

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

A regular open meeting of Council was held Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, at the Sioux Narrows Municipal Office. A quorum of Council was present, and this was a duly authorized meeting of the Corporation of the Township of Sioux Narrows - Nestor Falls.

Resolution No. 39-25

Moved by Holly Chant

Seconded by Doug Brothwell

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

Carried

Resolution No. 40-25

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 April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, Council meeting.

Carried

**Disclosure of Interest** – None.

**Adoption of Minutes**

Resolution No. 41-25

Moved by Doug Brothwell

Seconded by Steve Salvador

That the minutes of the March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025, regular meeting be adopted as read and published.

Carried

**Correspondence** – None.

**Disbursements**

Resolution No. 42-25

Moved by Doug Brothwell

Seconded by Holly Chant

That the March 2025 Disbursements, having been checked and found that all accounts are in order, passes same for payment in the amount of \$638,958.48.

Carried

**By-Laws**

Resolution No. 43-25

Moved by Steve Salvador

Seconded by Doug Brothwell

That the by-law to appoint an Area Weed Inspector pursuant to the Weed Control Act, having been read a first time, and deemed read a second and third time, passes the by-law as read.

Carried

We are required by the Province to make an appointment by by-law. The act primarily deals with protecting agricultural land from noxious weeds.

**Staff Reports**

H. Gropp – Community Development Officer – report attached. Discussed the differing mandates of the funding agencies, FedNor and NOHFC; NOHFC predominantly considers quality of life and FedNor primarily considers economic impact. H. Gropp – asked if Council has interest in proceeding with Bass Lake Park, despite FedNor not approving our application. NOHFC would likely still support, but without FedNor, that means our local share will increase. G. Black and H. Chant are agreeable to continuing and feel that this facility is an important asset and very well utilized. D. Brothwell stated that he would prefer to make a site visit prior to agreeing. A site visit will be planned to occur after the snow melts. H. Gropp indicated that we asked MTO to consider installing streetlights in Nestor Falls, after hearing requests from the public. MTO confirmed that they did a review and don't feel that there is a need. Discussed the types of businesses interested in starting up in Sioux Narrows and Nestor Falls; these include mechanical services, food service, retail, etc. Council asked if Mosswood would be in the area again this year. H. Gropp indicated that they will be back, but at a different location and on a significantly reduced schedule. Instead of the Provincial Park, they will be at the Sioux Narrows Government Dock on a limited basis.

J. Port – Director of Planning - discussed a few incidents that are ongoing in the municipality, which we have had to refer to the appropriate agencies responsible, including the Ministry of Transportation and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. The matters involve private use of crown land.

**Reports from Committees**

H. Chant – Fire Department – FF1 level training has been a success. March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, was exam day for the participating fire fighters. Now many of our active members will be above the current minimum training standards as set by the OFM. We will now be focusing on other topics during training for the rest of the year, including pre-incident planning, fire boat exercises, portable pump drills, training with EMS paramedics for MVC calls, etc. Next fall/winter, there are plans to set up a HazMat course in-house. March 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025, 4 members attended training in Red Lake that included electric vehicle fires and explosion awareness and incident command. R. Holden has agreed to serve as Station 2, Deputy Chief. The Fire Department will be hosting a public open house about lithium-ion battery awareness on Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. at the Sioux Narrows Fire Hall. Also, a reminder that it's fire permit season. Fire permits are required in Ontario from April 1<sup>st</sup> - October 31<sup>st</sup>, annually. They can be purchased online at [snf.burnpermits.com](http://snf.burnpermits.com) where you can also register for fire hazard and restricted fire zone alerts. Nestor Falls Recreation Committee – reported that the Winter Carnival made a profit of \$454.84. The fish derby sold 114 tickets, the lumberjack competition had 15 participants and 110 people attended the dance. The committee's plans for 2025 include trying some different activities this year, including a games night, bringing in an author for a wine/cheese night, a spring tea, a cooking class, a canning class and a ladies night. Rainy River District Municipal Association – reported that she attended the Annual General Meeting on January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Speakers included the Northwestern Health Unit, Lowery's made a presentation about cyber security, the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, the OPP, the District of Rainy River Services Board and the Rainy River Futures Development Corporation. They passed resolutions regarding paramedic services in the region and physician recruitment for the Town of Rainy River. She also attended a Riverside Communications committee meeting. They discussed 2 HART hub funding applications that were submitted but not approved. In the area, Riverside sent one and there was also an Indigenous application. Chiefs in the area are sending a letter stating their disappointment that the applications were not approved. There is a plan in place for the Rainy

**Reports from Committees** (cont.)

River doctor shortage; there are still onsite hospital services, with some doctors available on site, and they are also doing virtual doctor services. They are looking at getting a consultant to look at implementing a district model so that doctors can work at multiple hospitals in the region. They are looking for municipal support for this. Right now, Fort Frances can't work at Rainy River and vice versa. Currently Fort Frances is at half capacity for doctors. They are also still working on a Mental Health and Addictions services proposal, including what kind of facility is needed, and funding, but it's not moving forward right now.

G. Black – reported that she attended a Kenora District Services Board virtual meeting March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025, a Sioux Narrows Recreation Committee meeting March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and the Sioux Narrows Winter Carnival was held March 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>, 2025. She will be attending an All Nations Health Partners virtual meeting April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025, a Sioux Narrows – Nestor Falls Trails Open House and Information Session April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and a Truth and Reconciliation Ceremony planning meeting April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The next Patient, Family and Elder Advisory Committee meeting will be April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The Sioux Narrows Library has moved into its new location at the former Copperfin Credit Union Branch location. There will be a soft opening April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, with a grand opening event to be held later, in early Summer. The next KDMA (virtual) meeting will be April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025. We were invited to a lunch gathering with Animakee Wa Zhing #37 First Nation on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025, to discuss ongoing and mutual projects. On April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025, she will be attending a Rural Generalist Council Care Model agreement signing that represents a collaborate commitment to strengthening health care delivery and ensuring accessible, high quality care for all communities. The event will be held at Seven Generations in Kenora. D. Brothwell asked if the former Copperfin building's façade would be repaired, as there is a hole in the outer wall. Yes, there will be new siding and a new sign installed. Staff worked really hard to get the building ready to move into and will next get the outside façade as soon as they can.

**Old Business** – None.

**New Business**

Resolution No. 44-25

Moved by Holly Chant

Seconded by Steve Salvador

That the Council of the Township of Sioux Narrows - Nestor Falls hereby accepts the bid by Viking Landscaping Ltd. to carry out the work tendered for the Bridge Park and Highway Corridor Beautification projects in the amount of \$264,155.00, plus HST.

Carried

Resolution No. 45-25

Moved by Doug Brothwell

Seconded by Steve Salvador

That Council hereby authorizes the CAO to sign the agreement with the Northern Heritage Fund Corporation for the Sioux Narrows Seniors Centre Expansion Funding.

Carried

**Delegations**

K. Andrews – indicated that she heard in a recent report that Riverside Hospital has transportation services for patients. Who are the services available to? H. Chant answered that they are available to their catchment area patients, that does include Nestor Falls. K. Andrews

**Delegations**

asked is Kenora has similar services for Sioux Narrows. G. Black indicated that she has and is continuing to look into this. K. Andrews asked for an update about getting speakers installed in the council chambers. Council answered that it will be budgeted and is planned to be done. K. Andrews asked if this Council has declared a position about nuclear waste in the North. This council did formally indicate they are not in favour of the transportation of nuclear waste to the North. K. Andrews asked about Bridge Park improvements. What are they? H. Gropp described that there will be improvements to the site that include walkways, signage, parking improvements, picnic and interpretive panels with local history and culture. K. Andrews asked if there would be a bathroom. H. Gropp indicated that our plans do not include a bathroom at this time.

**Adjournment**

Resolution No. 46-25

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

---

Mayor

Clerk

# Township of Sioux Narrows - Nestor Falls

P.O. BOX 417  
SIOUX NARROWS, ONTARIO  
P0X 1N0

Phone (807) 226 - 5241  
FAX (807) 226 - 5712  
[www.livethelakelife.ca](http://www.livethelakelife.ca)

## Report to Council

<b>Council Meeting Date:</b>	April 1, 2025
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Heather Gropp- Community Development Officer

### **Grant proposals and Capital Projects:**

I have attached the Grants tracking form to this report for Council's information/review.

### Housing Accelerator Fund II:

We were notified in March that we were unsuccessful in our application to the Phase II Housing Accelerator Fun Application. This was a \$1.2 million dollar application that would have assisted the community with the purchase of additional land, servicing requirements for existing land and development. It would have also allowed us to boost our Community Improvement Plan for Housing Development type initiatives. We had been very hopeful for this application, and therefore I followed up with the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation directly to provide insight into why we were not successful.

It was noted that there were no deficiencies with our application, and in fact our application to HAFII scored higher than our application to the original HAF. We had submitted reasonable timelines within our project (1-3 years) to implement all initiatives, however that is where are scores were lowest. Projects who had 1 year or less implementation timelines were more successful.

For information, this round of Housing Accelerator Funding had available a total amount of \$400 million in funding. They received 235 applications (not including Quebec because a portion of the \$400 million was carved out specifically for Quebec.) Of those 235 applications, there were only 62 agreements, and a funding approval rate of 26.6%. I do want to note that there were no successful funding applications from Northwestern Ontario.



**Live the Lake Life**

# *Township of Sioux Narrows - Nestor Falls*

P.O. BOX 417  
SIOUX NARROWS, ONTARIO  
P0X 1N0

Phone (807) 226 - 5241  
FAX (807) 226 - 5712  
[www.livethelakelife.ca](http://www.livethelakelife.ca)

## Bass Lake Park Upgrades:

After some discussion with Fed Nor regarding our phase I application for Bass Lake Park, they ultimately determined that they would not be moving the project to Phase II. They did not see the economic benefit of the project. As a result of this we are at a cross-roads with this project. The Township is clear in its position that the park and project have considerable value to our community and Tourism Economy.

As a result of the Fed Nor decision, I reached out to NOHFC to confirm that they would still have interest in this project, which they do. Therefore, I am bringing forward for Council's input a revised Bass Lake project, with NOHFC funding that will include:

- Connector trail
- Upgraded washrooms
- Upgraded picnic shelter
- Upgraded playground structure
- Improvements to landscaping and beach area.

If Council is interested in proceeding, the total cost of this project would be \$500,000 with NOHFC able to fund 75% of it at \$375,000. The Municipal Cost would be \$125,000.

## Sunrise Seniors Centre Expansion:

This project has been approved by NOHFC and they have sent the formal agreement to be authorized by the Municipality. There is a resolution later on the agenda for this. This project is being carried out in conjunction with the seniors centre and will result in an expanded facility to better meet the needs of the seniors in our community.



***Live the Lake Life***

# *Township of Sioux Narrows - Nestor Falls*

P.O. BOX 417  
SIOUX NARROWS, ONTARIO  
P0X 1N0

Phone (807) 226 - 5241  
FAX (807) 226 - 5712  
[www.livethelakelife.ca](http://www.livethelakelife.ca)

## Bridge Park and Highway Corridor Development Project:

The tenders for these projects were issued at the end of February, and the bidding closed on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025. These tenders were posted on our municipal website and shared as we do with all of tenders. At the close of the tender period, we received only 1 bid from Viking Landscaping in Manitoba. Vikings Bid was in line with what the team at Scatliff+Miller+Murray was expecting. Additionally, Viking has undertaken efforts to contract with a local sign supplier for the signage needs of this project.

There is a resolution related to this later on the agenda.

## **Economic Development:**

In the past 6 months, we have seen an increase in economic development activity. I have had 6 inquiries regarding new business starts ups or business expansion inquiries. I have also made multiple referrals to our regional business support organizations for business support services. This is quite a bit busier than usual.



***Live the Lake Life***



**Sioux Narrows – Nestor Fall Highway Beautification**

**Bridge Park Site Improvements**

Thank you for the opportunity to bid on your projects in Sioux Narrows and Nestor Falls.

Viking Landscaping has taken great pride in the work we have completed in Sioux Narrows and Nestor Falls over the past 5 seasons. It is such a naturally beautiful area of our country that has seen wonderful improvements through much hard work of the township and Heather over the years. We are truly fortunate to have been a part of this.

Please find enclosed our bid for the above-mentioned projects. Jake with Timber signs has recommended that the existing Bridge Park sign is beyond a state of repair and should be replaced entirely. We have accounted for the replacement of this sign as opposed to the relocation of the sign in the attached bid under item # 1.02. You will also find attached the proposed design for the new Bridge Park sign as well as the mock up for the Nestor Falls Recreation Area sign. We have also included watering of all plantings on both projects for the 2025 season.

We have not attached a certified cheque or bank draft to the tender forms as we have not submitted this with past projects through the township. Should a certified cheque or bank draft be required upon award of the project we would be happy to provide one.

Thank you so much for the opportunity to continue to work with the Township of Sioux Narrows and Nestor Falls we are very grateful and look forward to building on our existing relationships.

Sincerely,

Ben Johnson,

Viking Landscaping Inc.



BRIDGE PARK SITE IMPROVEMENTS				SMM Preliminary Cost Estimate		Viking	
ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	UNIT	APPROX. QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
1.01	General requirements, mobilization & demobilization, demolition, removals, existing feature relocations, supervision, permits, bonds, and insurances.	Lump	1	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
1.02	Interpretive Signage by Timber Signs (or approved alternate). Design to be determined with signage contractor input.	lump	1	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
1.03	Parking lot (clearing, grubbing and granular profile of the parking area and entrance)	sq.m.	520	\$ 95.00	\$ 49,400.00	\$ 14.00	\$ 7,280.00
1.04	Boulders to be used for retaining and parking lot edge (Supply & Install)	Each	46	\$ 145.00	\$ 6,670.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 6,900.00
1.05	2m wide gravel pathway and picnic area	sq.m.	306	\$ 41.00	\$ 12,546.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 4,590.00
1.06	Picnic tables (Supply & Install)	Each	4	\$ 5,227.50	\$ 20,910.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 24,000.00
1.07	Picnic tables – Accessible (Supply & Install)	Each	2	\$ 5,227.50	\$ 10,455.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
1.08	Wooden replacement railing (Supply & Install, c/w fasteners)	Lump	1	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
1.09	Topsoil & Seed (Supply & Install)	Sq.m.	560	\$ 9.00	\$ 5,040.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 14,000.00
1.1	White Spruce	Each	4	\$ 855.00	\$ 3,420.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 5,600.00
1.11	Paper Birch	Each	4	\$ 850.00	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 5,600.00
SIOUX NARROWS - NESTOR FALLS HIGHWAY BEAUTIFICATION				SMM Preliminary Cost Estimate		Viking	
ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	UNIT	APPROX. QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
2.01	General requirements, mobilization & demobilization, demolition, removals, existing feature relocations, supervision, permits, bonds, and insurances.	Lump	1	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
2.02	Nestor Falls Recreation Area Sign by Timber Signs or Approved Alternate. Sign design to be determined with signage contractor.	Lump	1	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
2.02	Light post banner signage (c/w brackets, supply & install) – Insall on light posts in Sioux Narrows, locations to be determined on site with CA	Each	13	\$ 1,084.66	\$ 14,100.58	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 29,250.00
2.03	Planting Beds (c/w mulch, boulder edging as required) – Supply & Install	sq.m.	379	\$ 65.00	\$ 24,635.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 28,425.00
2.04	Shrubs & Perennials & Grasses – Supply & Install	Each	406	\$ 40.00	\$ 16,240.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 20,300.00
2.05	Coniferous Trees - Supply & Install	Each	8	\$ 855.00	\$ 6,840.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 11,200.00
2.07	Picnic Tables (w/ Game Board) – Supply & Install	Each	2	\$ 5,805.00	\$ 11,610.00	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 13,000.00
2.08	Picnic Tables (Accessible w/ Game Board) – Supply & Install	Each	1	\$ 5,805.00	\$ 5,805.00	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,500.00

Preliminary Estimate (inc. 10% contingency)	\$ 261,328.74
Total Bid	\$ 264,145.00

Project Name	Program Name	Funder	Project Number	Project total	Funding Amount	Project Status/Additional Notes
Totem Road Broadband	ICON	MOI	2020-08-1-1454219484	36,225	36,225	Complete
4 season multi-use recreation phase 1	ICIP-Community Culture and Recreation	MOI	2019-10-1-1419717539	1,003,000.00		Final Claim Received
Trail Development Coordinator	NOHFC- Skills and Talent	MND	740929	62,192	35000	Complete
Nestor Falls Community Centre	NOHFC- Community Development	MND	7500029	200,000	180,000	Completed June 2024
Bike Trails Phase 1	NOHFC Community Development	MND	750037	200,000	180,000	Working on Final Report
NF Government Docks Project	NOHFC Community Development	MND	75000123	200,000	180,000	Completed August 2024
Bridge Parks Upgrades and interpretation	NOHFC Community Development	MND	7500138	200,000	180,000	Approved- Tendered. Wrap up expected by June 30 2025
Sport Fishing Centre Exterior	Strategic Economic Infranstructure	MND	8100573	645,000	316,050	Complete- Final NOHFC Claim in progress
Phase II SN Government Dock	NOHFC Community Development	NOHFC	7510175	500,000	375,000	Complete- October 2024
4 season multi-use recreation phase 2	Commuity Enhancement Program	MND FedNor	7520075 514388	1,400,000 1,400,000	630,000 630,000	Complete Complete
Community Development Officer Phase 1	CIINO	FedNor	809136		177,700	Complete
Community Development Officer Phase 2	CIINO	FedNor	851-514423	216,000	154,800	Approved- Claims submitted on an ongoing basis until project end in June 2025.
Landfill remediation	NORDS	MND		488,758.35	488,758.35	5 year program-currently in year 4
NOSCF- HVAC Upgrade and Feburbishment	GICB	Federal Ministry of Infrastructure	AP000003428	219,000	175,200	Decline
Housing Development	Housing Accelerator Fund	CMHC		680,000	680,000	Decline-appeal submitted
Highways Corridor Beautification	NOHFC Community Development	MND	7500174	200,000	180,000	Approved- Tendered. Wrap up expected by June 30 2025
Bike Trails Phase II	NOHFC	MND	7520246	555,000	249,750	Approved- Construction started September 2024. Expected completion September 2025
	FedNor- new fund	FedNor		555,000	249,750	Approved- Construction started September 2024. Expected completion June 2025
Housing Development	Housing Accelerator Fund Phase II	CMHC		1,200,000	1,200,000	Declined
Community Trail Development and Programming	Grow Grant- Ontario Trillium Foundation	OTF		300,000	300,000	Application submitted. Awaiting Decision.
Aspen Trail Board Walk Construction	Capital Grant- Trillium Foundation	OTF		105,000	105,000	Application submitted. Awaiting Decision.

Library Expansion Project	NOHFC	MND	7500193	200,000	180,000	Approved- Project has commenced.
Sioux Narrows Seniors Centre- Expansion	NOFHC	MND		200,000.00	180,000.00	Approved