

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

A regular open meeting of Council was held Tuesday, February 3rd, 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. 16-26

Moved by Holly Chant

Seconded by Steve Salvador

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

Carried

Resolution No. 17-26

Moved by Steve Salvador

Seconded by Holly Chant

That the Council of the Township of Sioux Narrows - Nestor Falls hereby approve and adopt the agenda for the February 3rd, 2026, Council meeting.

Carried

Disclosure of Interest – None.

Adoption of Minutes

Resolution No. 18-26

Moved by Holly Chant

Seconded by Steve Salvador

That the minutes of the January 6th, 2026, regular meeting and January 15th, 2026 closed session, be adopted as read and published.

Carried

Correspondence – 1. Letter from Nestor Falls Marine (Shayla Marden) requesting to reserve a parking spot (with signage erected at their cost) at the Nestor Falls Government Dock for the 2026 Season. General discussion took place including staff working towards upgrading and improving parking at the Nestor Falls and Sioux Narrows Government Docks, including reviewing and updating parking policy and considering options such as designated day use/overnight parking, enforcement, and off-site trailer parking options. Recommendations will be brought back to Council. Council's decision to not grant Nestor Falls Marine's request (and any other subsequent similar requests) with reasoning will be sent by the CAO.

2. Letter from Laura Poad requesting Council consider passing a By-Law to prohibit adult entertainment activity at a Nestor Falls commercial establishment. Jeff Port, planner, explained the process available to council to have a zoning by-law amendment for the specific (or more widespread) location to deal with it. General discussion ensued with the majority of council deciding that they were not prepared to make the zoning by-law amendment, as there could be other public concerns around other issues that may warrant ongoing amendments. Jeff Port will send a response to Ms. Poad with council's decision.

Disbursements

Resolution No. 19-26

Moved by Steve Salvador

Seconded by Holly Chant

That the January 2026 Disbursements, having been checked and found that all accounts are in order, passes same for payment in the amount of \$356,597.00.

Carried.

By-Laws –

Resolution No. 20-26

Moved by Holly Chant

Seconded by Steve Salvador

That the by-law to authorize voting by mail and/or internet voting and/or optical scanning ballot counting/tabulator equipment for the 2026 Municipal Election and the entering into of an agreement(s) with a third party/parties for vote by mail and/or internet and/or optical scanning ballot counting/tabulator equipment election services, and the circumstances in which the Clerk shall hold a recount, having been read a first time, and deemed read a second and third time, passes the by-law as read.

Carried

Resolution No. 21-26

Moved by Steve Salvador

Seconded by Holly Chant

That the by-law to authorize the Corporation of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls to enter into an Ontario Transfer Payment Agreement with his Majesty the King in right of Ontario, as represented by the Minister of Transportation (Pothole Prevention and Repair Program), 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– report attached. Heather reported that quite a number of capital grant projects were closed at the end of 2025. She presented a number of new Human Resources Policies for Council's consideration for passing at today's meeting. She recommended that Stantec Consulting Ltd. be awarded the contract to do a Waste Disposal Feasibility Study including transitioning to a transfer station at the Sioux Narrows Landfill.

Reports from Committees

S. Salvador

The Landfill committee held their first meeting on January 27th. The committee discussed the award of a feasibility study for a proposed waste transfer station to Stantec Engineering. The committee is recommending that this contact be sole sourced as it provides best money for value. Stantec has been working on the landfills in Sioux Narrows for quite a few years and has the background knowledge and data to produce the most efficient study. The committee confirmed this was acceptable to the NORDS grant team as well. There was an update on the additional land required around the SN landfill. MNR has proposed an easement and the process is currently in the duty to consult phase. MNR has recommended that our Council reach out and have a conversation with Chief Tom at Whitefish Bay.

The committee discussed the remaining grant money and ways to ensure that it is spent by March 31 deadline. (electrical installation, feasibility study, recycling promotion) The committee also discussed the need to really communicate the new recycling opportunities in the community and to increase number of people who are recycling. Recyclable materials being not separated or disposed of property and rapidly shortening the useful life of our landfills. This needs to be resolved. The committee will be meeting again next month.

H. Chant -

Reported the Nestor Falls Recreation committee are working on planning the 2026 Winter Carnival which will happen March 6-8th, 2026. She attended the funding announcement with Greg Rickford for the Nestor Falls Curling Club clubhouse renovations – these included putting pine on the walls, updating the bathroom, new benches for seating, new tile for floors, kitchen updates and new exterior siding in the spring.

Attended (along with Gale, Heather & Maureen) the RRDMA AGM in Nestor Falls on January 10th, 2026. 67 delegates took part and there were lots of positive comments on the Community Hall and the food. Presentations from OHT, CMHA and Jim Leonard, chief of Rainy River First Nation who talked about mental health and addictions. Heather gave a wonderful presentation on the Economic Development in a small community like SNNF. The presentation received lots of complements.

Attended the Riverside Hospital Communication Committee meeting. The hospital received funding for a Substance Use Disorder program, this will allow them to hire a coordinator for the RAAM; (Rapid Access Addiction Medicine clinic), that they have in FF, will be working with partners to create better pathways of care, this will also help with transportation with the RAAM clinic, and a nurse practitioner

-just hired a social worker for the hospital, she will have Mon to Fri hours and an office at the hospital

-are doing some repatriation work, working with partners to get people out of the hospital as quick as they can, so looking at finding them the supports they need with other partners services

-bed numbers in the hospital are high right now, they are usual between 30-35 beds and in the past month they've been in the 50's, this is because they are waiting on patient assessments from Community Care Access Centre, and they have a back log

-hospital has received some funding for a program called Hospital to Home, which is helping assess patients so they can try to get their bed numbers down to what they can handle

-have the transportation program that will take patients to appointments, including TBay. It can be accessed by those in Nestor Falls but they have to be able to get to Emo or Fort Frances in order to travel to TBay. The program only runs Tuesday-Thursday right now. Holly would like to send some kind of a letter from Township advocating for that service to be expanded to Nestor Falls.

-still working on their fundraising campaign to help with MRI costs, MRI is happening, but not sure when

-are getting a new pharmacy for the hospital, no date given

-they have replace radiology units in the RR and FF hospitals

-Community Support services program that is from RR to Atikokan, where you can get services in the home has 20 beds which means that bed is in your home, they have all the beds full right now, have a waiting list of 15 people, looking to get 20 more spaces

- Remote Care Monitoring Program, includes help with medications in the home, and wander markers for those that have dementia, just started a couple weeks ago
- new surgeon coming in April, specialty is Gynecology
- RR received some funding for their clinic, doctors are doing 5 month contracts right now, they're hoping that one of those doctors will sign an agreement to oversee the clinic, there are still no full time doctors at the clinic in RR
- there will be expansion of the Family Health Team to the west end of the district (RR)

Sunset Country Family Health Team Board Meeting:

- The SCFHT recently met with its privacy lawyer and is in the process of drafting an agreement for the SCFHT to assume custody of the Township of Sioux Narrows and Nestor Falls Clinic digital patient records. The agreement will clearly outline that historic paper records will not be assumed by the SCFHT and will provide the Township with guidance regarding the appropriate storage and/or secure disposal of these records.
- next meeting is scheduled for April 23/26

G. Black – reported that Chris Hoey from Kenora Chiefs Advisory provided a broad introduction to the Homelessness and Addiction Recover Treatment (HART) Hub, Lisa Devlin and Denise Forsyth from LWDH presented the core components of the hospital approach to facilitating full spectrum care (substance use disorders integrated care pathways), and Debbie Everly from Kenora Association for Community Living provided a detailed presentation on KACL Mental Health Support Services to the All Nations Health Partners.

She reported that the Sunset Country Family Health Team is taking over the medical clinic at Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls and will be offering the same services as they offer in Kenora. There will be consistent physician and nurse practitioner with administrative supports as well as nursing supports available at the clinic.

Old Business – none

New Business

Resolution No. 22-26

Moved by Holly Chant

Seconded by Steve Salvador

Whereas Municipal Council recognizes the importance and requirements of policies that ensure fair and equitable practices in all areas of work; and

Whereas Municipal Council recognizes the need to fairly and equitably compensate municipal staff in a transparent and impartial manner; and

Whereas Municipal Council recognizes the importance of transparent and effective communication for both staff and public;

Be it resolved that the Corporation of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls amends and approves the following Municipal Policy Additions:

A-12 Communications Policy

B-06 Vacation Policy

B-28 Salary Grid Policy

B-35 Payroll and Compensation Policy

B-36 Designations and Membership Policy

Revised Organizational Chart

Carried.

Resolution No. 23-26

Moved by Steve Salvador

Seconded by Holly Chant

That the Corporation of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls hereby accepts the proposal of Stantec Consulting Ltd. in the amount of \$48,200 plus HST to carry out the solid waste transfer station feasibility study.

Carried

Resolution No. 24-26

Moved by Holly Chant

Seconded by Steve Salvador

That the Corporation of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls hereby accepts the proposal of Scatliff+Miller+Murray in the amount of \$37,800.00 plus HST to carry out the design and redevelopment of Bass Lake Park.

Carried

Resolution No. 25-26

Moved by Steve Salvador

Seconded by Holly Chant

Whereas Council deems it expedient to appoint a Community Emergency Management Coordinator under the Emergency Management Program for the purposes of the Community Control Group for the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls; Now therefore be it resolved Council of the Corporation of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls enacts as follows:

That Heather Gropp, be hereby appointed as the City's Community Emergency Management Coordinator (CEMC) for the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls (reference By-Law 537 – Emergency Management Program and Emergency Response Plan By-Law).

Carried

Resolution No. 26-26

Moved by Holly Chant

Seconded by Steve Salvador

That the following person be appointed as a volunteer firefighter for the Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls Fire Department - Wesley Dutson

Carried

Delegations –

Norbert Dufresne from Nestor Falls. Congratulated the SNNF Fire Department for the large number of members who have attained their FF2 designation which is a huge achievement. Reported on the last meeting of the District of Kenora Home for the Aged – Warren Badiuk was elected Chair. Provincial funding is offsetting high agency costs for such things as nursing costs and building maintenance. The 2026 levy for the Township will see approximately a 4% increase.

Adjournment

Resolution No. 27-26

Moved by Steve Salvador

Seconded by Holly Chant

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

Carried

Members Present

G. Black

H. Chant

S. Salvador

D. Brothwell (virtual)

Mayor

Clerk