

City of Pembroke Council Meeting

Council Chambers
Pembroke, Ontario
March 5, 2024
8:34 p.m.

A moment of silence was held to remember former Prime Minister Brian Mulroney who recently died.

1. Call to Order

Present:

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

Regrets:

Councillor Jacyno
Councillor Purcell

Also Present:

David Unrau, Chief Administrative Officer
Heidi Martin, Clerk

Mayor Gervais called the regular meeting of Council to order at 8:34 p.m.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest & General Nature Thereof

Mayor Gervais declared a pecuniary interest regarding agenda item 6 a. as Sheppard & Gervais, Robert Sheppard acts for Lapointe Holdings.

3. Minutes

- i. Approve minutes from Council
 - a. Regular Meeting of Council – February 20, 2024

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Kuehl

Seconded by Councillor Lafreniere

That the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council of February 20, 2024, be approved as circulated.

Carried

- ii. Adopt minutes from Committees
 - a. Planning and Development Committee Meeting – February 6, 2024

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Abdallah

Seconded by Councillor Kuehl

That the minutes of the Planning and Development Committee meeting held on February 6, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

b. Finance and Administration Committee Meeting – February 6, 2024

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Plummer

Seconded by Councillor Kuehl

That the minutes of the Finance and Administration Committee meeting held on February 6, 2024 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

5. Proclamations

a. Mayor Gervais proclaimed March 2024, Amyloidosis Awareness Month in the City of Pembroke.

b. Mayor Gervais proclaimed March 8, 2024, as International Women's Day in the City of Pembroke.

6. By-laws

Mayor Gervais requested that Deputy Mayor Abdallah assume the Chair and left the table due to his perceived pecuniary interest. Deputy Mayor Abdallah assumed the Chair.

a. 2024-13 Transfer Lot 46 to James W. Lapointe Holdings Inc.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Kuehl

Seconded by Councillor Lafreniere

That By-law 2024-05, a by-law to authorize the proposed sale of lands, 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

Mayor Gervais returned to the table and assumed the Chair.

b. 2024-14 Renaming of Fred Blackstein Boulevard to First Responders Way

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Lafreniere

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Abdallah

That By-law 2024-14, a by-law to provide for the renaming of Fred Blackstein Boulevard to First Responders Way, 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

c. 2024-15 ICIP Transit Grant Transfer Payment Agreement

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Abdallah

Seconded by Councillor Plummer

That By-law 2024-15, a by-law to authorize the entering into of a Transfer Payment Agreement for the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) Public Transit Stream between His Majesty the King in right of the Province of Ontario 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

d. 2024-16 Marriage Licence Modernization

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Lafreniere

Seconded by Councillor Kuehl

That By-law 2024-16, a by-law to authorize the entering into of a Participation Agreement for the Marriage Licence Modernization Phase Two (2) between His Majesty the King in right of Ontario as represented by the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery 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

7. Motions

- a. Resolution 2024-007 – Land Transfer of Unopened Road Allowances – Almira and Julien Streets

This item was addressed during the Planning and Development Committee.

8. Mayor's Report

Mayor Gervais reminded everyone to stay off the rivers. On February 22nd he met with two Fellowes High school students to speak about gentrification. On the same day, he received a tour of Des Joachims Generating Station Dam known locally as Da Swisha. On Feb 23rd the CAO and the Mayor had an electronic meeting with Parliamentary Assistant Sandhu of the Minister of Infrastructure to discuss Pembroke's infrastructure needs. On February 24th the Mayor brought greetings to those who attended the Coldest Night of the Year. On February 25th the Mayor attended a book launch for the release of Sudden Impact written by local resident Jamie Bramburger. On February 28th he met with Minister Todd Smith, Minister of Energy. On March 2nd he attended the Climate Café held at the Pembroke Public Library. On March 5th, Councillor Jacyno and the Mayor attended the Algonquin College speaker series which hosted former Federal Justice and AG, Minister Jody Wilson Raybould. He mentioned that the Pembroke Handibus will be hosting a paint night fundraiser on April 12th and encouraged people to sign up. On a serious note, Mayor Gervais brought to the attention of the public two serious matters. On February 23rd there was an intimate Partner Violence incident that involved a shooting within the City and on the weekend of March 2nd an investigation was commenced arising from a death near the Muskrat River at Nelson Street. He assured everyone that if there was ever a hint of a public safety concern that there would be an immediate release to the public. He indicated that he is dismayed with people who post pictures and articles on social media and asked everyone to be sensitive and show some empathy for the parties involved and their families. The Pembroke Handi-bus is having a paint night fundraiser on April 12th. He asked all to be kind to one another.

9. Notices of Motion

There were no notices of motion.

10. Councillor Updates

Councillor Lafreniere indicated that the City's Youth Awards will be held on June 3rd at the Best Western and nomination packages will soon be distributed to the schools and various locations across the city. She stated that as of April 1st, the Pembroke Police Services Board will be undergoing some changes to its roles and responsibilities. Councillor Lafreniere also encouraged people to participate in the many community events that have been organized during the March Break.

Councillor Kuehl indicated that on Feb 24th he attended a Yuk Yuk's event at Festival Hall in support of the St. Joseph's Community Food Bank. He also attended the annual Elwyn Duchrow Memorial Hockey Tournament held on March 1st. Councillor Kuehl will be sponsoring a free skate on March 15th, the Mayor is hosting a free skate on March 12th and Deputy Mayor Abdollah and Mary Mercer are hosting a free skate on March 12th. Councillor Kuehl provided a Festival Hall update and indicated that the Festival Hall Consortium will be hosting a fundraiser on April 21st for an improved audio visual and sound system.

Deputy Mayor Abdollah stated that he attended the book launch for Jamie Bramburger's new book. He indicated that Pembroke Carefor Community Garden will begin their annual rain barrel fundraiser and also encouraged everyone to participate in the various March break activities planned throughout the City.

11. Confirming By-law

- Confirming By-law 06-2024

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Plummer

Seconded by Councillor Kuehl

That By-law 06-2024 to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Meeting of Council of March 5, 2024, 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 Councillor Abdollah

Seconded by Councillor Kuehl

That the March 5, 2024, regular meeting of Council adjourn at 9:03 p.m.

Carried

Ron Gervais
Mayor

Heidi Martin
Clerk