

City of Pembroke Council Meeting

Council Chambers
Pembroke, Ontario
September 5, 2023
10:27 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Present:

Mayor Gervais, Chair
Deputy Mayor Abdallah
Councillor Jacyno
Councillor Kuehl
Councillor Lafreniere
Councillor Plummer
Councillor Purcell

Also Present:

David Unrau, Chief Administrative Officer/Deputy Clerk
Nancy Rapin, Recording Secretary

Mayor Gervais called the regular meeting of Council to order at 10:27 p.m.

2. Opening Prayer or Reflection

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest & General Nature Thereof

There were no pecuniary interests declared.

4. Minutes

- i. Approve minutes from Council
 - a. Regular Meeting of Council – August 8, 2023

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Plummer

Seconded by Councillor Kuehl

That the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council of August 8, 2023, be approved as circulated.

Carried

- b. Special Meeting of Council – August 10, 2023

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Jacyno

Seconded by Councillor Kuehl

That the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council of August 10, 2023, be approved as circulated.

Carried

- ii. Adopt minutes from Committees
 - a. Striking Committee – April 18, 2023

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Kuehl

Seconded by Councillor Plummer

That the minutes of the Striking Committee meeting held on April 18, 2023, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

b. Combined Committee – August 8, 2023

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Abdallah

Seconded by Councillor Kuehl

That the minutes of the Combined Committee meeting held on August 8, 2023, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

6. Committee Reports

Striking Committee – Appoint Member to the Pembroke Beautification and Climate Action Advisory Committee

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Lafreniere

Seconded by Councillor Kuehl

That Alex Benzie be appointed to the Pembroke Beautification and Climate Action Advisory Committee for this current term of Council ending November 14, 2026.

Carried

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Purcell

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Abdallah

That Council approve the extension of the meeting by one half hour.

Carried

7. By-Laws

a. 2023-59 Pembroke Professional Firefighters' Association Agreement

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Abdallah

Seconded by Councillor Plummer

That By-law 2023-59, being a by-law to authorize the execution of a Collective Agreement between the Pembroke Professional Firefighters' Association and the Corporation of the City of Pembroke, be adopted and passed;

And Further That the said By-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the seal of the Corporation.

Carried

b. 2023-60 Official Plan Amendment #16 (Changes to the Planning Act)

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Jacyno

Seconded by Councillor Plummer

That By-law 2023-60, a by-law to authorize the adoption of Amendment Number Sixteen to the Official Plan, 2016, of the City of Pembroke Planning Area, be adopted and passed;

And Further That the said By-law be signed by the Deputy Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the seal of the Corporation.

Carried

- c. 2023-61 Zoning By-law Amendment (Housekeeping Items)

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Kuehl

Seconded by Councillor Lafreniere

That By-law 2023-61, being a by-law to amend By-law 2020-05 of the Corporation of the City of Pembroke, being a by-law to regulate the use of lands and the character, location and use of buildings and structures in the City of Pembroke, be adopted and passed;

And Further That the said By-law be signed by the Deputy Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the seal of the Corporation.

Carried

- d. 2023-62 Rural Economic Development Funding Agreement

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Purcell

Seconded by Councillor Lafreniere

That By-law 2023-62, being a by-law to authorize the entering into a Rural Economic Development Program Agreement between His Majesty the King in the Right of Ontario, as represented by the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and the Corporation of the City of Pembroke, be adopted and passed;

And Further That the said By-law be signed by the Deputy Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the seal of the Corporation.

Carried

- e. 2023-63 Recreational Open-Air Burning

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Plummer

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Abdallah

That By-law 2023-63, being a by-law to regulate "Recreational Open-Air Burning" and precautions to be taken by owner in the City of Pembroke, be adopted and passed;

And Further That the said By-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the seal of the Corporation.

Councillor Jacyno requested a recorded vote.

Yea: Gervais, Abdallah, Kuehl, Lafreniere, Plummer, Purcell

Nea: Jacyno

Carried

- f. 2023-64 General Borrowing (New and Ongoing Capital Works)

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Abdallah

Seconded by Councillor Plummer

That By-law 2023-64, being a by-law to authorize certain New Capital Work(s); to authorize the submission of an application on Ontario Infrastructure and Lands Corporation (OILC); to authorize temporary borrowing from OILC for Capital Work(s); and to authorize long-term borrowing for such Capital Works through the issue of debentures to OILC, be adopted and passed;

And Further That the said By-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the seal of the Corporation.

Carried

g. 2023-65 Zoning By-law Amendment (201 Pembroke Street West)

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Kuehl

Seconded by Councillor Lafreniere

That By-law 2023-65, being a by-law to amend By-law 2020-05 of the Corporation of the City of Pembroke, being a by-law to regulate the use of lands and the character, location and use of buildings and structures in the City of Pembroke, be adopted and passed; And Further That the said By-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the seal of the Corporation.

Carried

7. Motions

a. Resolution 2023-015 Ribs in the Valley Rib Charity Competition (Change Date)

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Purcell

Seconded by Councillor Lafreniere

Be It Resolved That the Corporation of the City of Pembroke recognizes the Ribs in the Valley Charity Rib Competition on September 23, 2023, (rain date September 30, 2023) from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. at 2 International Drive, Pembroke as an Event of Municipal Significance and designates it as such for the purposes of an application for a Special Occasion Permit from the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario.

b. Resolution 2023-16 Holding Municipal Elected Representatives Accountable for Violence and Harassment

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Lafreniere

Seconded by Councillor Purcell

Whereas, all Ontarians deserve and expect a safe and respectful workplace; and

Whereas, municipal governments, as the democratic institutions most directly engaged with Ontarians need respectful discourse; and

Whereas, several incidents in recent years of disrespectful behaviour and workplace harassment have occurred amongst members of municipal councils; and

Whereas, these incidents seriously and negatively affect the people involved and lower public perceptions of local governments; and

Whereas, municipal governments do not have the necessary tools to adequately enforce compliance with municipal Codes of Conduct;

Now, Therefore the Council of the Corporation of the City of Pembroke resolves as follows:

1. That the City of Pembroke supports the call of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for the Government of Ontario to introduce legislation to strengthen municipal Codes of Conduct and compliance with them in consultation with municipal governments;
2. That the legislation be prioritized for the fall of 2023 and encompass the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's recommendations for:
 - Updating municipal Codes of Conduct to account for workplace safety and harassment

- Creating a flexible administrative penalty regime, adapted to the local economic and financial circumstances of municipalities across Ontario
 - Increasing training of municipal Integrity Commissioners to enhance consistency of investigations and recommendations across the province
 - Allowing municipalities to apply to a member of the judiciary to remove a sitting member if recommended through the report of a municipal Integrity Commissioner
 - Prohibit a member so removed from sitting for election in the term of removal and subsequent term of office.
3. That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Steve Clark, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; MPP John Yakabuski, Member of Provincial Parliament (Renfrew~Nipissing~Pembroke); the Honourable Charmaine Williams, Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity; and AMO.

Carried

c. Resolution 2023-17 Housing and Homelessness

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Jacyno

Seconded by Councillor Plummer

Whereas, on June 28, 2023, Renfrew County Council passed a Housing and Homelessness Resolution, as attached, highlighting the housing and homelessness crisis being felt across Ontario and within Renfrew County; and

Whereas, the resolution calls on the Province of Ontario to acknowledge the housing affordability crisis, commit to ending homelessness and provide adequate, predictable, and sustainable housing infrastructure renewal funding; and

Whereas, the resolution calls upon the Government of Canada and Province of Ontario to ensure that application-based funding that is made available to address the province's Housing Supply Action Plan and Canada's National Housing Strategy is applicable to local governments, partnerships, and non-profits, and provides the necessary application time period for appropriate community consultation and engagement.

Now, Therefore the Council of the Corporation of the City of Pembroke resolves as follows:

1. That the City of Pembroke supports and endorses the resolution as passed by Renfrew County Council on June 28, 2023.
2. That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada; the Honourable Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Housing, Diversity and Inclusion; Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; Honourable Steve Clark, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; MP Cheryl Galant, Renfrew~Nipissing~Pembroke; MPP John Yakabuski, Member of Provincial Parliament (Renfrew~Nipissing~Pembroke); Association of Municipalities Ontario; Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus; and the County of Renfrew.

Carried

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Abdallah

Seconded by Councillor Plummer

That Council approve the extension of the meeting by one half hour.

Carried

8. Mayor's Report

Mayor Gervais hoped everyone had a good summer and stated that with the school year upon us, to please stay aware of children getting on and off the busses and that the safety of our children is everyone's priority. He stated that on August 12th he attended the Kids and Cops Fishing Derby at the Waterfront with over 100 children participating. On August 25th, he attended Donna Jones' 65th birthday. On August 27th, he attended the grand opening of Evernew Recovery and Rehabilitation, a business that assists people with athletic injuries. On August 31st he attended Algonquin College with the CAO to welcome students to our City. On September 1st he attended Got You in Mind grand re-opening. On September 2nd he attended the Whitewater O'Brien Winery Grand Opening in Westmeath then went to the Pembroke Fiddling and Step Dancing Contest and welcomed all to the City. He thanked all who made this event possible. He asked all to rally behind one of Pembroke's own, Sierra Levesque, who has just released her debut single "Get off my Stage". He asked all to stay safe and be kind to one another.

9. Notices of Motion

Deputy Mayor Abdallah indicated that he will bring forward to the next Council meeting a motion to show support to the County of Renfrew and their staff as they investigate the possibility of a municipal service corporation for affordable housing.

10. Councillor Updates

Councillor Kuehl stated, as yesterday was Labour Day, he wanted to note that Canada's economy is largely serviced by those in blue collar jobs and he thanked all those who contributes to the local economy. He thanked all of his teachers that supported him throughout his education. He attended the Chamber Business After Hours event at Nelson Street Pub. He had lunch with Marit Stiles, the Ontario leader of opposition and discussed the City's needs. He sat in on CMHC Housing Solutions presentation. He attended the grand re-opening of Got You in Mind. He also attended the Fiddling and Step Dancing competition and chatted with firefighters attending who were keeping everyone safe.

Deputy Mayor Abdallah commended Councillor Lafreniere for bringing back Resolution 2023-16 Holding Municipal Elected Representatives Accountable for Violence & Harassment. He had a tour of the Pembroke Airport and met the leader of the opposition Marit Stiles. The Youth Council meeting is September 26th at 5:00 at the Library. Anyone interested in attending should contact himself, Councillor Kuehl or Councillor Lafreniere. CMHC Housing Solutions raised a lot of good discussions. The recorded conversation was uploaded to the City's website for anyone interested to view. September 18th is the next local affordable housing committee meeting. If interested in attending, people should contact himself or Councillor Lafreniere. A fundraiser for Got You in Mind is being held on October 20th and they are currently looking for door prizes. If anyone is interested in donating, please contact himself or Blanche at Got You in Mind.

11. Confirming By-law

- Confirming By-law 20-2023

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Lafreniere

Seconded by Councillor Kuehl

That By-law 20-2023 to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Meeting of Council of September 5, 2023, be adopted and passed; and

Further That the said By-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the seal of the Corporation.

Carried

12. Adjournment

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Abdallah

Seconded by Councillor Plummer

That the September 5, 2023, regular meeting of Council adjourn at 11:10 p.m.

Carried

Chief Administrative Officer/Deputy Clerk

Mayor