

**THE CORPORATION OF  
THE TOWNSHIP OF SIOUX NARROWS - NESTOR FALLS**

A regular open meeting of Council was held Tuesday, October 6, 2026, in the Sioux Narrows Council Chambers. A quorum of Council was present, and this was a duly authorized meeting of the Corporation of the Township of Sioux Narrows - Nestor Falls. This meeting was made available virtually, and all participants were notified that they were being recorded.

Resolution No. 127-26

Moved by M. Rydberg

Seconded by S. Salvador

That the Mayor now calls this meeting to order to deal with matters pertaining to general.

Carried

Resolution No. 128-26

Moved By D. Brothwell

Seconded By S. Salvador

That the Council of the Township of Sioux Narrows - Nestor Falls hereby approve and adopt the amended agenda for the October 6, 2026, Council meeting.

Carried

**Disclosure of Interest –**

Any Members of Council to declare any Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof pertaining to any items as follows: On today's agenda or from a previous meeting or from a meeting at which a Member was not in Attendance.

Councilor Doug Brothwell declared an indirect pecuniary interest as it relates to a donation request from the Beyond the Bridge II committee, as he is a member of the committee.

**Recognition-** Jim and Sara Minerich

Council recognized and thanked Jim and Sara Minerich for the incredible work hosting “Kids Fish 4 Fun” and their long dedication to the community.

**Adoption of Minutes**

Resolution No. 129-26

Moved by S. Salvador

Seconded by D. Brothwell

That the minutes of the September 1, 2026, regular meeting be adopted as read and published.

Carried

**Correspondence –** Funding Request- Beyond Bridges II

-Council in agreement to donate \$1,000.00.

**Disbursements**

Resolution No. 130-26

Moved by M. Rydberg

Seconded by S. Salvador

That the September 2026 Disbursements, having been checked and found that all accounts are in order, passes same for payment in the amount of \$688,082.44

Carried.

**By-Laws –**

Resolution No. 131-26

Moved by D. Brothwell

Seconded by M. Rydberg

That the By-Law to Amend By-Law 603 (Emergency Management Program and Emergency Response Plan By-Law), having been read a first time, and deemed read a second and third time, passes the by-law as read.

Carried

**Staff Reports**

**H. Gropp- CAO**

*Landfill MOU-*

As previously reported, there was a regional landfill meeting on the 29th of July. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss regional collaboration on landfill management and issues facing the region. As a result of the meeting, it was agreed that all communities would work together on a regional solution. The expansion of the Sioux Narrows Landfill was identified as the preferred option. From this meeting, it was agreed that all communities would enter into a memorandum of understanding. One has been prepared, and we are seeking Council Authorization to have the CAO and Mayor sign the agreement.

*Letter of Support-Onigaming –*

As part of this process, the Community of Onigaming requested that the Township provide a letter of support to the Province, for their interest in expanding their waste management capacity on Peterson Road.

*Landfill Services Contract-*

As the Township moves towards Landfill Expansion, we requested a proposal from Stantec Engineering to continue their work with us on the next phase of the file. It is recommended that we proceed with Stantec as they have been supporting the Township through this project so far and it is best value to have them continue to support the project. This is an unbudgeted amount, but this expense is eligible in the new allocation of NORDS funding that the Township

was awarded in the spring. Alternatively, funding for this contract could be taken from the landfill.

**M.Hanson- Treasurer/Clerk**

*Tax Sale Update –*

Four tax sales were scheduled on September 16, 2026. Property owners for three of the four sales paid all arrears before the tax sale date, and the tax sale certificates were cancelled on those three properties. The fourth property did not garner a bid ahead of the tax sale date/time deadline. However, the Township did receive a bid two days after the sale date/time, and have received one telephone request from a person who intended to bid but was out of town and did not meet the deadline. Unfortunately, the Township was not able to accept the late bid. Both parties indicated they are willing to purchase the property from the municipality if possible. This property is a remote (no access road) mining claim property (vacant land). Most enquiries received ahead of the tax sale were in regard to mineral rights.

We do have options for this property as outlined by Realtax.

Council deferred any decisions regarding the property until more information, such as the MPAC assessed value, can be given at the next meeting of Council, October 20, 2026.

M. Hanson will report back to Council at the October 20, 2026 meeting.

**M.Kakeeway- Fire Chief**

*Training and Professional Development-*

Fire Chief M. Kakeeway attending FireCon in Thunder Bay, September 14<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> to complete the NFPA 1041 Fire Service Instructor II course.

The department continues to focus on maintaining and improving firefighter readiness through regular weekly training. The knowledge gained through the NFPA 1041 Instructor II course will be used to help develop more structured training sessions, practical scenarios, and evaluations for members. This will allow the department to better identify training needs, track member progress, and ensure our firefighters are prepared to respond safely and effectively to the variety of emergencies within our community.

*Emergency Response-*

During September, the department responded to two calls involving downed hydro lines. These calls have become more frequent this year, making it important that firefighters remain familiar with the hazards and appropriate safety procedures associated with these incidents.

As of the end of September, the department has responded to 41 calls for service year-to-date.

**R.Stelter-Director of Community Development**

*Time Change Survey-*

On Sept. 17, Manitoba announced its intention to remain on permanent daylight saving time. As a result, many communities within the northwest released surveys asking residents what their preference was. On Sept. 21, the Township released a survey that was posted to the Township's website, shared on social media and emailed to local businesses.

As of Sept. 29, the survey received 157 responses and demonstrated overwhelming support for northwestern Ontario to adopt permanent daylight time and remain aligned with Manitoba. A total of 147 respondents (93.6%) supported this option, while five respondents (3.2%) preferred permanent standard time and four respondents (2.5%) preferred continuing the current practice of changing clocks twice a year. Most responses came from residents of the Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls area, with additional input from surrounding communities and Manitoba.

During a recent regional discussion with Minister Greg Rickford, representatives indicated that surveys conducted by other municipalities, including Kenora, Dryden, and Fort Frances, also showed strong support, generally exceeding 90 percent, for aligning with Manitoba. Municipalities have been asked to provide formal resolutions or position statements to the province outlining their preferred approach. The discussion also highlighted potential operational concerns for health care providers if neighbouring communities were to operate under different time systems, reinforcing the importance of a consistent regional approach.

*Rural Ontario Development Program-*

The Township is applying for a provincial grant to help fund the creation of a new economic development strategy. The last one was completed in 2022 and is 80% completed. The Rural Ontario Development (ROD) Program is a provincial funding program that supports projects that strengthen rural economies, attract investment, retain and create jobs, and enhance community assets. Municipalities are eligible to apply for cost-shared funding under the Strategies and Plans stream, which provides up to 50% of eligible project costs to a maximum of \$50,000 for the development of economic development strategies and plans. The proposed Economic Development Strategy will help identify opportunities for business attraction, retention and expansion, support long-term economic growth, and position the Township to pursue future investment and funding opportunities.

*Green Municipal Fund-*

The Green Municipal Fund (GMF) Rapid Adaptation Projects: Adaptation in Action program provides funding to help smaller municipalities implement practical projects that reduce climate related risks and improve community resilience. Municipalities with populations under 50,000 are eligible to apply for grants covering 70% to 100% of eligible project costs, up to a maximum of \$75,000, for projects that address climate impacts such as extreme heat, flooding, wildfire risk, and the resilience of community facilities. The proposed heating and cooling system upgrade at

the Northern Ontario Sportfishing Centre would improve the facility's ability to remain safe, comfortable, and operational during periods of extreme temperatures, while enhancing the long-term resilience of this important municipal asset.

*Community Safety and Policing Grant-*

The municipality of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls in partnership with the Kenora OPP Detachment, is seeking funding through the Community Safety and Policing Grant to establish a CCTV network with Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) capability at strategic locations throughout the municipality. This project will enhance community safety by supporting the prevention, detection, and investigation of criminal activity, including the trafficking of drugs, firearms, and persons along the Highway 71 corridor.

A grant application has been submitted for a total of \$185,500 over 3 years.

*Community Emergency Preparedness Grant-*

We will be seeking a \$50,000 grant to improve emergency preparedness in our community through the acquisition of increased communication equipment for the Fire Department. We will also be allocating a portion of this grant to upgrade our HIIRA (Hazards identification) and include community engagement and awareness emergency awareness and the hazards most relevant to our region.

*Community Wildland Fire Protection Grant-*

We will be seeking a \$15,000 grant to obtain forest fire hazard mapping for our community.

*Bass Lake Park Upgrades-*

Work on the upgrades to Bass Lake Park began Monday, Sept. 26, 2026. Township staff attended the site to see some of the early progress. The park is closed to the public while contractors work to improve the playground, expand the beach area and create a more welcoming park for residents and visitors to enjoy. Work is expected to be completed later this fall.

*Visitor Numbers 2026-*

Visitor activity remained strong throughout both information centres during the 2026 summer season. Between May and August, the Northern Ontario Sportfishing Centre (NOSFC) recorded 8,778 walk-ins, up 4.6% from 2025. July and August were the busiest months, with August recording 3,491 visitors. NOSFC hosted 30+ events and activities from mid-May through September, including five music concerts, workshops, Kids Fishing for Fun, educational presentations and children's programming. Two August long weekend concerts attracted 600+ guests.

The Nestor Falls Information Centre recorded 3,163 visitor interactions between May and August with overall traffic remaining comparable to 2025. Information inquiries increased, with more local residents stopping in for maps, guides and local information.

*Farmers Market Wrap Up-*

2026 marked the third season of the Farmers market, which continued to demonstrate positive growth and its value as both an economic development initiative and community gathering place. Six markets were held from June through September, attracting an average of 175 attendees per market – a slight increase over the previous season.

**Delegations-**

Val Everett, member of the Nestor Falls Recreation Committee, voiced concerns over the upcoming renovations to the Nestor Falls Community Hall kitchen. Maintenance Supervisor, Mike Salvador agreed to consult with the Nestor Falls Recreation Committee when the renovations begin, to try and accommodate their needs for the space.

**Reports from Committees**

**G.Black-**

Attended the following events/meetings:

September 9- Expansion Dedication Ceremony for 50+ Activity Centre

September 23- Presented on the Importance of Municipal Government for the Grade 4 students of Nestor Falls Public School

September 24- KDMA Meeting

October 7- All Nations Health Partners-Strategic Priority Setting Session

October 19- Emergency Planning Exercise Meeting

**D.Brothwell –**

PAC- Met on September 16 and approved the subdivision of property on Mackenzie Estates Road.

**M.Rydberg-**

Attended regional discussion with representatives from the Northwest Region and Minister Greg Rickford to discuss the time change.

**Old Business**

Resolution No. 132-26

Moved by M. Rydberg

Seconded by D. Brothwell

That the Council of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls hereby rescinds Resolution #113-26 – awarding the Northern Ontario Sportfishing Centre Window Replacement Project to Pro Auto Glass & Windows in the amount of \$18,419.00 inclusive of HST, and authorizing the CAO to execute the necessary agreement.

Carried

**New Business**

Resolution No. 133-26

Moved by S. Salvador

Seconded by M. Rydberg

That the Council of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls hereby authorizes the Mayor and the CAO to sign the Sioux Narrows Landfill Memorandum of Understanding between the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing #37, Northwest Angle No. 33 First Nation and Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation.

Carried

Resolution No. 134-26

Moved by D. Brothwell

Seconded by M. Rydberg

That the Council of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls hereby authorizes the Mayor to sign a letter of support for the application to the Ministry of the Environment from Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation for Crown Land on Peterson Road in Nestor Falls for a small-scale waste transfer station.

Carried

Resolution No. 135-26

Moved by S. Salvador

Seconded by D. Brothwell

Carried

That the Council of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls hereby accepts the proposal from Stantec Engineering for monitoring purposes at the two Landfills and Lagoon.

Carried

Resolution No.136 -26

Moved by M. Rydberg

Seconded by S. Salvador

That the Council of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls accepts the proposal from Nelson Architecture in the amount of \$82,500.00 for Architectural Services for upgrades to the Sioux Narrows Community Hall.

Motion to Refer-

Moved By M. Rydberg

Seconded D. Brothwell

Refer staff to contact Nelson Architecture to break the proposal into two stages.

Stage 1- Engineers Assessment of the Sioux Narrows Community Hall

Stage 2- Architectural Services

Carried

Resolution No. 137-26

Moved by D. Brothwell

Seconded by M. Rydberg

That the Council of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls hereby supports an application to the Rural Ontario Development Program in the amount of \$50,000 to support the creation of a new economic development strategy.

Carried

Resolution No. 138-26

Moved by S. Salvador

Seconded by M. Rydberg

That the Council of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls hereby supports an application to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Green Municipal Fund Rapid Adaptation Projects: Adaptation in Action program for funding of up to \$75,000 to replace and upgrade the heating and cooling system at the Northern Ontario Sportfishing Centre in order to improve the facility's resilience to extreme temperatures and changing climate conditions.

Carried.

Resolution No. 139-26

Moved by D. Brothwell

Seconded by M. Rydberg

That the Council of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls hereby supports an application to the Community Safety and Policing Program in the amount of \$185,500 over 3 years to support the installation of LPR cameras in our community.

Motion to Defer-

Moved by D. Brothwell

Second by S. Salvador

Defer until upcoming Council Meeting on October 20, 2026 to ensure the grant application has a community safety zone and speed cameras.

Carried

Resolution No. 140-26

Moved by M. Rydberg

Seconded by S. Salvador

That the Council of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls hereby supports an application to the Community Emergency Preparedness Grant program in the amount of \$50,000 to support the acquisition of fire department communication devices, upgrading the Municipal HIIRA and increase Public Hazard Awareness.

Carried

Resolution No. 141-26

Moved by D. Brothwell

Seconded by S. Salvador

That the Council of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls hereby supports an application to the Wildland Fire Protection Planning Grant in the amount of \$15,000 to support Forest Fire Mapping in our community.

Carried

Resolution No. 142-26

Moved by M. Rydberg

Seconded by D. Brothwell

That the Council of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls supports the adoption of permanent Daylight Saving Time in northwestern Ontario to align with Manitoba;

AND THAT Council acknowledges the importance of a consistent regional approach to minimize confusion for residents, businesses, visitors, health care providers, and organizations operating across provincial boundaries;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Greg Rickford, Minister of Indigenous Affairs and First Nations Economic Reconciliation and MPP for Kenora-Rainy River, as the Township's formal position regarding the future observance of time in northwestern Ontario.

Carried

Resolution No.143-26

Moved by S. Salvador

Seconded by M. Rydberg

That the Council of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls hereby commits funding in the amount of \$1,000.00 to the Beyond the Bridge II book committee.

Carried

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest: Councilor D. Brothwell

### **Adjournment**

Resolution No.140-26

Moved by M. Rydberg

Seconded by S. Salvador

That the business of the meeting having been dealt with, a motion for adjournment is so made.

Carried

Members Present-

G. Black

D. Brothwell

M. Rydberg

S. Salvador

Staff Present-

M.Hanson

R.Stelter

C.Parkhill

M. Kakeeway

J. Port

M. Salvador

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Mayor

Clerk