

**The Corporation of the Town of Spanish  
Council Minutes  
Regular Meeting of  
Wednesday, November 20, 2024  
7:00 p.m., Council Chambers**

Present:	Karen Von Pickartz	Mayor
	Sandra Trudel	Deputy Mayor
	Debra Joncas	Councillor
	Ted Clague	Councillor
	Mary-Louise Zarichney	Councillor
	Pam Lortie	CAO/Clerk-Treasurer

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

At this time I would like to acknowledge that we are in the traditional territory of the Anishnabek People of our neighbors and friends Sagamok Anishnawbek and Genaabaajing (Gii -naw-baa-jing/ Serpent River First Nation)

I would like to acknowledge the commitment and responsibility we each have in learning the true history, accepting the culture and improving our relationship with the First People of the lands we now share. I would like to acknowledge Our Mother Earth, who provides all we need.

Our neighbors often say "Mino Bimaadziwin" (minnow be-maude-zah-win) which means to "live the good life" it is meant to imply to walk thru life in a good kind way. As we begin our meeting, I would like to offer those words to keep in the back of our minds and hearts as we work together for the betterment of our Community.

The Mayor asked for the disclosure of any pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof. None were disclosed.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

**RESOLUTION #24-11-21**

**MOVED BY:** Mary-Louise Zarichney

**SECONDED BY:** Sandra Trudel

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the agenda for the regular meeting of November 20, 2024 be adopted as presented, with the following additions under 8. Information and Action Items:

- g) Recommendation from Fire Chief to Purchase a Battery-Operated Milwaukee Sawzall
- h) Recommendation from Fire Chief, re: Automatic Aid agreement

**Carried**

**DELEGATION:** Tracy Paquette from Elliot Lake and North Shore Muddy Paws attended to discuss the program she runs out of Elliot Lake.

- Has contract with City of Elliot Lake
- Does work with Sagamok as well, but does not have a contract with them
- In Elliot Lake, Animal Control will pick up strays and bring to the facility. The law requires the animal to be held for 5 days before surrendering to Muddy Paws.
- Has good working relationship with the vet in Elliot Lake.
- Lost pets are brought to the vet to be scanned for microchips.
- While animals are kept at facility for the 5 days, Muddy Paws bills for “babysitting”. Cost is \$30.00 per hour for 2 hours per day – 1 hour in the morning and 1 hour in the evening.
- They are a no-kill organization, unless the Vet recommends otherwise.
- The City lends them the City Pound and maintains it to meet Ministry of Agriculture standards.
- Looking for land to build new facility
- Also looking to add boarding services in the future.
- Society for Animals in Distress (SAD) takes in owner surrendered pets, whereas Muddy Paws takes in strays
- Muddy Paws has the capacity to take on Spanish.
- Has never not had room for animals.
- Surrender fees are \$100 per dog and \$60.00 per cat.
- Would be up to the Town to get the animals up to Elliot Lake. It may even be possible to meet halfway.
- Funded through donations and fundraising. Have a thrift store in Elliot Lake where they accept donations.
- Cash donations are accepted; however, they are not deductible. Can also make payments at the Elliot Lake Animal Hospital to help pay down the vet bills.
- From time to time put a call out for donations of blankets, towels, dog food and pee pads. Tracy was advised to let us know if we can advertise for her.
- Holding a fundraising event in Spanish on November 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, a Christmas sale is being held at the Legion in Elliot Lake, from 10am – 3pm.

Tracy was thanked for her presentation to Council.

**RESOLUTION #24-11-22**

**MOVED BY:** Sandra Trudel

**SECONDED BY:** Mary-Louise Zarichney

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council supports Muddy Paw’s Puppy Yoga fundraiser being held at the Four Seasons Complex on Saturday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024;

And further waives rental fees for that day.

**Carried**

**TENDERS - RFP – Municipal Tax Sale Services**

**RESOLUTION #24-11-23**

**MOVED BY:** Mary-Louise Zarichney

**SECONDED BY:** Sandra Trudel

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the CAO be authorized to prepare an agreement with Wishart Law Firm for Municipal Tax Sales Services for a period of 5 years.

**Carried**

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)**

**RESOLUTION #24-11-24**

**MOVED BY:** Sandra Trudel

**SECONDED BY:** Mary-Louise Zarichney

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the minutes of the regular meeting of November 6, 2024 be accepted as presented.

**Carried**

**INFORMATION AND ACTION ITEMS:**

**RESOLUTION #24-11-25**

**MOVED BY:** Mary-Louise Zarichney

**SECONDED BY:** Sandra Trudel

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** a Public Works training policy, which includes DZ licensing be developed for Council's consideration.

**Carried**

**RESOLUTION #24-11-26**

**MOVED BY:** Mary-Louise Zarichney

**SECONDED BY:** Sandra Trudel

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the office staff prepare a Press Release regarding the new streetlights, for Council's review and approval.

**Carried**

**RESOLUTION #24-11-27**

**MOVED BY:** Sandra Trudel

**SECONDED BY:** Mary-Louise Zarichney

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the CAO's report of November 20, 2024 be accepted as presented.

**Carried**

**COUNCIL VERBAL REPORTS**

**Karen Von Pickartz-** Planning – minutes on the agenda

**Sandra Trudel-** Planning – minutes on the agenda

**Mary-Louise Zarichney-** Library, Recreation – minutes on agenda, upcoming events are Santa Visit and Sparkle contest

**Debra Joncas-** Recreation – minutes on agenda

**Ted Clague-** Library – starting to work on the budget, based on a 2% increase

**RESOLUTION #24-11-28**

**MOVED BY:** Sandra Trudel

**SECONDED BY:** Mary-Louise Zarichney

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council’s Verbal Reports be accepted as presented.

**Carried**

**RESOLUTION #24-11-29**

**MOVED BY:** Debra Joncas

**SECONDED BY:** Ted Clague

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** a snowmobile/ATV staging area be developed adjacent to the public works building to allow for short-term parking of vehicles and trailers of visitors who come to ride the OFSC trails or to fish locally.

And further that signage be erected reading Park at Your Own Risk - Not Responsible for Damage or Theft to Vehicles or Vehicle Contents or Injury to Persons.

And further that the CAO request the Spanish River Snowmobile Club to consider sharing the cost of a Snowmobile Park, Ride, Fish sign.

**Carried**

**RESOLUTION #24-11-30**

**MOVED BY:** Ted Clague

**SECONDED BY:** Debra Joncas

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Economic Development Intern be authorized to submit a funding application through the Canadian Heritage Fund for the development of a Canada Day Celebration for 2025.

**Carried**

**RESOLUTION #24-11-31**

**MOVED BY:** Debra Joncas

**SECONDED BY:** Ted Clague

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the CAO be authorized to request our Planner, JL Richards to draft a letter to the property owners along the Spanish River who appear to have Zoning By-Law and Official Plan infractions.

**Carried**

**RESOLUTION #24-11-32**

**MOVED BY:** Ted Clague

**SECONDED BY:** Debra Joncas

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Fire Chief be authorized to purchase a battery-operated Milwaukee Sawzall to compliment the department's auto extrication equipment.

**Carried**

**RESOLUTION #24-11-33**

**MOVED BY:** Debra Joncas

**SECONDED BY:** Sandra Trudel

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers be given 180 days notice that the Town of Spanish intends to terminate the Automatic Aid agreement, as per the terms set out in By-Law #2019-42;

And further that the Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers Council and Fire Department(s) be thanked for their support and response over the past 5 years.

**Deferred**

**CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION – NO ACTION REQUIRED**

**RESOLUTION #24-11-34**

**MOVED BY:** Ted Clague

**SECONDED BY:** Debra Joncas

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the following information/correspondence items be accepted as presented:

- a) Spanish Health Centre Committee Minutes of November 4, 2024
- b) Spanish Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes of November 12, 2024
- c) Planning & Economic Development Committee Minutes of November 12, 2024
- d) Ontario Clean Water Agency – Monthly Water and Wastewater Reports – October 2024
- e) Ministry of Transportation – Rehabilitation of Highway 17 – Notice of Study

**Carried**

**BY-LAWS – None**

**NEW BUSINESS –** Mayor Von Pickartz would like to discuss the old water tower on Goderich Street during the 2025 budget process.

Councillor Joncas advised that she will not be available for the December 4, 2024 meeting.

**QUESTION PERIOD - None**

**MOTION/NOTICES OF MOTIONS - None**

**CLOSED SESSION**

**RESOLUTION #24-11-35**

**MOVED BY:** Debra Joncas

**SECONDED BY:** Ted Clague

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** we do now go in to closed session for the following purposes:

To discuss matters under Section 239(2) of *The Municipal Act* as follows:

- (b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees

**Carried**

**CLOSED SESSION – TIME IN: 8:30 p.m.**

**CLOSED SESSION – TIME OUT: 9:16 p.m.**

**RETURN TO OPEN COUNCIL**

**RESOLUTION #24-11-36**

**MOVED BY:** Debra Joncas

**SECONDED BY:** Ted Clague

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** we do now return to open session.

**Carried**

**RESOLUTION #24-11-37**

**MOVED BY:** Sandra Trudel

**SECONDED BY:** Mary-Louise Zarichney

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the CAO be authorized to proceed as directed in closed session.

**Carried**

**CONFIRMATION BY-LAW**

**RESOLUTION #24-11-38**

**MOVED BY:** Ted Clague

**SECONDED BY:** Debra Joncas

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** a by-law being a confirmation by-law regarding a meeting of council held on the 20<sup>th</sup> Day of November, 2024 be read a first time, be considered read a second and third time, be passed, signed by the Mayor and Deputy Clerk, numbered by-law #2024-51 and be engrossed in the by-law book.

**Carried**

**ADJOURN**

**RESOLUTION #24-11-39**

**MOVED BY:** Debra Joncas

**SECONDED BY:** Ted Clague

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** we do now adjourn to meet again on Wednesday, December 4, 2024 for a regular meeting of Council or at the call of the Mayor.

**Carried**

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

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Karen Von Pickartz, Mayor

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Pam Lortie, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer

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