

# Corporation of the Township of Chisholm

Municipal Office/Council Chambers: 2847 Chiswick Line, Powassan, Ont. P0H 1Z0  
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## MINUTES COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2024 7:00 PM

### 1. CALL TO ORDER & ACKNOWLEDGE FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES AND LAND

*"We respectfully acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe Peoples, in the Robinson-Huron and Williams Treaties areas. We wish to acknowledge the long history of First Nations and Metis Peoples in Ontario and show respect to the neighbouring Indigenous communities. We offer our gratitude for their care for, and teachings about, our earth and our relations. May we continue to honor these teachings."*

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Gail Degagne, in Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m., with Councillors, Bernadette Kerr, Claire Riley, Nunzio Scarfone, and Paul Sharp. Staff member present was Acting Clerk Jessica Laberge. There were no members of the public present.

### 2. NOTIFICATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

### 3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

**Resolution 2024-268** Bernadette Kerr and Paul Sharp: Be it resolved that the Agenda for this meeting be adopted as printed. **'Carried'**

### 4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES – November 12, 2024 Regular Council Minutes (Encl.)

**Resolution 2024-269** Claire Riley and Nunzio Scarfone: Be it resolved that the Minutes of the November 12, 2024, Regular Council Meeting, be adopted as printed and circulated. **'Carried'**

### 5. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS – None

### 6. PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS - None

### 7. OPEN FORUM

### 8. MAYOR STAFF COMMITTEE AND GOVERNMENT REPORTS

#### (a) Mayor and Council Reports

- Mayor – General Update – Topics: MFOA Asset Management Training, MNR Bill 228, Rec Town Hall meeting, Police Services Board, Township Emergency Plan, Summer Student Applications, Christmas Tree Lighting, Northern Services Board, Land Transfer Tax, etc.

#### (b) Staff Reports

- Complaint/Occurrence Report 2023 and 2024 (Encl.)

#### (c) Committee Reports

- Minutes, General Government, October 16, 2024 (Encl.)
- Minutes, Powassan Library, October 21, 2024 (Encl.)
- Minutes, Golden Sunshine, September and October, 2024 (Encl.)
- Minutes, Health Unit, Board of Health, September 25, 2024 (Encl.)

- Minutes, DNSSAB, September 25, 2024 (Encl.)
  - NBMCA 2025 Draft Budget (Encl.)
  - OPP 2025 Annual Billing Statement (Encl.)
- (d) Correspondence
- Letter from Ministry of Northern Development, Re: proposed changes to Northern Services Board Act.
  - AMO Watchfile, November 21, 2024 (Encl.)

**Resolution 2024-270** Nunzio Scarfone and Claire Riley: Be it resolved that the Mayor, Staff, Committee and Correspondence reports be accepted as presented. **‘Carried’**

**9. REVIEW BUDGET REPORT** – None

**10. PUBLIC WORKS REPORTS** - None

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

- (a) Recommendation from General Government Re: Service Request & Complaint Handling Policy (Encl.)

**Resolution 2024-271** Claire Riley and Bernadette Kerr: Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Chisholm approves the recommendation from General Government to approve and distribute Policy 3.12 Service Request and Complaint Handling Policy. **‘Carried’**

- (b) Recommendation from General Government Re: Conservation and Management Energy Plan (Encl.)

**Resolution 2024-272** Paul Sharp and Nunzio Scarfone: Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Chisholm approves the recommendation from General Government to adopt the Conservation and Management Energy Plan. **‘Carried’**

- (c) FONOM offer to fund Sustainable Northern Ontario Economic Development course (Encl.)

**Resolution 2024-273** Paul Sharp and Nunzio Scarfone: Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Chisholm directs staff to register for the Sustainable Northern Ontario Economic Development course for Councillor Sharp to attend. **‘Carried’**

- (d) Resolution support from the Municipality of Leamington Re: 2025 OPP Billing Increase (Encl.)

**Resolution 2024-274** Paul Sharp and Bernadette Kerr

**WHEREAS** current police services within the Township of Chisholm (hereinafter referred to as the ‘Township’) are provided by the Ontario Provincial Police (hereinafter referred to as the ‘OPP’);

**AND WHEREAS** the Township and the local OPP detachment have worked in a positive, collaborative and effective manner for decades;

**AND WHEREAS** the OPP submitted their 2025 Annual Billing Statement to the Township on October 4, 2024, that identifies an approximate \$33,968 (16.6%) increase from 2024 to 2025 that will translate to an approximate 1.8% tax rate increase, in addition to what the Township could be contemplating for the residents of Chisholm;

**AND WHEREAS** the Township was not consulted nor provided any advanced notice from

the Commissioner regarding the significant cost increase received for OPP services;  
**AND WHEREAS** the Township cannot afford to absorb this unexpected and entirely preventable increase without causing undo financial strain to our taxpayers;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Township of Chisholm wishes to support a resolution from the Municipality of Leamington to dispute the 2025 OPP Annual Billing Statement;

**AND FURTHER THAT** the Township requests that the 2025 OPP Annual Billing Statement be reduced to an approximate 5% increase that is more manageable for the Township and in line with historical trends;

**AND FURTHER THAT** any increase above 5% be absorbed by the province as the additional costs are directly the result of collective bargaining that was within the control of the OPP and should have been known to be financially unsustainable for the municipalities that now need to pay the bill;

**AND FURTHER THAT** a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General, MPP Vic Fedeli and all 329 municipalities serviced by OPP. **‘Carried’**

(e) Resolution support from King Township Re: Redistribution of Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST (Encl.)

**Resolution 2024-275** Claire Riley and Nunzio Scarfone: Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Chisholm supports a resolution passed by the Council of King Township, requesting the provincial government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to municipalities; and further to call on the Federal Government to allocate a percentage of the GST collected on property sales to municipalities; and that this redistribution of Land Transfer Tax and GST be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs; and further that this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, MP Anthony Rota, MPP Vic Fedeli, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO). **‘Carried’**

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

(a) By-law 2024-34 being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the council meeting.  
**Resolution 2024-276** Paul Sharp and Bernadette Kerr: Be it resolved that By-law 2024-34, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Council meeting, be read a first, second and third time and passed this November 26, 2024.  
**'Carried'**

(b) Resolution re: Adjournment.  
**Resolution 2024-277** Nunzio Scarfone and Claire Riley: Be it resolved that the Council now adjourn this meeting to meet again on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, or at the call of the chair.  
**'Carried'**



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Mayor, Gail Degagne



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CAO Clerk Treasurer, Jennistine Leblond