

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

A regular open meeting of Council was held Tuesday, September 5th, 2023, at the Nestor Falls Community Hall. 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. 92-23

Moved by Doug Brothwell

Seconded by Holly Chant

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

Carried

Resolution No. 93-23

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 September 5th, 2023, Council meeting.

Carried

Disclosure of Interest – Councillor Rydberg declared a conflict of interest with any disbursement items related to Viking Landscaping, as they have stayed at his business establishment while working in the community.

Adoption of Minutes

Resolution No. 94-23

Moved by Matt Rydberg

Seconded by Doug Brothwell

That the minutes of the August 1st, 2023, regular open council meeting be adopted as read and published.

Carried

Correspondence – None.

Disbursements

Resolution No. 95-23

Moved by Doug Brothwell

Seconded by Holly Chant

That the August 2023 Disbursements, having been checked and found that all accounts are in order, passes same for payment in the amount of \$603,011.70.

Carried

By-Laws

Resolution No. 96-23

Moved by Doug Brothwell

Seconded by Matt Rydberg

That the by-law to amend (Short Term Rentals) By-Law No. 279, Being the Zoning By-Law, having been read a first and second time on August 1st, 2023, and now being deemed read a third and final time, passes the by-law as read.

Carried

By-Laws (cont.)

Resolution No. 97-23

Moved by Matt Rydberg

Seconded by Steve Salvador

That the by-law to amend the Township of Sioux Narrows – Nestor Falls Official Plan (Short Term Rentals), having been read a first and second time on August 1st, 2023, and now being deemed read a third and final time, passes the by-law as read.

Carried

Resolution No. 98-23

Moved by Doug Brothwell

Seconded by Holly Chant

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

Carried

Resolution No. 99-23

Moved by Holly Chant

Seconded by Matt Rydberg

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

Carried

Resolution No. 100-23

Moved by Steve Salvador

Seconded by Doug Brothwell

That the by-law to authorize the Township of Sioux Narrows – Nestor Falls to enter into an agreement with the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (Sioux Narrows Government Dock), 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 – Community Development Officer – report attached. Discussion ensued regarding the bike trails present and future phases of development.

T. Warner – Community Engagement and Trails Coordinator – report attached.

Reports from Committees

S. Salvador – reported that Bassin' for Bucks is this coming weekend. They are maxed out for entries and have 125 teams. Volunteer interest is, unfortunately, waning.

H. Chant – gave a Fire Rescue Services report – on August 15th – a representative from dispatch in Kenora provided an overview of how the system works, how calls are dispatched, what kind of information is important for callers to provide, etc. It was very informative, and he offered to give our team a tour of the facility to see how everything works. On August 24th, 2 therapists from CMHA did a presentation on trauma, burn-out and PTSD. On September 2nd, White Birch Lodge held an event and gifted a portion of the proceeds, \$800.00, to the Fire Department. Expressed thanks to White Birch for hosting the event and making the contribution.

Reports from Committees (cont.)

Reported that the Nestor Falls Recreation Committee's event, Wings and Wheels was held over the long weekend. On the Saturday it was all about the 'wings'; there were sight-seeing tours, some fly-bys over Bass Lake Park, activities for the kids, a band, food trucks, and beer gardens. On the Sunday, it was all about the 'wheels'; there was a car show, bike parade for the kids, and the band/food trucks/beer gardens again. There was a great turn out. Expressed thanks to the committee, with a special mention to T. Monkhouse for all her hard work on the event. Reported that she attended the Moose n' Fiddle Music Festival. Expressed thanks to D. Lysak, H. Gropp, T. Warner, M. Salvador, and all the municipal and park staff for their hard work. Thank you to all the volunteers as well. It was a really great event.

D. Brothwell – also wished to express that the Moose n' Fiddle Music Festival was a fantastic event.

G. Black – reported that she participated in a meeting on August 9th with financial institution representatives, senior municipal staff and leadership and band staff from Animakee Wa Zhing #37 regarding barriers experienced by our communities, businesses and residents from not having local banking services. Reported that she attended the funding announcement for Bridge Park with the Honourable G. Rickford, our Member of Provincial Parliament, on August 16th. Reported that there was a Police Services Board meeting on August 22nd. Two of our new officers were present. She wished to express thanks to our staff and volunteers for all of the amazing events in our community. Finally, she read a letter of gratitude received from M. Crawford who, very devastatingly, recently lost her home to a fire. She expressed thanks to our local, volunteer Fire Department for their rapid and well executed response. She was impressed with Chief M. Kakeeway's leadership and the dedication of the fire team. She wished to express her heartfelt appreciation to the Township and the Fire Department.

Old Business – None.

New Business

Resolution No. 101-23

Moved by Holly Chant

Seconded by Matt Rydberg

Be it Resolved That the Council of the Township of Sioux Narrows – Nestor Falls endorses and supports Resolution No. CL-042-2023 of the Municipality of Sioux Lookout regarding the reinstatement of the Northern Allowance for the Sioux Lookout area; and,

That a copy of this resolution be provided to the Municipality of Sioux Lookout to be shared with the provincial government and otherwise in their lobby efforts.

Carried

Resolution No. 102-23

Moved by Steve Salvador

Seconded by Matt Rydberg

Be it Resolved That the Council of the Township of Sioux Narrows – Nestor Falls endorses and supports Resolution No. 16 of the Township of Emo regarding rescinding the addition of the Black Ash Tree to the Endangered Species Act; and,

That copies of this resolution be circulated to local MPs and MPPs, Premier Doug Ford, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs, Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry, The Association of Municipalities of Ontario, The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association, Rural Ontario Municipal Association, The federation of Agriculture, Ontario Federation of Agricultural, Office

New Business (cont.)

of the Ontario Regional Chief-Chiefs of Ontario, Northwestern Ontario First Nations, Rainy River District Municipal Association and Rainy River District Clerks & CAO's.
Carried

Resolution No. 103-23

Moved by Matt Rydberg

Seconded by Doug Brothwell

That the Council of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls hereby awards the contract for Design Services and contract administration for the Bridge Park re-development project to Little Bluestem Landscape Architecture in the amount of \$33,745.

Carried

Resolution No. 104-23

Moved by Doug Brothwell

Seconded by Holly Chant

That the Council of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls hereby supports an application to the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation for the phase II portion of the Township's Bike Trails Project in the amount of \$450,000; and that Council recognizes that the Townships contribution is \$100,000, and that they will be responsible for any cost overruns associated with this project.

Carried

Resolution No. 105-23

Moved by Steve Salvador

Seconded by Holly Chant

That the Council of the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls hereby supports an application to FedNor for the phase II portion of the Township's Bike Trails Project in the amount of \$450,000; and that Council recognizes that the Townships contribution is \$100,000, and that they will be responsible for any cost overruns associated with this project.

Carried

OPP Service Renewal – council determined that they would be agreeable to an amending agreement to extend the current agreement at this time. It would come to council at a future meeting for consideration.

Four Season Recreation Facility Policy – the policy that was provided to council at the August meeting will be revised and brought back to council at a future meeting for consideration.

Gibi Lake Road – Councillor Brothwell reported that he made a site inspection with J. Port, Director of Planning. They suggest that the result of the inspection be sent to the representatives from Gibi Lake who attended the last council meeting. If the residents obtain a report from a qualified road engineer, complete the work to bring it up to the minimum standard, maintain it in that condition for a one year maintenance period, council will consider assuming the road maintenance. There is no guarantee that council will agree in future, but he feels that it is only fair that we seriously consider it. J. Port will follow up with the Gibi Lake representatives, sharing the report.

Delegations

G. Hagen – wished to address council regarding the short term rentals by-laws and policy. He feels that the policies drive people away from our community. Feels that it is detrimental. Also, he believes that it would have been better if the approach was more balanced, as opposed to prohibitive. Council thanked him for his feedback.

J. McLeod – indicated that she is a summer resident of Sioux Narrows from Kenora. She is a long time seasonal camper at Sioux Narrows Provincial Park. She read a written report that was provided to council earlier today. She feels that the provincial policy of competing for seasonal sites on an online booking system should be reconsidered and that they should have guaranteed booking of their preferred sites. She does not believe that they should have to compete for them online. She further discussed the challenges of a power outage that could affect their internet access and cell phone data connectivity on the day that booking opens for 2024. Would like council to reconsider the booking process. Mayor Black thanked her for the presentation. Council and senior staff clarified the process and explained that we have no local veto power over what is a provincial system and policy. Further discussion ensued. Council indicated that they are grateful for their support, sympathetic to their concerns and thanked her for her presentation. Ms. McLeod thanked council for listening and clarifying.

D. Carlson – a seasonal resident for over 40 years and a long-time seasonal camper at Sioux Narrows Provincial Park. Expressed that he feels Ontario residents should take priority over non-residents, like they do in other provinces. Ontario residents should have a chance ahead of non-residents. Discussed his past career in policing. He doesn't feel that he sees them as much as we should. Council thanked him for his comments.

Adjournment

Resolution No. 106-23

Moved by Matt Rydberg

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

M. Rydberg

S. Salvador

D. Brothwell

Mayor

Clerk

Township of Sioux Narrows - Nestor Falls

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Report to Council

Council Meeting Date:	September 5, 2023
Prepared By:	Heather Gropp, Community Development Officer
Report:	<p>Capital Projects:</p> <p>All capital projects are underway and progressing.</p> <p>The NOSFC grounds project will be complete by September 7th. Phase II for this project has begun. We are currently working with Scatlif+Miller+Murray on a plan for the secondary boat launch. Once that is finalized we will then continue with site planning to enhance the shoreline area and complete lighting on the site, budget permitting.</p> <p>The Nestor Falls Community Centre is now closed for bookings. Work is expected to start on that site in the next few weeks.</p> <p>The Nestor Falls Government Dock is nearing completion. We are working on lighting and signage at the dock.</p> <p>The Four Season Recreation facility is expected to be complete within the next 2 weeks. We are waiting on line painting, and the installation of gables and side walls. The delay has been a result of difficulty getting materials.</p> <p>Bike Trails Phase I: This project is now underway. There was a start up site meeting on September 5th. Precambrian Trails is the contractor on site and have begun the necessary ground work. This work is expected to be complete this fall.</p>



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There are new funding opportunities coming forward this Fall. We have been encouraged to submit a funding application for the next phases of our bike trails project, therefore phase 1 funding applications will be submitted shortly to NOHFC and FedNor to fund further development of this project. Resolutions to authorize these applications are part of the Council Agenda.

Bridge Park- We put out an RFP for qualified landscape architecture firms to bid on the design and project management work for the re-development of Bridge Park. We received 2 bids, one from Urban Systems (\$39,994) and one from Little Bluestem Landscape Architecture (\$33,745). Both bids are from qualified companies and both have completed recent work with our municipality. After careful review of both bids, it is recommended that the contract for the work at Bridge Park be awarded to Little Bluestem Landscape Architecture. A resolution authorizing this contract award is included in today's meeting package for Council consideration.

Community Survey

Two years ago the Municipality conducted a business survey as part of the process to develop our Community Economic Development Plan. At that time it was recommended that we repeat the survey in 2 years time to track changes in the economy of our community. We have relaunched this business survey which will run between September 1-15. We have also supplemented it with a community survey. The responses of these initiatives will be compiled into a report for Council and will be helpful as Council and the Municipality enter into a new planning cycle.



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Marketing:

The Township is continuing with its partnership marketing opportunities. These will run until the end of September. Preliminary results are showing that our marketing has been quite successful. Our campaigns into Minnesota and Wisconsin performed better than expected. Final results will be compiled, along with visitor information data into a more comprehensive report once all efforts are complete.

Parks, NOSFC, and Visitor Centres:

I would like to recognize all of the hard work of the Caliper Lake Park Staff, especially Maureen Chepil and Clarence Runke for their significant efforts in ensuring that Caliper Lake Park was in excellent condition for the Moose n' Fiddle Festival. This was no small feat, given the damage and challenges faced at the park. I would also like to Thank Mike Salvador and the maintenance team and Timothy Warner for their contributions to ensuring that the site was in the best condition possible.

Both parks continue to operate until October 2nd. They have had very busy summers. We have had multiple weekends where the parks are at or near full capacity.

The Northern Ontario Sport Fishing Centre will be going down to 5 days per week operations starting after the labour day weekend. It will be closed on Mondays and Tuesdays. It will be open until October 9th. The Nestor Falls visitor information centre will continue until October 9th as well. Both centres are reporting strong visitor numbers throughout the season.



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Report to Council

Council Meeting Date:	September 5, 2023
Prepared By:	Timothy Warner, Trails and Community Engagement Coordinator

Report:

Trails:

- Maintenance Overview: All trails are in good repair, and users are happy.
- Usage: Boreal Trail Numbers: 479 to date.
- QR Code scans for trails: 584 to date.
- Signage Plans: Wayfinding sign installation is planned for this month.
- Work is continuing to develop programming for the 2024 season.

Speaker Series:

Very successful in 2023: 191 Participants

Plans for 2024:

- Increase kid-friendly events and programming.

Community Engagement/Events:

- “Kids Fish” was a huge success, many want it to be annual.
- Trail volunteers established, helping with trails.
- Speaker Series (Through September)
- Science North coming to SN Sep 19th (School, SFC, and 55+ Centre)
- SNNF Trails will be represented at the Kenora Science Carnival on Sep. 23rd

Looking at adding a few community events/Activities for 2024 including:

- “Triple P” Nestor Falls Race (Pedal, Paddle, Pound (Run))
- Farmers markets



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- Music Performances in Sioux Narrows "A band on the bay"
- Winter sliding hills at Sioux Narrows Park.
- Monthly spring through fall guided trail walks



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