

MINUTES - REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, February 11th, 2025 – 6:00 pm



PRESENT: Mayor Sheila Maxwell
Councillor David Maxwell
Councillor Grant Arnold
Councillor Chris Kresack

REGRETS: Councillor David Halvorsen

ALSO PRESENT: Rosalie Evans, Acting Clerk
Leanne Maxwell, Treasurer

PRESENT VIRTUALLY: Olabisi Akinsanya-Hutka, Human Resources Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Maxwell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
Mayor Maxwell provided a statement of land acknowledgement.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

RESOLUTION 2025 - 024

Moved by: Councillor Arnold
Seconded by: Councillor Kresack

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda for the regular council meeting of February 11th, 2025, be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

No declarations were made.

4. TOWN HALL SEGMENT

No members of the public had registered to speak at the Town Hall Segment.

5. DEPUTATIONS

No deputations were scheduled for this evening's meeting.

6. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

6.1. Minutes – Regular Council Meeting – January 28, 2025
Members present reviewed the minutes. No errors or omissions were noted.

RESOLUTION 2025 - 025

Moved by: Councillor Kresack
Seconded by: Councillor Arnold

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes for the open session portion of the regular council meeting of January 28, 2025, be approved, as circulated.

CARRIED

7. DISBURSEMENT LIST

7.1. Payment Register

The Treasurer responded to questions from members present.

RESOLUTION 2025-026

gm

Moved by: Councillor Maxwell
Seconded by: Councillor Kresack

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the disbursements represented by electronic bank payments, check numbers 7278 to 7301, and payroll totalling \$131,634.63.

CARRIED

8. REPORTS FROM MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

8.1. Clerk's Report

Acting Clerk Evans overviewed the report for Council and responded to questions. By consensus, Council determined that Mayor Maxwell should be appointed alternate CEMC. The Acting Clerk will have the relevant amending bylaw on the next agenda. With respect to attendance at the upcoming TBDML meeting, it was noted that, unfortunately, no members of Council are able to attend. Both the Clerk and the Treasurer had expressed interest in attending. By consensus, Council determined that, should both wish to attend, the office could be closed for some or all of the relevant time period. Notices should be published as soon as possible in that regard.

8.2. Treasurer's Report

No Treasurer's Report was presented at this evening's meeting.

8.3. Deputy Clerk-Treasurer's Report

No Deputy Clerk-Treasurer's Report was presented at this evening's meeting.

8.4. Public Works Report

No Public Works Report was presented at this evening's meeting.

8.5. Fire Chief's Report

Chief Day overviewed his report for Council and responded to questions. In addition to the information in the report, Chief Day advised that a new extractor has been purchased. One is considered sufficient. Discussion ensued relating to fire truck purchase options. In response to questions, the Chief advised that the team is now 10 members strong, 4 of whom can drive the pumper truck.

8.6. Council Member Reports

Mayor Maxwell reported that she had met with the fire auxiliary and will be assisting them in future efforts.

Councillor Arnold reported that he had been having regular communications with the office staff. He had been unable to attend the send-off for the Deputy Clerk Treasurer, but had sent her his best wishes for her future endeavours. He will be attending "Alpha" meetings this week (virtually). Councillor Arnold will not be able to attend the next meeting in person, but will connect virtually.

Councillor Maxwell reported that he had met with Mr. Lazar when the latter attended to see to the speakers and microphones on site. He will be attending the next TBDML meeting virtually. The one following that one will be the Board meeting held while the conference is on. While he cannot attend the TBDML conference, he will attend that meeting in person.

Councillor Kresack reported that the next Rural Food Bank board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 12th, and he will be in attendance.

8.7. Other Agencies' Reports

These reports were listed, for information, in the Clerk's report at Item 8.1.

RESOLUTION 2025-027

Moved by: Councillor Maxwell
Seconded by: Councillor Arnold

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council received the reports presented as listed in Section 8 of this evening's agenda.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1. Council Member Liaison Positions



Acting Clerk Evans was directed to include the terms of reference in the relevant policy binder, as presented.

9.2. AMO Conference

On consensus, Council directed Administration to purchase three level "B" attendance tickets, and to register each attendee for one of the following caucus lunches: Northern, Rural and Single Tier.

10. BY-LAWS

There were no by-laws presented at this meeting.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

11.1. List of Resolution Support Requests from other Municipalities

Council reviewed the list of resolutions. Council expressed its desire to support all the resolutions listed. The Acting Clerk is to combine those listed under #2 and #3 in the list, removing the specific wording relating only to the originating municipality. The Acting Clerk referenced the challenges in forwarding resolutions to provincial members of parliament due to the dissolution of parliament pending the election scheduled for February 27, 2025. Apart from directions to send resolutions to the Premier and the local MPP, nothing else would be forwarded to members of Provincial Parliament.

RESOLUTION 2025-028

Moved by: Councillor Kresack

Seconded by: Councillor Maxwell

WHEREAS under Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box, producers are fully accountable and financially responsible for their products and packaging once they reach their end of life and are disposed of, for 'eligible' sources only;

AND WHEREAS 'ineligible' sources, which producers are not responsible for, include: businesses, places of worship, daycares, campgrounds, public-facing and internal areas of municipal-owned buildings and not-for-profit organizations, such as shelters and food banks;

AND WHEREAS, should a municipality continue to provide services to the 'ineligible' sources, the municipality will be required to oversee the collection, transportation, and processing of the recycling, assuming 100% of the costs;

AND WHEREAS these costs will further burden municipalities' finances and potentially take resources away from vital infrastructure projects;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Conmee hereby requests that the Province amend Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box so that producers are responsible for the end-of-life management of recycling products from all sources;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Local MPP Holland, AMO, ROMA and FONOM.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2025-029

Moved by: Councillor Arnold

Seconded by: Councillor Kresack

WHEREAS the United States President, Donald Trump, has suggested that with the use of "economic force" such as tariffs, Canada should become the 51st state of the United States, and further he suggests that many Canadians would agree;

AND WHEREAS Canada is a sovereign nation with a peaceful history of self-governance dating to its Confederation in 1867;

AND WHEREAS the Canadian identity is marked by a deep-rooted pride in its heritage and culture founded by French and British settlement, enriched by Indigenous culture and traditions and by more than a century and a half of multi-cultural immigration;

AND WHEREAS Canada has significant global standing, consistently supporting its allies, including the United States, in global conflicts such as two world wars, and wars in Korea and Afghanistan; and in international coalitions and in being consistently recognized as among the top countries in the world for quality of life;

AND WHEREAS the shared history of the United States and Canada has been one of friendship, respect and neighbourly relations;

AND WHEREAS President Trump issued executive orders to impose tariffs on imports from Canada effective February 4, 2025

AND WHEREAS these tariffs will have a significant detrimental impact on the economic stability in both countries;

AND WHEREAS the federal government is currently in negotiations with the U.S. government on some their proposed tariffs on Canadian goods exported to the U.S.;

AND WHEREAS Premier Doug Ford has outlined several plans to combat the impact the proposed tariffs would have on Ontario including Fortress Am-Can which focus on strengthening trade between Ontario and the U.S. while bringing good jobs back home for workers on both sides of the border;

AND WHEREAS the federal government has also outlined several ways to address the current relationship with the U.S. including establishing the Council on Canada-U.S. relations to support the federal government as it negotiates with the U.S on tariffs;

AND WHEREAS trade between Ontario and the United States is very important to our residents and local economies and requires all levels of government to work together in the best interest of those residents;

AND WHEREAS federal and provincial leaders are encouraging Canadians to buy Canadian;

AND WHEREAS municipalities have significant purchasing power through capital and infrastructure programs;

AND WHEREAS municipalities have traditionally been prevented by trade agreements and legislation from giving preference to the purchase of Canadian products and services;

AND WHEREAS municipalities can assist in the effort to combat tariffs and support businesses in the procurement for capital and infrastructure programs;

AND WHEREAS there are trade barriers between Canadian provinces;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Conmee endorses the positions taken by the Councils of the Town of Halton Hills, the County of Peterborough, and the Town of Hanover, in categorically rejecting any efforts by President Trump, or any others, to undermine the sovereignty of Canada;

AND, FURTHER, THAT This Council stands united with Ontario Premier Doug Ford and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau for a Canada that remains strong, free, independent, and characterized by peace, order, and good government;

AND, FURTHER, THAT Council supports the provincial and federal governments on the measures they have put in place in response to the proposed U.S. tariffs on Canadian goods and ask that they take any and all measures to protect the interests of Ontario and its municipalities in any upcoming trade negotiations;

AND, FURTHER, THAT the federal and provincial governments work with municipalities on measures to protect Canadian consumers and businesses; and

AND, FURTHER, THAT that federal and provincial governments remove any impediments to municipalities preferring Canadian companies and services for capital projects and other supplies;

AND, FURTHER, THAT the provincial and federal governments take action to remove trade barriers between provinces as a response to US tariffs and support Canadian businesses.

AND, FURTHER, THAT this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Ontario Premier Doug Ford, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and Conmee's local MPP.

CARRIED

11.2. Correspondence from Autism Ontario: World Autism Day

On consensus, Council supported the enclosed resolution. Administration was directed to include information in the next newsletter.

RESOLUTION 2025-030

Moved by: Councillor Kresack

Seconded by: Councillor Maxwell

WHEREAS World Autism Day is recognized on April 2, 2025, in Canada;

AND WHEREAS Autism Ontario is one of the largest collective voices representing the autism community, and the work we do helps all autistic individuals and families in their communities have access to meaningful support, information, and connections — not only on April 2 but every day throughout the year;

AND WHEREAS Autism impacts more than 135,000 individuals in Ontario, representing 1 in every 50 Canadian children and youth. It not only influences the lives of autistics but also their friends, families, and communities;

AND WHEREAS it is crucial to raise awareness, and acceptance, provide support and promote a more inclusive society;

AND WHEREAS Autism is a diverse spectrum that varies widely among individuals, with the possibility that each person's experience with autism can change over time;



AND WHEREAS this evolving journey highlights the uniqueness of every autistic individual, emphasizing the need for understanding and support tailored to their specific needs.
AND WHEREAS Autism Ontario is the leading source of information and referral on autism, and since 1973, has been providing support, information, and opportunities for thousands of families and individuals across the province;
AND WHEREAS Autism Ontario is devoted to raising public awareness about autism and addressing the everyday challenges faced by individuals with autism, their families, and the professionals who work alongside them;
AND WHEREAS everyone is urged to recognize and celebrate the unique differences and needs of others, fostering an inclusive environment where all individuals can participate fully in activities and discussions;
AND WHEREAS, together, we can create a society that values and includes everyone;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Corporation of The Township of Conmee recognizes April 2 as "World Autism Day", while committing to embracing awareness and acceptance, not only on that day, but on day throughout the year.

CARRIED

- 11.3. Correspondence from The Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce Requesting a letter from the Mayor to Each of the 4 Provincial Party Leaders

RESOLUTION 2025-031

Moved by: Councillor Arnold

Seconded by: Councillor Kresack

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council support the position taken by the Chamber of Commerce and complete steps one and two outlined.

CARRIED

Administration was directed to send the Mayor's letter to the party leaders prior to the northern debate scheduled for Friday, February 14th, 2025.

- 11.4. Correspondence from TBDSSAB Looking for Volunteers for the Homelessness Prevention Program Advisory Table

Council reviewed the correspondence. Unfortunately, no members are able to participate at this time.

- 11.5. Correspondence from TBDSSAB Looking for Volunteers for the Child Care and Early Years' Advisory Table

Council reviewed the correspondence. Unfortunately, no members are able to participate at this time.

RESOLUTION 2025-031

Moved by: Councillor Maxwell

Seconded by: Councillor Arnold

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive the correspondence listed in Section 11 of this evening's agenda.

CARRIED

12. UPCOMING MEETING DATES

The list of upcoming regular Council meeting dates was available for review. It was noted that the public school in Kakabeka Falls has reserved the hall for its graduation festivities on Tuesday, June 24th, 2025, which is a regular council date. A resolution will be brought to the next meeting to move the Council meeting to Wednesday, June 25th, 2025, commencing at 6:30 p.m. (to accommodate the LRCA meeting earlier that evening). No other changes were proposed.

A brief recess took place at 6:55 p.m.

13. CLOSED SESSION

RESOLUTION 2025-032

Moved by: Councillor Maxwell

Seconded by: Councillor Kresack

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the time being 7:00 p.m., Council enter Closed Session under the authority of those paragraphs of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended, for which the meetings were closed, in order to



consider Item 13.1, being the Closed Session minutes of the Council meeting held January 28, 2025; and, under the authority of paragraph 239(2)(b) of the same legislation, in order to consider Item 13.3, involving personal information about identifiable individuals, and under the authority of paragraphs 239(2)(a)(f) and (k) of the same m 13.4 being resolved in open session during the Clerk's report at Item 8.1.

CARRIED

During closed session, the following procedural resolution was passed:

RESOLUTION 2025-033

Moved by: Councillor Kresack

Seconded by: Councillor Arnold

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the time being 7:29 p.m., Council rise from closed session and report in open session.

CARRIED

Open session resumed.

14. REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION

RESOLUTION 2025-034

Moved by: Councillor Kresack

Seconded by: Councillor Maxwell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Closed Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on January 28, 2025, be approved; AND, FURTHER, THAT Administration be authorized to proceed as directed in closed session.

CARRIED

15. CONFIRMING BY-LAW

1.1. By-law 2025-004

RESOLUTION 2025-035

Moved by: Councillor Maxwell

Seconded by: Councillor Kresack

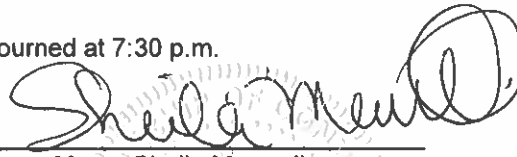
BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 2025-004 be passed;

AND, FURTHER, THAT the Mayor and Clerk be authorized on behalf of the Township of Conmee to affix their signatures to By-law No. 2025-004, being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of this evening's meeting.

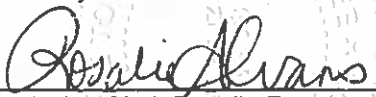
CARRIED

16. ADJOURNMENT

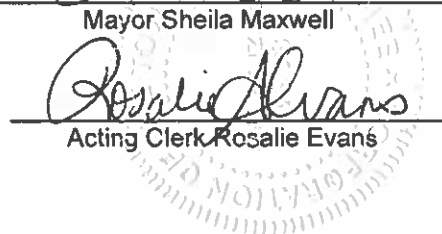
There being no further business to attend to, the mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.



Mayor Sheila Maxwell



Acting Clerk Rosalie Evans



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