



The United Counties of Prescott and Russell

Minutes

Regular Council Meeting

**Wednesday, September 25, 2024, 9:00 a.m.
Counties' Administration Building, L'Orignal**

Members Present:

Francis Brière
Robert Kirby
Genevieve Lajoie
Yves Laviolette
Robert Lefebvre
Normand Riopel, Warden
Mike Tarnowski
Mario Zanth

Staff Present:

Olivier Berthiaume
Jérémie Bouchard
Marc-André Drouin
Pierre Gauthier
Éric Larocque
Sylvie Millette
Marc-André Périard
Stéphane P. Parisien, Deputy Clerk
Valérie Parisien
Louis Prévost
Gabriel Rousselle
Mary Ann C. Tisdall

Staff Absent:

Mélissa Cadieux, Clerk

1. Opening of the Meeting

The Warden called the meeting to order.

2. Vision and Land Acknowledgement

3. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution 2024-159

Moved by Francis Brière

Seconded by Yves Laviolette

Be it resolved that the Agenda be adopted with the following amendment:

That the motion under item 7.1.1, put forward by Mayor Brière, be addressed at this Council Meeting.

Carried

4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None

5. Petitions, Delegations, and Presentations

5.1 Michel Chrétien - Community Safety and Well-being Plan

Resolution 2024-160

Moved by Mario Zanth

Seconded by Genevieve Lajoie

Be it resolved that the request for financial support in the amount of \$50,000 be discussed during the 2025 budgetary discussions and that the Community Safety and Well-being Plan be reviewed on an annual basis.

Carried

6. Consent Items

Resolution 2024-161

Moved by Francis Brière

Seconded by Mike Tarnowski

Be it resolved that the Consent Items be adopted as presented with the exception of item 6.3.3, which will be addressed separately.

Carried as amended

6.1 Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of August 28, 2024

Resolution 2024-162

Moved by Francis Brière

Seconded by Mike Tarnowski

Be it resolved that the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of August 28, 2024, be adopted as presented.

Carried

6.2 Monthly Accounts

Resolution 2024-163

Moved by Francis Brière

Seconded by Mike Tarnowski

Be it resolved that Council authorize and adopt the salaries, benefits, and accounts paid for the months of July and August 2024 as follows:

July 2024

1. Total salaries: \$3,220,524.69;
2. Total benefits: \$930,547.43; and
3. General accounts, pages 1 to 6, for a total of \$5,866,734.41.

August 2024

1. Total salaries: \$3,735,470.83;
2. Total benefits: \$1,079,934.61; and
3. General accounts, pages 1 to 6, for a total of \$4,951,145.45.

Carried

6.3 Correspondence to Council

Resolution 2024-164

Moved by Francis Brière

Seconded by Mike Tarnowski

Be it resolved that Council receive the correspondence listed in items 6.3.1 and 6.3.2 for information purposes.

Carried as amended

6.3.1 Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus Advocacy Joint Letter - AMO Continues for a Social and Economic Prosperity Review

6.3.2 Letter of Support for the New Recreation Complex in the Township of Russell

6.3.3 Letter of Request for Support - Eastern School Transport Consortium

Resolution 2024-165

Moved by Robert Lefebvre

Seconded by Mario Zanth

Be it resolved that the Council of the United Counties of Prescott and Russell endorse the resolution of the Corporation of the Town of Hawkesbury requesting that the *Consortium de transport scolaire de l'Est*, as well as the Ministry of Education, agree to pause the implementation of the new and revised criteria regarding school bus transportation distances;

And that the Ministry of Education fund a study regarding the planning and delivery of student transportation services on behalf of the *Consortium de transport scolaire de l'Est*;

And that this resolution be sent to the Minister of Education and the *Consortium de transport scolaire de l'Est*.

Carried

7. Notices of Motion and Members' Written Resolutions

7.1 Mayor Francis Brière

7.1.1 Request for Amendment of the Regional Community Investment Fund Policy (ADM-026)

Resolution 2024-166

Moved by Francis Brière

Seconded by Mike Tarnowski

Whereas By-law 2024-08 to adopt a *Regional Community Investment Fund Policy* (ADM-026) was passed by Council on February 28, 2024.

Be it resolved that the *Regional Community Investment Fund Policy* be amended as follows: in cases where a proposed project, where all funding is retained by the lower-tier municipality, is supported by

a resolution of a lower-tier municipal Council and where no funding is to be donated to third parties, a formal funding agreement with the United Counties of Prescott and Russell will not be required. A resolution from the lower-tier municipal Council detailing how the funds will be utilized and how the United Counties of Prescott and Russell's contributions will be publicly recognized and advertised will suffice. This public recognition and advertisement will be preapproved by the United Counties of Prescott and Russell.

Be it further resolved that the *Regional Community Investment Fund Policy* be further amended as follows: any such project may be pre-approved for multi-year funding, without extending beyond the current Term of the United Counties of Prescott and Russell Council, subject to the availability of funds from the United Counties of Prescott and Russell as determined by the annual budget.

Be it further resolved that the *Regional Community Investment Fund Policy* be further amended as follows: in cases when a formal funding agreement with the United Counties of Prescott and Russell is not required, an insurance certificate and the mandatory reporting, as mentioned in subsection 5.11 of the *Regional Community Investment Fund Policy*, will also not be required.

Carried

Mayor Robert Lefebvre leaves the Regular Council Meeting at 9:35 a.m.

8. Reports of Departments and Committees

8.1 Administration

8.1.1 Applications by Mayor Lajoie under the Regional Community Investment Fund

Resolution 2024-167

Moved by Genevieve Lajoie
Seconded by Mike Tarnowski

Be it resolved that Council approve the application for the Regional Community Investment Fund, in compliance with the *Regional Community Investment Fund Policy* (ADM-026), as submitted by Mayor Lajoie, to partially fund the phase 2 of the Bird's Eye View Park Project.

Carried

Resolution 2024-168

Moved by Genevieve Lajoie
Seconded by Yves Laviolette

Be it resolved that Council approve the application for the Regional Community Investment Fund, in compliance with the *Regional Community Investment Fund Policy* (ADM-026), as submitted by Mayor Lajoie, for the purchase and installation of a new electronic billboard.

Carried

8.2 Social Services

8.2.1 SS-05-2024 - Ontario Ministry of Education Start-up Grant

Resolution 2024-169

Moved by Genevieve Lajoie
Seconded by Mike Tarnowski

Be it resolved that Council approve Option 1, whereby the start-up grant is used to support the renovation of the Bhakta Prahlad Montessori Daycare Centre.

Carried

8.3 Information Technology

8.3.1 TI-01-2024 - Replacement of Information Technology Security Firewalls

Resolution 2024-170

Moved by Yves Laviolette
Seconded by Francis Brière

Be it resolved that the Council approve Option 1, as presented in Report TI-01-2024.

Carried

9. Question Period to Department Heads

Members of Council asked Department Heads questions pertaining to various files.

10. By-laws 2024-38 and 2024-39

Resolution 2024-171

Moved by Yves Laviolette
Seconded by Mario Zanth

Be it resolved that the following By-laws be adopted by the Council of the United Counties of Prescott and Russell after the three readings:

2024-38 To adopt the Terms of Reference for the Planning Standing Committee;

2024-39 To amend By-law 2024-19 - being a By-law to regulate traffic and parking on highways under the jurisdiction of the Corporation of the United Counties of Prescott and Russell.

Carried

Resolution 2024-172

Moved by Mike Tarnowski
Seconded by Yves Laviolette

Whereas the Procedure By-law 2018-12 provides that nominations to committees, boards, and commissions shall be appointed by the Warden and approved thereafter by Council.

Be it resolved that the following nominations to the Planning Standing Committee for the year 2024 be approved:

- Mario Zanth, Chair (Council Member);
- Francis Brière, Vice-Chair (Council Member);
- Robert Kirby (Council Member); and
- Normand Riopel (Warden).

Carried

11. Closed Session

There were no questions on the Closed Session item; therefore, the Public Meeting continued, and no Closed Session Meeting was held.

11.1 Closed Session Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting dated August 28, 2024

Resolution 2024-173

Moved by Mike Tarnowski

Seconded by Mario Zanth

Be it resolved that the Closed Session Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of August 28, 2024, be adopted as presented.

Carried

12. Confirmatory By-law 2024-40

Resolution 2024-174

Moved by Robert Kirby

Seconded by Francis Brière

Be it resolved that Council adopt By-law 2024-40 to confirm the proceedings and recommendations made in the reports, resolutions, and By-laws at the Regular Council Meeting of September 25, 2024, after the three readings.

Carried

13. Announcements

Members of Council announced different activities or events happening in their municipalities.

14. Adjournment

The Regular Council Meeting is adjourned at 9:48 a.m.

Normand Riopel, Warden

Stéphane P. Parisien, Deputy Clerk