Property at 5 Margaret Street.

Res: 2025-81 J. Kern, G. Grant

WHEREAS the Municipal Act S.O. 2001 Ch. 25 as amended, Section 239(2) permits closed meetings, therefore, be it resolved that Council proceeds into Closed Session at 7:10 PM in order to address a matter pertaining to a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board. (cd)

Res: 2025-82 G. Grant, J. Kern

Resolved that we do return to open meeting of Council at 8:00 PM. (c)

Actions to be taken as a result of the Closed Meeting of Council: Staff to obtain additional information, to be presented to Council at the June 18th, 2025 meeting of Council.

Res. 2025-083 J. Kern, K. Stobie

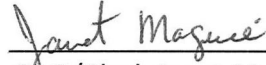
BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL adopts By-Law 2025-1143 being a confirming by-law for the proceedings of the meeting of Council on May 21, 2025 presented. (cd)

Res. 2025-084 J. Kern, G. Grant

BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL adjourns at 8:05 pm and agrees to meet again on June 18, 2025 or at the call of the Mayor. (cd)



Mayor: Reg McKinnon



CAO/Clerk Janet Maguire