

# City of Pembroke Council Meeting

Council Chambers  
Pembroke, Ontario  
March 18, 2025  
7:46 p.m.

## 1. Call to Order

### Present:

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

### Regrets:

Councillor Plummer  
Councillor Purcell

### Also Present:

David Unrau, Chief Administrative Officer  
Victoria Charbonneau, Municipal Clerk  
Anegla Lochtie, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk

Mayor Gervais called the regular meeting of Council to order at 7:46 p.m.

## 2. Opening Prayer/Reflection

## 3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest & General Nature Thereof

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest declared.

## 4. Minutes

- i. Approve minutes from Council
  - a. Regular Meeting of Council – March 4, 2025  
**Resolution 25-03-17**  
Moved by Deputy Mayor Abdallah  
Seconded by Councillor Lafreniere  
That the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council of February 4, 2025, be approved as circulated.  
**Carried**
- ii. Adopt minutes from Committees
  - a. Operations Committee – February 18, 2025  
**Resolution 25-03-18**  
Moved by Councillor Kuehl  
Seconded by Councillor Jacyno  
That the minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on February 18, 2025, be adopted as circulated.  
**Carried**
- iii. Receive minutes from Local Boards

## 5. Delegations and Presentations

- a. Councillor Lafreniere
- A grade 5/6 class from Cathedral Elementary school recently visited City Hall and the students had engaging conversations with the Mayor and herself. The students also presented poems that wrote about Pembroke.
- This week, Councillor Lafreniere read a poem by Cora.
- Councillor Lafreniere will be featuring the poems from the students at each Council meeting to display the community pride and talents of Pembroke youth. Readings of the poems can be viewed on the meeting recordings on the City's YouTube page.

## 6. Business Arising from Delegations and Presentations

### 7. Staff and Committee Reports

- a. Operations Committee – Crandall Street Pumping Station Upgrade Contract Tender Award No. 21-2045D

#### **Resolution 25-03-20**

Moved by Councillor Lafreniere

Seconded by Councillor Kuehl

**That** Tender Contract No. 21-2045D for Crandall Street Pumping Station Upgrade, be awarded to Black and McDonald Limited in the amount of \$789,675.00 plus HST; and

**That** additional expenditures in the amount of \$50,000.00 be approved for a contingency allowance; and

**That** the budget shortfall be funded from surplus funds in the Highway 148 Reconstruction project.

The total value of the recommendations equal \$839,675.00 plus applicable HST.

**Carried**

- b. 2024 Remuneration Report for Elected and Appointed Representatives  
Treasurer/Deputy Clerk Lochtie reviewed the 2024 Statement of Remuneration for Council and local board members was provided as information.

## 8. Proclamations

### 9. By-laws

- a. By-law 2025-29

#### **Resolution 25-03-21**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Abdallah

Seconded by Councillor Kuehl

**That** By-law 2025-29 to adopt a Municipal Accommodation (MAT) Revenue Allocation Policy for 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. By-law 2025-30

#### **Resolution 25-03-22**

Moved by Councillor Jacyno

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Abdallah

That By-law 2025-30 to authorize the entering into a Municipal Forest Fire Agreement between the City of Pembroke and Aviation, Forest Fires and Emergency Services (AFFES), a division of the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), 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. By-law 2025-31

**Resolution 25-03-23**

Moved by Councillor Kuehl

Seconded by Councillor Lafreniere

That By-law 2025-31, a By-law to provide for the participation of the City of Pembroke Fire Department in the Renfrew County Mutual Aid Plan, 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. By-law 2025-32

**Resolution 25-03-24**

Moved by Councillor Jacyno

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Abdallah

That By-law 2025-32, a By-law to authorize the sale for municipally-owned property known municipally as 124 Woodcrest Drive, 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**

e. By-law 2025-33

**Resolution 25-03-25**

Moved by Councillor Lafreniere

Seconded by Councillor Kuehl

That By-law 2025-33 for the Corporation of the City of Pembroke to adopt a Tangible Capital Asset Policy, 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**

f. By-law 2025-34

**Resolution 25-03-26**

Moved by Councillor Jacyno

Seconded by Councillor Kuehl

That By-law 2025-34, a By-law to authorize the entering into of a Riverside Park Repair Reserve Fund Agreement between the Pembroke and Area Fiddling Association and 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**

g. By-law 2025-35

**Resolution 25-03-27**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Abdallah

Seconded by Councillor Jacyno

That By-law 2025-35, a By-law to authorize the entering into a Transit Service Agreement between 2321190 Ontario Inc. o/a Mobility Transportation Specialists (MTS) 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.

- It was recommended by Councillor Kuehl that Council table this by-law in order to get additional feedback from legal on whether the Pembroke Handi Bus is defined as a public sector organization and if it has to abide by fare parallel obligations (as part of AODA regulations) to lower its fee to match the City's Public Transit fees.
- Additionally, it was stated that the City could supplement the shortfall of the Handi-Bus through additional
- It was responded by staff that the RFP has been awarded. The rate issue is a separate one from the overall implementation of the transit system. Staff have set up a meeting in early April with the Handi-Bus to address this issue.
- Through preliminary financial analysis, staff estimates that the shortfall experienced by the Handi-Bus (should it be obligated to lower its current fees) will be under \$10,000.
- The City has not established the City transit fares yet, and details on how/if the set fare will impact the Handi-Bus is currently unknown.
- It was stated that should the agreement be delayed, the service will likely not be able to start in the summer 2025 as planned.
- Question regarding the transportation system having stops in Laurentian Valley (e.g. Walmart) and if so, is Laurentian Valley providing any funds and does the City need permission to have the transportation system cross the boundary. It was responded that information can be collected and analyzed. There are going to be challenges regarding municipal boundaries. There are a number of policies that can be developed once the numbers are analyzed to address pressure points in the service.
- It was further discussed that Walmart would need to provide permission as they are the private property owner and that Laurentian Valley is currently not contributing to the transportation program.

**DIRECTION:** Staff are directed to obtain a legal opinion relating to ascertain what type of transit provider the Handi-Bus services fall under, and if the fare parallel is applicable.

Mayor Gervais called for a recorded vote.

Yea: Deputy Mayor Abdallah, Councillors Jacyno, Kuehl, Lafreniere

Nea: Mayor Gervais

**Carried 4:1**

## 10. Motions

- a. Ottawa River Power Corporation - Request for Municipal Support Resolution for ORPC's SREPs Grant Application

### **Resolution 25-03-28**

Moved by Councillor Kuehl

Seconded by Councillor Lafreniere

**WHEREAS** the Ottawa River Power Corporation (ORPC) plans to submit an application to the Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) under the Smart Renewables and Electrification Pathways (SREPs) Utility Support Stream (USS) grant program for a project with the objective of to enhancing the local electricity distribution system with the implementation of advanced smart grid technologies, and

**WHEREAS** the proposed upgrades include Advanced Smart Fault Indicators, Automated Switches and Reclosers, SCADA System Upgrades, and the deployment of an Outage Management System (OMS), all aimed at improving safety, efficiency, and reliability of the electricity grid, and

**WHEREAS** these technological advancements will help to reduce outage durations, minimize service interruptions, enhance real-time grid monitoring, improve outage detection and response times, and support a more resilient, adaptable, and future-ready grid infrastructure, and

**WHEREAS** this project aligns with the objectives of the Smart Grid Energy Program (SREPs), including the strengthening of local electricity infrastructure, supporting the integration of distributed energy resources, contributing to cleaner energy transition, and improving operational efficiencies, and

**WHEREAS** the City of Pembroke recognizes the long-term benefits of a modern and reliable electricity system for the community's residents and businesses,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of Pembroke endorses Ottawa River Power Corporation's proposed smart grid technology project and supports its application for funding through the SREPs program.

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of Pembroke authorizes this resolution of endorsement to be forwarded to Ottawa River Power Corporation as formal support for the project.

**Carried**

## 11. Correspondence

## 12. Mayor's Report

Mayor Gervais provided an update on the community functions he attended on behalf of Council including (but not limited to):

- March 7 – attendance at Town Hall meeting hosted by MP Cheryl Gallant and MP Larry Brock (MP for Brantford) to discuss crime as the critic to the Justice Minister
- March 8 – attendance at the Coffee with the OPP Inspector/Mayor event, held at the Bonanza restaurant.
- March 12 – attendance at the March Break Free Skate hosted by the Lumber Kings.

## 13. Notices of Motion

## 14. Councillor Updates

Councillor Jacyno

- Tribute to Jamie Bramburger, and a highlight of the recent ceremonies honouring is life and contributions to the community.

Councillor Kuehl

- Attendance at Town Hall with MP Gallant and MP Brock on crime and justice and the safety of residents
- Sunday – attendance at the Ottawa Valley Kitchen Party at Festival Hall

- Highlighted events upcoming at Festival Hall that can be viewed at [www.festivalhall.ca](http://www.festivalhall.ca)
- Expressed condolences at the passing of Jamie Bramburger. The Parks and Recreation team did a fantastic job in collaborating with the ceremony arrangements in conjunction with the funeral home providing the services.

Deputy Mayor Abdallah

- Attendance at the Algonquin College open house to promote the Transportation initiative
- Expressed condolences for Jamie Bramburger and noted his significant impact on the Pembroke community and beyond.

Councillor Lafreniere

- Expressed condolences for Jamie and noted his contributions to the community.
- Provided kudos to the Parks and Recreation staff on their contributions to the recent memorial services at the PMC.

**15. Closed Session**

**16. Business Arising from Closed Session**

**17. Confirming By-law**

- Confirming By-law 2025-36

**Resolution: 25-03-29**

Moved by Councillor Lafreniere

Seconded by Councillor Kuehl

That By-law 2025-36 to confirm the proceedings of the Regular Meeting of Council of March 18, 2025, 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**

**18. Adjournment**

**Resolution: 25-03-30**

Moved by Councillor Kuehl

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Abdallah

That the March 18, 2025, regular meeting of Council adjourn at 9:04 p.m.

**Carried**

Ron Gervais  
Mayor

Victoria Charbonneau  
Municipal Clerk