

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

A regular open meeting of Council was held Tuesday, July 7, 2026, in the Nestor Falls 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. 91-26

Moved by Doug Brothwell

Seconded by Steve Salvador

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

Carried

Presentation:

Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls Fire and Rescue-Firefighter Recognition

Presented by: Fire Chief Mike Kakeeway

Recognized years of service:

Richard Matieu- 45 years

Harvey Cottam- 40+ years

Pete Corkey- 25 years

Robin Holden- 15 years

Mike Kakeeway- 10 years

Congratulations were also given to the following firefighters for completing their Hazardous Materials (Hazmat) course:

Pete Corkey

Robin Holden

Dawn Madden

Kevin Kast

Connor Bernard

William Rice

Steve Hanson

Mayor Black spoke about the Townships' appreciation for our dedicated firefighters and congratulated those on their years of service, and those for completing the Hazmat course.

Resolution No. 92-26

Moved by Steve Salvador

Seconded by Doug Brothwell

That the Council of the Township of Sioux Narrows - Nestor Falls hereby approve and adopt the agenda for the July 7, 2026, Council meeting.

Carried

Disclosure of Interest – None.

Adoption of Minutes

Resolution No. 93-26

Moved by Doug Brothwell

Seconded by Steve Salvador

That the minutes of the June 2, 2026, regular meeting and the June 2, 2026 closed session meeting be adopted as read and published.

Carried

Correspondence –

- Donation Request: Naotkamegwanning (Whitefish Bay) Powwow
 - Council has agreed to donate \$250 dollars
- Sioux Narrows Arts Council – 2027 Arts Festival venue-
 - Curling Rink Request for the 2027 Arts Festival- Council granted use of the Curling rink for the 2027 Arts Festival, unless the SN Community Hall renovations are completed
- Bassin' for Bucks Committee – requesting use of SN Gov Dock facilities Sept 11-13
 - Council agreed: Proceed as usual, waiving use of parking fees, and allow use of dock

Disbursements

Resolution No. 94-26

Moved by Steve Salvador

Seconded by Doug Brothwell

That the June 2026 Disbursements, having been checked and found that all accounts are in order, passes same for payment in the amount of \$685,127.72

Carried.

Staff Reports

H. Gropp –CAO– report attached.

CBSA Reporting Station Request-

On December 19, 2026 the Canadian Government announced that on September 14, 2026, Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) will be ending their remote border services crossing program. The cancellation of the program means that as of September 14, 2026, all travelers entering Canada within remote areas of northern Ontario or the Northwest Angle into southern Manitoba must report to the CBSA at a port of entry or a designated telephone reporting site.

The CBSA has requested that The Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls have telephone reporting stations located at both the Sioux Narrows and Nestor Falls Government Docks. General discussion among council was had, with council willing to be partners. Heather will continue talks with CBSA and suggest Oak Island may be a more logical location.

Delegate-Randy Hanson- Thanked Council for their support with the cross border coalition, who would like tighter regulations and better enforcement of the Northwestern Ontario/ US border waters. Progress is being made in the situation. US guides will no longer be able to be permitted to guide in Canada. US opposition expected.

Capital Funds Transfer

As of June 15, 2026, the Township is at 38.3% spent of the total budget. Over the last few months there have been a few unexpected expenses that were either unbudgeted or under budgeted. In

consultation with the finance department, there is sufficient room in the budget to do a transfer from Capital to address the unexpected finances. The transfer from capital would be a total of \$77,500 and would cover the following expenses:

- NF Government Dock- \$30,000. For signage and creation of new spots etc.
- Flag Pole at SN Municipal Office: Originally budgeted \$5,000 and it will be \$15,000
- Landscaping- There are new beds that need to be maintained \$20,000 as well as the improvement of a new flower bed at the NF Info centre.
- Cameras- Budgeted \$15,000 but it will cost likely closer to \$25,000
- NF Community Hall \$7,500 increase to ensure adequate staffing to complete the renovation.

Financial Information Update

CAO and Treasurer met with representatives of Northern Credit Union to discuss the actions leading up to the privacy breach of municipal accounts during the merger. They are satisfied that the situation has been remedied.

Nestor Falls Bike Trails Update

On June 16, 2026 municipal staff met with the pit owner on Tri-lake Road in Nestor Falls to discuss the Red Pine Bike Trails. The Pit Owner was surprised by the damage to the pit and indicated that it was not work done by their crew. They also expressed concerns about the rebuilding of the trail. As a result of this meeting, the OPP were notified of the situation and they are currently investigating. Township staff are working with the trail designers to determine a new route that is as exciting as the one that has been destroyed.

M. Hanson- Treasurer- report attached

Tax Collection Update

As of December 31st, 2025 tax certificates were registered on seven properties within the municipality. To date, tax sales have been scheduled on four of those properties on September 16, 2026, and an additional three tax sales will be scheduled in early 2027. Despite this, every effort will continue to settle these arrears so that these sales will not have to take place.

On April 10, 2026 notices were mailed to twenty property owners informing them that arrears

on their properties had reached the two year Tax Sale Certificate Registration status, and offering a payment plan to settle these arrears. Of the twenty property owners, eleven responded with either full or partial payments of arrears and/or the agreement to make payments soon. However, there are still nine properties that have not responded at all. Ongoing collection efforts will continue, but there is the strong possibility that Tax Sale Certificates may have to be registered on additional properties before the end of 2026.

Other financial updates include: The deputy treasurer continues efforts on updating our Asset Management Plan. This should be done by the end of 2026.

Auditors have begun their work on the Townships' 2025 Financial Statements. This is later than normal due to their staffing issues. They have also informed staff that they may not be able to complete their 2025 FIR as they do not have a staff member with experience to do it, but will reach out to their colleagues in their other offices to see if there is anyone there that could do it. This issue is just another reason that the Township has been considering requesting an RFP for audit work in the future. Council will be kept up to date.

R.Stelter-Director of Community Development

Sioux Narrows Community Hall Update

On June 10, FedNor announced a new funding stream to support community projects that deliver public benefits, strengthen communities and advance local and regional economic development priorities.

FedNor funded a feasibility study on community event spaces, and the final report should be available imminently. The study had identified that the community hall in Sioux Narrows as a suitable location for hosting larger community events, but not in its current condition, hence the need for renovations.

An application will also go to NOHFC under the Community Enhancement Funding Stream. The asks from the province and the feds will be \$540,000 each with a municipal contribution of \$120,000, which results in a total \$1.2 million project. With approval from council, these applications will proceed with the aim to start renovations over the fall and winter to be ready for the summer season of 2027. The goal of the renovations will be to enhance community programming, offer more events and attract larger concerts, festivals and markets all year round. Public feedback will be sought over the summer once plans firm up. Community groups will also be engaged to gather feedback as well.

Granite Ridge Housing Development

The Township was unsuccessful in its application to FedNor to fund the cost of putting in a road at the new housing development planned for Granite Ridge. Staff met with FedNor and the application went right to the vice president's desk, which has identified a gap where smaller municipalities are not eligible for federal housing dollars and FedNor is not currently funding housing projects. There are plans to resubmit an application to FedNor for a larger request that will help active transportation infrastructure in the community.

Community Events

-The first Farmers Market of the season was held June 29th- 19 vendors, and 280 people attended

-Community BBQ at Red Pine Trail in Nestor falls with the local OPP detachment was unfortunately cancelled due to weather. It will be rescheduled.

-Kids Fish for Fun- July 8-10 at the Northern Ontario Sport Fishing Centre

Trail Updates

The new connection trail between the Red Pine Trail and Bass Lake Park is complete, which is proving to be a welcome addition to the Township's trail network. Work is continuing on the new trail in Sioux Narrows.

June 11-12- The township hosted a trail building event on Red Pine Trail in partnership with Trans Canada Trail. Thirteen students from Nestor Falls took part in the workshop where they learned to identify trees and birds, understanding how trails are built, and got hands-on experience in caring for the trail network. Feedback was positive and Township staff will look for ways to continue to engage students in the area with the trail network.

Regional Meetings

Staff attended a regional economic development meeting on June 11 in Dryden.

Staff also attended a Mini Magnetic North hosted by the Northern Policy Institute in Kenora on June 23. The event focused on immigration and changes coming to the provincial nominee program.

Visitor Numbers

-The Northern Ontario Sport Fishing Centre recorded 509 visits in May 2026, a decrease from 659 visits in May 2025. In June 2026, the Centre welcomed 1,473 visitors, down from 1,621 visitors during the same month in 2025.

-In Nestor Falls, the info centre had a total of 317 people in May 2026, which is down slightly from the 320 visitors in May 2025. In June 2026, 699 people visited, which is up from the 572 visitors from the same month last year.

Reports from Committees

D.Brothwell –

-PSB have not met since last meeting

-PAC met on June 17th, considered three property related applications:

-Committee considered cleaning up an inaccurate ownership transfer. Property was not fully transferred in 2010. Full transfer now complete, with thanks from the lawyers' office

-Two lot split, approved. Lots met minimum requirements for size.

-Easement application, cottage built slightly on neighbors property. Normally straight line property line approvals, but this was a special circumstance and a "triangle" shape was approved to have the cottage on owners property. Shed was also in violation and the owners are required to move it.

G. Black –

- Met with All Nations Health Partners-June 17

Kenora Chiefs Advisory Ogimaawabiitong (KCA) provided a presentation of the HART (Homelessness & Addictions Recovery Treatment) Hub model, a multi partner collaboration focused on expanding care for clients who face mental health, addiction and/or housing

challenges. Partners and co-developers include: KCA, Canadian Mental Health Association Kenora Branch (CMHAK), Kenora Association for Community Living (KACL), Kenora District Services Board (KDSB) and Waasegiizhig Nanaandawe'iyewigamig Health Access Centre (WNHAC). The HART Hub is located in the Emergency Shelter site in Kenora, with supportive housing access at Norwood House. The HART Hub is meant to prioritize a shared care model, minimizing and eliminating barriers to clients accessing the services they need.

-June 30- Boundary Water Fishing Group

- July 6 – Attended Luncheon with Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, Edith Dumont

Upcoming Meetings:

-July 14- emergency Control Group

-July 17- All Nations Health Partners

-July 29- Regional Solid Waste Landfill Discussion

S. Salvador-

- June 11 and 12, Sioux Narrows held household hazard event- 80 to 90 people attended to drop off household hazardous waste

-Landfill Committee met June 16 with Stantec as the Township is working through a feasibility study and looking at possible expansion for the future of the SN landfill

-Landfill Committee met June 30 with representatives from the ministry of environment and Stantec to discuss the current landfill situation and opportunities for the future

-Upcoming regional community meeting July 29 with senior leadership from the neighboring four indigenous communities, Stantec and ministry of environment for collaboration, possible partnership and investments

Old Business

Resolution No. 95-26

Moved by Doug Brothwell

Seconded by Steve Salvador

That the Corporation of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls hereby re-allocates Capital Funding in the 2026 Final Budget as follows:

Increases:

Account 10-0870-6401 Government Dock Capital -\$30,000 (signage & increased space NF Dock)

Account 10-0420-6401 Municipal Centre Capital - \$10,000 (flagpole at SN Mun Centre)

Account 10-0550-6401 NF Info Centre Capital - \$20,000 (new flower beds)

Account 10-0060-6307 Building Security - \$10,000 (security cameras various facilities)

Account 10-0410-6401 Community Center Capital - \$7,500 (upgrades at NF Community Hall)

Total Increases - \$77,500

Decreases:

Account 10-0760-6401 Waste Management Capital - \$77,500

Carried.

New Business

Resolution No. 96-26

Moved by Steve Salvador

Seconded by Doug Brothwell

That the Corporation of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls hereby supports an application to the NOHFC Community Enhancement Funding Stream in the amount of \$540,000 for the Sioux Narrows Community Hall renovations. The Municipal contribution to the project is \$120,000 and Council recognizes that it will be responsible for any cost overruns associated with this project.

Carried.

Resolution No. 97-26

Moved by Doug Brothwell

Seconded by Steve Salvador

That the Corporation of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls hereby supports an application to the FedNor Build Communities Strong Fund – Local Impacts Stream in Northern Ontario in the amount of \$540,000 for the Sioux Narrows Community Hall renovations. The Municipal contribution to this project is \$120,000 and Council recognizes that it will be responsible for any cost overruns associated with this project.

Carried

Resolution No. 98-26

Moved by Steve Salvador

Seconded by Doug Brothwell

That the Corporation of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls hereby authorizes the issuance of a company credit card in the name of Ryan Stelter (Director of Community Development) with a maximum limit of \$5,000.

Carried

Resolution No. 99-26

Moved by Doug Brothwell

Seconded by Steve Salvador

WHEREAS, the Council of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls, has determined that the following policies are no longer areas of operation in our municipality and therefore the policies are no longer needed;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Corporation of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls Municipal Council hereby is removing the following policies:

B-36 Non-Fraternization Policy

C-10 Nursing Station Fees

C-21 Provincial Parks RV Storage

Carried

Resolution No. 100-26

Moved by Steve Salvador

Seconded by Doug Brothwell

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

Whereas the following policies have been discussed and reviewed;

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

A-02 A-03 A-05 A-07 A-08 A-12 A-13 B-02 B-03 B-04 B-05 B-17

B-18 B-21 B-32 B-33 B-34 B-35 C-15 C-16 C-20 C-23

Carried

Resolution No. 101-26

Moved by Steve Salvador

Seconded by Doug Brothwell

That the Corporation of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls appoints the following as a volunteer to the SNNF Fire Department – Raychel King

Carried

By-Laws –

Resolution No. 102-26

Moved by Steve Salvador

Seconded by Doug Brothwell

That the by-law to authorize the Corporation of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls to enter into a funding agreement with Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (Director of Community Development Internship), having been read a first time, and deemed read a second and third time, passes the by-law as read.

Carried

Delegations –

Northwestern Health Unit- Dr. Kit Ngan Young Hoon-Medical Officer of Health

Dr. Kit Ngan Young Hoon began her presentation to council by explaining the role of the Northwestern Health Unit (a public health agency) in the region. She went on to highlight the different programs that the NWHU runs and that these service models have not changed since the local office closure, such as:

Dental Health- providing services in local schools, including dental screenings, assessments, fluoride varnish and rescreening appointments. In the 2025/2026 year, 43 students were screened at the Sioux Narrows and Nestor Falls schools.

Speech, hearing and vision programs- fund Firefly to deliver preschool speech and language services, blind low vision services and infant hearing screening.

Safe Food Handler Courses- available online.

Well Water Testing- Individuals use the self service online form for seasonal water testing, and drop the water bottles off at the Sioux Narrows Community Health Hub to be sent to the lab for testing.

Public Health Inspections- Complete restaurant and other business inspections as per the OPHS requirements. In 2025, 20 inspections were completed within Sioux Narrows and Nestor Falls.

Air Quality Monitoring- NWHU will be working with the Sioux Narrows Health Hub to mount the air quality monitor.

Immunizations- Distribution of vaccines across the region. NWHU provides local respiratory vaccine clinics every fall. NWHU staff monitor student immunization status and provide in school clinics when needed. In November 2025, a community respiratory clinic was held in SN and a school clinic was held in February 2026.

Infectious Disease- The NWHU is responsible for case and contact follow-up and outbreak management.

Family Health- Provides 48 hour postpartum contact calls and home visits as needed. EarlyON centre drop ins will be revisited in the fall due to staffing issues.

School Based Comprehensive Health Promotion Services- Programs delivered in partnership with the local schools, such as the Student Nutrition Program (SNP), Physical Activity Leaders in Schools (PALS), playground stencils, You're the Chef food education, vaping kits for schools, physical activity equipment loans for schools, Preventure.

The Northern Fruit & Vegetable Program, Nutrition on Weekends and the Student Nutrition Breakfast program are available at both the Sioux Narrows and Nestor Falls schools. In Sioux Narrows, in the 25/26 year, 2,902 meals were provided and in Nestor Falls, 5,235 meals were provided to students.

Community Based Comprehensive Health Promotion Services- a health educator is assigned to each community to facilitate or provide community events upon request.

Bring Your Own Alcohol (BYOB) Events- With the change in Ontario legislation, NWHU is working with municipalities to determine if the BYOB program aligns with local priorities, establish eligibility criteria and approval processes, update municipal alcohol policies, implement safety and risk mitigation measures and monitor outcomes and review policies over time.

Dr. Kit Ngan Young Hoon was thanked by council for her time, and general discussion as had over the BYOB policy and concerns by council.

Sioux Narrows Arts Council-Susan Hovi- Following up on request to council over the use of the SN Curling Club for the 2027 SN Arts Festival. Council agreed to their request, unless renovations are completed at the SN Community Hall by that time. The square footage will be very similar to that of the SN Curling Club and the move of their Arts Council shed will be sorted out when the time comes.

Jerry O' Leary- Thanked Council and the municipality for having the Nestor Falls Airstrip cleaned up.

Noted that local pilots have been making comments about the height of the trees at the end of the Airstrip, and they may need to be trimmed, as they are quite high upon approach.

-Thanked CAO Heather for being at the most recent Police Services Board meeting and for volunteering to keep council and PSB informed on progress being made regarding cameras being put in certain areas, and Nestor Falls getting a community safety zone.

-Noted that the NF community hall expansion is great, but the kitchen still needs to be done. CAO Heather assured him that the current budget has the Nestor Falls community hall kitchen included for this year.

- NF Info Centre- grass cutting needs to be better attended to

Adjournment

Resolution No. 103-26

Moved by Doug Brothwell

Seconded by Steve 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

S. Salvador

Mayor

Clerk