



**The Corporation of The City of Dryden  
Minutes of the Open Meeting of Council**

**May 27, 2024, 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chambers - City Hall**

Members Present: Councillor MacKinnon  
Councillor Price  
Councillor Latham  
Councillor Tardiff  
Councillor Kiewning  
Mayor Harrison  
Councillor Noel

Staff Present: CAO R. Nesbitt  
Clerk A. Euler  
Treasurer S. Lansdell-Roll  
Director of Public Works B. Poole  
Director of Community Services J. Boyer  
Fire Chief C. Wood  
Communications Coordinator L. Smith

Others Present: Director of Human Resources M. Warren, Chief Building Official  
P. Skillen, Project and Asset Manager M. Raithatha, Ice Dogs  
President M. Sveinson

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**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Harrison called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature thereof**

Mayor Harrison called for declarations of Pecuniary Interest, and the general nature thereof, under The Municipal Conflict of Interest Act with respect to the Agenda for this meeting and the response was negative.

Mayor Harrison called for declarations of Pecuniary Interest, and the general nature thereof, under The Municipal Conflict of Interest Act with respect to Minutes of a meeting at which a member was not in attendance and had not previously declared and the response was negative.

**3. Land Acknowledgement Statement**

Mayor Harrison read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

**4. Delegations**

a. Mr. M. Sveinson, Dryden GM Ice Dogs President.

Mr. Sveinson reiterated his appreciation for the work Council does for the community before going over his history of delegations to Council. He informed the Councillors his presentation hasn't changed much from his previous ones. The team has approximately 300sq ft in their locker room, which is small with 25 players. The room is less than half the size of its

competitors and is the smallest and least-functional locker room in the league. The room is meant to be a home-away-from-home for the players they recruit, and other teams use their locker rooms as a recruitment tool. Mr. Sveinson also informed Council there are no showers or room for a medical therapeutic treatment area. They are asking the City of Dryden to take steps to improve the Ice Dogs locker room. Councillor Noel commented his support for the Ice Dogs and their request. Councillor Kiewning sees how valuable the team is to the City and asked Mr. Boyer if there are any opportunities to raise the money needed. Mr. Boyer wasn't sure but could look at unique proposals and put in some applications. Councillor Latham asked how big the footprint of the plan is, and Mr. Sveinson elaborated it would be roughly half of the mezzanine. Councillor MacKinnon fully supports the request, feeling Council should step up for the organization, and recalled the community didn't believe the team would last two years and now they are in their 25th year. Councillor Tardiff remembers a discussion that both sides would try to work together to make it happen and agrees it needs to be done. Councillor Price supports the request and remembers discussing the CIP program and the feasibility of that helping the project. Mr. Nesbitt doesn't believe using the CIP would be an adequate path for it, but agrees that staff was to look into it, but that staff have been busy and it hasn't been able to push the project forward. Mr. Boyer thinks the plan for the expansion is acceptable, but he and Mr. Sveinson would need to review the proposal before moving forward. Councillor Latham supports the project and requested that maybe the project be broken down into two stages for easier completion. Mr. Sveinson feels there is a strong support within the entire Ice Dogs community for the project to be completed and would consider the staged approach if necessary. Mayor Harrison reflected on the strong support from Council for his request and asked for updates in the next month or so on its progress.

**5. Presentations**

None.

**6. Public Notices - Clerk**

None.

**7. Committee and Board Reports - Council**

None.

**8. Consent Agenda - Part 1 - General**

**# 1**

**Moved by M. Price**

**Seconded by M. MacKinnon**

That Council hereby consider the following items of the Consent Agenda - Part 1 - General under date of May 27, 2024 as read and adopted:

9. a

10. a

**Carried**

**9. Adopt/Receive Minutes**

- a. Council Meeting Minutes - May 13, 2024. (Adopt)

**# 2**

**Moved by M. Price**

**Seconded by C. Kiewning**

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held May 13, 2024 be adopted.

**Carried**

**10. Motions arising from previous Council Meetings**

- a. Museum Advisory Board Funds for Digitization.

**# 3**

**Moved by R. Noel**

**Seconded by B. Tardiff**

That as per the recommendation in Staff Report Museum-2024-02, Council direct staff to transfer \$1,000.00 from the Museum Advisory Board Reserve Fund as the Museum Advisory Board's contribution to the Dryden Observer digitization project.

**Carried**

**11. Award of Tenders/Request for Proposals**

None.

**12. Information Items**

None.

**13. Consent Agenda - Part 2 - By-laws**

**# 4**

**Moved by R. Noel**

**Seconded by B. Latham**

That Council hereby consider the following item of the Consent Agenda - Part 2 - By-laws under date of May 27, 2024 as read and adopted:

By-law 2024-34

**Carried**

**14. By-laws - First, Second and Third Reading**

- a. By-law 2024-34 re: Structure of Museum Board.

**# 5**

**Moved by R. Noel**

**Seconded by M. Price**

That By-law 2024-34 being a by-law to rescind By-law 4733-2020 and to adopt a new Museum By-law be adopted.

**15. Items Severed from Consent Agenda or Deferred Items**

None.

**16. Staff Reports**

- a. Building & Planning-2024-15 Site Plan Control – 119 Boozhoo Avenue - Chief Building Official.

Chief Building Official P. Skillen read her report seeking approval of a site plan agreement for 119 Boozhoo Ave. The application proposes an addition to an existing commercial building for an autobody shop. Council directed a by-law to be brought forward to the next meeting.

**ACTION: Administration**

- b. Administration-2024-13 Support Resolution Request – May 2024 - Clerk.

Clerk A. Euler read the resolution. Mayor Harrison spoke to the details on long term care and how municipalities fund the care for both residents and non-residents. The mayor expressed this is to gain support to change the provincial land tax to include unorganized tax payers for long term care funding. Council agreed to support the resolution of the Kenora District Municipal Association.

**# 6**

**Moved by M. Price**

**Seconded by R. Noel**

Whereas there are about five district homes in the province and the municipalities in the district contribute proportionately to the costs of operating one or more homes within their respective district; and

Whereas there needs to be regional variation in the Provincial Land Tax to have flexibility and to make funds available for publicly funded homes in the area; and

Whereas there currently is no mechanism to direct specific supports for tax dollars from unorganized territories to the unique needs of their unincorporated area; and

Whereas long-term care is not unique to one specific jurisdiction and that need is as simple as the support for other essential services such as public health and social services; and

Whereas unincorporated territories (Territories Without Municipal Organization or, TWOMO) within the District of Kenora and District of Kiiwetinoong pay for Integrated Social Services including: Community Housing, Early Years Services, Employment and Financial Support Services, Social Housing, Emergency Medical Services, Land Ambulance and Community Paramedicine Services, but do NOT pay for the District Home for the Aged.

Therefore, be it resolved that the City of Dryden supports the Kenora District Municipal Association's resolution and request the Province change the policy for Provincial Land Tax revenues and include TWOMO in the funding support for the Kenora District Home for the Aged which would reduce the support required from municipalities in the Kenora District Municipal Association.

**Carried**

- c. Finance-2024-017 Amendment to the 2024 Budget – May 2024 - Treasurer.

Treasurer S. Lansdell-Roll read his report and advised Council that the Finance Committee met and came up with three options for the amendment. The recommended option is to reallocate funds from the Memorial Avenue Road Project, which was contingent on another NOHFC application that we won't hear a decision on in time. By deferring this project, it frees enough funds to be reallocated to the rooftop and HVAC projects. The Library Lift Upgrade project and the Golf Course Infrastructure project would not be moving forward either, freeing more funds.

Councillor Kiewning inquired if the City would be paying back the Library for the project funds. Mr. Lansdell-Roll informed Council the Library wanted to use this project funding for operating expenses regardless, and from meeting with the Library CEO they feel they no longer need to make amendments to their operating budget. Council agreed with the recommended option and directed a by-law be brought forward at the next meeting.

**ACTION: Administration**

- d. Finance-2024-18 2023 Year End Financial Report - Treasurer.

Treasurer S. Lansdell-Roll read his informational report and reminded Council the financials aren't audited and there may be a journal entry or two to come. After the audit is complete, Mr. Lansdell-Roll will be bringing the final 2023 Budget Amendment to Council. Councillor Kiewning inquired when the Dryden Police Service disbandment payments will end. Mr. Lansdell-Roll informed Council the last pay out was finished in 2023 and there are no more anticipated expenditures from 2024 on. Mayor Harrison inquired about an airport reserve fund. Mr. Lansdell-Roll explained the funding was from a program that the City received in 2021. Mayor Harrison commented on our Sewer Wastewater Reserve Fund being so low. Mr. Lansdell-Roll reminded Council the challenge in raising that reserve is caused by the debenture payments tied to the new sewage treatment plant and those payments won't end until 2031. Councillor Latham inquired if all municipalities across the province are experiencing difficulty in raising reserve funds. Mr. Lansdell-Roll doesn't believe that is the case, and summarized that Dryden is quite low compared to municipal peers. He reminded Council that other larger municipalities have development charges that contribute greatly to replenishing reserves, where we rely on tax dollars to build reserves. CAO Mr. Nesbitt concurred with the Treasurer. Mr. Lansdell-Roll commented the transition to Ontario Provincial Police was a unique draw off the reserves, as were the lasting impacts from the Dryden Municipal Telephone Service expansion into

mobility causing the municipality to borrow money instead of building reserves. He expressed he is confident the reserves can be built up to targeted levels again.

**17. Notices of Motion**

None.

**18. Motions**

- a. Committee of Adjustment Alternate Member Appointment.

Clerk A. Euler read the motion from the request of the Chief Building Official to appoint an alternate to the committee of adjustment.

**# 7**

**Moved by B. Latham**

**Seconded by C. Kiewning**

That Council appoint Councillor Michelle Price as an alternate member of the Committee of Adjustment until the end of this term of Council.

**Carried**

**19. Reports of Municipal Officers**

- a. CAO

CAO Mr. Nesbitt extended his thanks and appreciation and congratulated the community services team for the successful launch of the Sandy Beach Golf Club.

- b. Treasurer

None.

- c. Clerk

None.

- d. Director of Public Works

Mr. Poole commented on the sidewalks, flushing, sweeping, and crack and line sealing work that is happening around town. There is patchwork happening as well. The spring environmental testing is complete at the landfill site. There is one week left in flushing hydrants. Operations completed repairs and replacement of the second fuser tank and batch reactor just in time for the heavy rains last week. He mentioned the successful Connecting Link funding of \$1.2 million for the reconstruction of Highway 594 from Gordon Road for 1.5kms east.

- e. Director of Community Services

Mr. Boyer commented on the great opening weekend for Aaron Park and the golf course with great membership numbers at the golf course, and the season opening at Aaron park. All-in-all the staff did a great job, and staff will be working towards attracting more youth to the golf course. Thanks to staff and sponsors, the grand opening of the waterslide was successful with 71 kids going down the slide on the first night and 74 on the second night.

**20. Announcements**

a. Mayor

Mayor Harrison thanked the sponsors for the waterslide, and the staff for the opening of the golf course. He had the opportunity to go on the Learn More Tour to learn more on nuclear energy, with the highlights of the trip being the McMaster reactor, and the Bruce Power complex.

b. Councillors

Councillor Kiewning sent well wishes to the community for any flood damage.

Councillor Noel echoed the congratulations for the waterslide opening, and announced the Max Out competition on June 9th at the Dryden Arena.

Councillor Price is still needing volunteers for planting on June 6th. She reminded residents that the boulevard mowing is the homeowners' responsibility.

**21. Confirmatory By-law.**

a. By-law 2024-35.

**# 8**

**Moved by R. Noel**

**Seconded by M. Price**

That By-law 2024-35 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council be adopted.

**Carried**

**22. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

**# 9**

**Moved by M. MacKinnon**

**Seconded by R. Noel**

That this meeting be declared adjourned.

**Carried**

Confirmed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

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Mayor

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Clerk