



**PRESCOTT TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES**

**Tuesday, April 23, 2019
6:30 p.m.
Council Chambers
360 Dibble St. W.
Prescott, Ontario**

Present Mayor Brett Todd, Councillors Teresa Jansman, Lee McConnell, Gauri Shankar, and Ray Young

Staff Matthew Armstrong, CAO/Treasurer, Kimberley Casselman, Clerk, Katie Forrester, Tourism & Recreation Coordinator, Shawn Merriman, Manager of Building & By-Law, and Lindsey Veltkamp, Deputy Clerk

1. Call to Order

Mayor Todd called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion 76-2019: Shankar, Young

That the agenda for the Council meeting of April 23, 2019, be approved as amended.

Carried

The agenda was amended by adding two items under “Information Items.” – Seaway Youth Request and Sexual Assault Crisis Centre Funding.

3. Declarations of Interest - None

4. Presentations

4.1 Brian Dikdan, Canadian Tire Prescott - Arena Fundraising Donation

Brian Dikdan, Canadian Tire Prescott, presented Council with a cheque for \$4,000 from the Think Rink fundraiser. Mayor Todd thanked Brian and Canadian Tire for their donation.

Discussion was held regarding receiving an update from staff regarding the current amount of arena donations.

5. Delegations - None

6. Minutes of the previous Council meetings

6.1 Regular Council Minutes - March 25, 2019

Motion 77-2019: McConnell, Jansman

That the Council minutes of March 25, 2019, be accepted as presented.

Carried

7. Communications & Petitions

7.1 Action Items

7.2 Information Items (under separate cover)

Motion 78-2019: Jansman, Shankar

That the information items under separate cover be received and filed.

Carried

1. Prescott Cemetery Board of Management 2018 Annual Report
2. Prescott Fire Department Report – March 2019
3. Prescott BIA Board of Management Minutes – February 13, 2019
4. Seaway Youth letter – Arena Use Request
5. United Counties of Leeds and Grenville letter re: Sexual Assault Crisis Centre for Leeds and Grenville
6. United Counties of Leeds and Grenville Media Release – April 17, 2019
7. South Nation Conservation Memorandum – Earth Day Tree Giveaway
8. Minister of Infrastructure and Communities letter re: Gas Tax Fund
9. Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services letter re: Host Communities for the 2019 James Bay Flood Season
10. YMCA of Eastern Ontario letter re: Eastern Ontario TYMCA Unification
11. The Grenville Sentinel – February/March 2019
12. Stewardship Ontario letter re: Industry funding for Municipal Blue Box Recycling
13. Cheryl Gallant, MP, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke letter re: Bill C-86
14. Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands resolution re: Municipal Voters' List
15. Municipality of North Grenville resolution re: Municipal Voters' list
16. Township of Wellesley resolution re: Municipal Voters' List
17. Township of Lake of Bays resolution re: "Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program"
18. Municipality of Brockton resolution re: "Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program"
19. Township of South Frontenac resolution re: Review of Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF)
20. Town of Minto resolution re: OMPF Funding
21. Township of Tudor and Cashel resolution re: Hydro One Delivery Service
22. City of Brantford resolution re: Single-Use Plastic Straws

Councillor McConnell spoke to Item #1 and thanked Fraser Laschinger for his time and dedication to the board.

Council members discussed the Seaway Youth request.

Motion 79-2019: Shankar, Young

That Council approve that Seaway Youth be permitted to use the Leo Boivin Community Centre free of charge for their ball hockey fundraiser event.

Carried

Mayor Todd provided an update on the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville's request for Sexual Assault Crisis Centre funding for Leeds and Grenville.

Motion 80-2019 : Young, Shankar

That Council support the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville's request for Sexual Assault Crisis Centre funding for Leeds and Grenville; and

That staff be directed to prepare a letter, similar to the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville's letter, to the Attorney General of Ontario, requesting this service for our region.

Carried

8. Committee Reports

8.1 Committee of the Whole Report 07-2019

a. Committee of the Whole minutes dated April 1, 2019

Motion 81-2019: Shankar, Young

That the Committee of the Whole minutes dated April 1, 2019, be accepted as presented.

Carried

8.2 Committee of the Whole Report 08-2019

a. Committee of the Whole minutes dated April 15, 2019

Motion 82-2019: McConnell, Jansman

That the Committee of the Whole minutes dated April 15, 2019, be accepted as presented.

Carried

b. 2019 Capital & Operational Projects Budget

Motion 83-2019: Young, Shankar

That Council approve the Capital and Operational Projects Budget at a total of \$928,000 for Capital Projects and \$370,000 for Operational Projects; and

That the reserve amounts be allocated as per staff report 30-2019.

Carried

Councillor Young referenced the previous budget discussions. Matthew Armstrong, CAO/Treasurer, spoke to the 2019 project planning activities.

Discussion was held regarding the notice received by the Leeds and Grenville Health Unit regarding changes to public health funding.

c. 2019 Operational Budget

Motion 84-2019: Young, Shankar

That Council approve the 2019 Operational Budget with the inclusion of a 1.95% property tax increase and a 1.00% property tax increase dedicated to infrastructure funding.

Carried

Councillor Young spoke to the 2019 budget discussions. Matthew Armstrong, CAO/Treasurer, spoke to the dedicated infrastructure fund. Discussion was held regarding the property tax increase amount.

d. 2019 Water & Wastewater Budget

Motion 85-2019: Young, Shankar

That Council approve the 2019 Water and Wastewater budget with the inclusion of a 3% rate increase.

Carried

Councillor Young spoke to the water and wastewater rates. Matthew Armstrong, CAO/Treasurer, spoke to the staff report. He referenced the cost of infrastructure upgrades, the use of the gas tax, and reserves.

Discussion was held regarding the water and wastewater budget, the potential need to increase the size of the water plant, and the difference between a 2% and 3% rate increase.

e. Business Directional Signage

Motion 86-2019: Jansman, Young

That Council approve the placement of new directional signs at appropriate road intersections for the purpose of promoting retail destination businesses located in areas which are not easily visible from Prescott's arterial roads of Edward Street and King Street; and

That the businesses recommended for signage at this time include Portolano Glove Outlet and Ashley Homestore.

Carried

Councillor Jansman spoke to the request to promote businesses that require appropriate directional signage. Matthew Armstrong, CAO/Treasurer, spoke to the approval from the businesses involved.

f. Splash Pad Location

Motion 87-2019: Jansman, Young

That Council direct staff to proceed with the planning of the splash pad at Centennial Park.

Carried

Councillor Jansman spoke to the report. She referenced the successful grant application and previous discussion held by Council.

Mayor Todd thanked Matthew Armstrong for his suggestions regarding the process and with grant applications going forward. He spoke to the results of the splash pad survey, which indicated the need for more recreation in the north end of town.

9. Mayor

Mayor Todd thanked The Royal Canadian Legion Branch #97 and Candy Alexander for their annual Easter event. He thanked Warden Pat Sayeau for attending. Mayor Todd also congratulated the newly elected BIA board members.

10. Outside Boards, Committees and Commissions

Councillor Jansman spoke to building and by-law activities and also referenced an upcoming presentation by the Economic Development Officer at a future meeting.

Councillor McConnell spoke to an upcoming Walker House luncheon being held on April 26. He referenced that a group from Walker House had put a team into the upcoming Fort Town Night Run, and their upcoming Tulip Festival trip to Ottawa taking place on May 16.

Councillor Shankar spoke to the upcoming Pitch In week, large item pick up dates, and spoke to the success of the indoor walking club at the Leo Boivin Community Centre.

Councillor Young spoke to his attendance at the St. Lawrence Lodge meeting held April 23 and the Leeds Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit Board of Health meeting held on April 18.

11. Staff - None

12. Resolutions

12.1 Prescott Business Improvement Area Board of Management Appointments

Motion 88-2019: Jansman, Shankar

That Council appoint the following members to the Prescott Business Improvement Area Board of Management for the current term of Council, ending once a new board is appointed:

- Kevin Bunce
- Karen Burman-Martin
- Lacey Casselman
- Ben Quenneville
- Sherry Spring
- Dave Stevens
- Pearl Visser
- Donna White

- Tracey Young

Carried

Councillor Jansman congratulated the members. Matthew Armstrong, CAO/Treasurer, spoke to upcoming training for the board, which would cover Town Policies, overview of the BIA By-Law, and the Code of Conduct for Members of Council and Local Boards.

13. By-laws

13.1 Council-Staff Relations Policy

Motion 89-2019: Shankar, Young

That By-Law 18-2019, being a by-law to establish a Council-Staff Relations Policy, be read a first and second time.

Carried

Motion 90-2019: Shankar, Young

That By-Law 18-2019, being a by-law to establish a Council-Staff Relations Policy, be read a third time, passed and signed by the Mayor and Clerk.

Carried

Kimberley Casselman, Clerk, provided background on the policy and spoke to the changes made since the Committee of the Whole meeting.

13.2 Planning Services Agreement

Motion 91-2019: Jansman, Shankar

That By-Law 19-2019, being a by-law to authorize an agreement between WSP Canada Group Ltd. and the Corporation of the Town of Prescott for the provision of planning services and an Official Plan Review, be read a first and second time.

Carried

Motion 92-2019: Jansman, Shankar

That By-Law 19-2019, being a by-law to authorize an agreement between WSP Canada Group Ltd. and the Corporation of the Town of Prescott for the provision of planning services and an Official Plan Review, be read a third time, passed and signed by the Mayor and Clerk.

Carried

Councillor Jansman spoke to the request for proposals, planning services, and the Official Plan review.

Matthew Armstrong, CAO/Treasurer, spoke to the process and next steps involved with the Official Plan review. Mr. Armstrong also referenced the new provincial policy statements, which would be released in the fall.

13.3 Capping Thresholds

Motion 93-2019: Young, Shankar

That By-Law 20-2019, being a by-law to adopt optional tools for the purposes of administering limits for the commercial, industrial, and multi-residential property classes for the year 2019, be read a first and second time.

Carried

Motion 94-2019: Young, Shankar

That By-Law 20-2019, being a by-law to adopt optional tools for the purposes of administering limits for the commercial, industrial, and multi-residential property classes for the year 2019, be read a third time, passed and signed by the Mayor and Clerk.

Carried

Councillor Young stated that the capping threshold by-law was a housekeeping item and that currently there were no properties in town that fell into this category.

13.4 2019 Tax Ratios

Motion 95-2019: Young, Shankar

That By-Law 21-2019, being a by-law to set tax ratios for the year 2019, be read a first and second time.

Carried

Motion 96-2019: Young, Shankar

That By-Law 21-2019, being a by-law to set tax ratios for the year 2019, be read a third time, passed and signed by the Mayor and Clerk.

Carried

Councillor Young spoke to different tax ratios and property classes. Matthew Armstrong, CAO/Treasurer, spoke to the 2019 tax ratios. Discussion was held regarding growth in multi residential properties.

13.5 2019 Estimates By-Law

Motion 97-2019: Young, Shankar

That By-Law 22-2019, being a by-law to adopt the estimates for the sums required during the year 2019 for general purposes of the Corporation of the Town of Prescott, be read a first and second time.

Carried

Motion 98-2019: Young, Shankar

That By-Law 22-2019, being a by-law to adopt the estimates for the sums required during the year 2019 for general purposes of the Corporation of the Town of Prescott, be read third time, passed and signed by the Mayor and Clerk.

Carried

13.6 2019 Tax Rates

Motion 99-2019: Young, Shankar

That By-Law 23-2019, being a by-law to adopt tax rates for municipal purposes for the year 2019, be read a first and second time.

Carried

Motion 100-2019: Young, Shankar

That By-Law 23-2019, being a by-law to adopt tax rates for municipal purposes for the year 2019, be read a third time, passed and signed by the Mayor and Clerk.

Carried

Matthew Armstrong, CAO/Treasurer, highlighted the final tax installment due dates, July 31 and August 30, and stated that the acceptance of the tax rates also established the BIA rate for 2019.

14. New Business - None

15. Notices of Motion

Motion 101-2019: McConnell, Jansman

That the Rules of Procedure be suspended to allow for Council to consider a motion regarding funding cuts to the Southern Ontario Library Service interlibrary loan and delivery service in order to have the motion circulated to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and Leeds and Grenville municipalities in a timely fashion.

Carried

Motion 102-2019: McConnell, Jansman

Whereas the Southern Ontario Library Services (SOLS) has announced that it is facing Provincial funding cuts to its budget of 50 percent or more; and

Whereas the SOLS has informed public libraries that SOLS delivery services will permanently cease to operate, effective April 26, 2019, due to these funding cuts; and

Whereas the SOLS currently provides a number of services that are critical to the function of Ontario libraries, including courier service that moves materials between public libraries allowing the public to get free, easy, and timely access to a broader range of material; and

Whereas the SOLS interlibrary loan service allows libraries to provide information, cultural, and recreational needs to its citizens, using the resources of public libraries across the province and beyond; and

Whereas in order to continue interlibrary loan services, Ontario libraries will now have to use Canada Post Library Book Rate between all libraries and incur all postage costs, which will be detrimental to small public libraries with limited budgets; and

Whereas these funding cuts represent a clear threat to library service in Ontario – particularly for rural, remote, and Indigenous libraries.

Now therefore, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Prescott calls on the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport, and the Ontario government to reconsider and rescind these cuts; and

That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and Leeds and Grenville municipalities.

Carried

Councillor McConnell spoke to the motion and to the interlibrary loan and delivery services.

Motion 103-2019: Young, Shankar

That the Rules of Procedure be suspended to allow for Council to consider the following motion regarding changes to Ontario Public Health funding in order to have the motion circulated to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and Leeds and Grenville municipalities in a timely fashion.

Carried

Motion 104-2019: Young, Shankar

Whereas the Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit Board of Health was notified on Thursday, April 16, 2019, that the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care will unilaterally decrease the provincial/municipal funding ratio for Mandatory Public Health Programs from the current 75%/25% to 70%/30% in 2019, and then to 70%/30% or 60%/40% for subsequent years depending on the population size of the Regional Health Entity; and

Whereas the related Public Health programs like Smoke Free Ontario and Healthy Smiles, which are currently 100% provincially funded, will now be funded at 70% provincial and 30% municipal in 2019; and

Whereas it is estimated that this provincial decision in the change in the provincial/municipal funding ratio will increase the overall municipal contribution for Public Health Programs and Services in order to meet the Ontario Public Health Standards in 2019 by about \$1 million dollars.

Now therefore, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Prescott requests that the current provincial/municipal funding ratio be maintained for 2019 given municipal budgets are already set and a quarter of the year has passed; and

That any change in the funding ratio between the Province and municipalities be negotiated with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario rather than be set unilaterally; and

That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and Leeds and Grenville municipalities.

Carried

Councillor Young spoke to the motion. He referenced the increase in cost for municipalities for public health services.

16. Mayor's Proclamation

16.1 Emergency Preparedness Week

Mayor Todd proclaimed May 5 – 11, 2019, as Emergency Preparedness Week in the Town of Prescott.

17. Period for Media Questions - None

18. Closed Session - None

19. Rise and Report - None

20. Confirming By-Law – 24-2019

Motion 105-2019: McConnell, Jansman

That By-Law 24-2019, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council meeting held on April 23, 2019, be read a first and second time.

Carried

Motion 106-2019: McConnell, Jansman

That By-Law 24-2019, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council meeting held on April 23, 2019, be read a third time, passed and signed by the Mayor and Clerk.

Carried

21. Adjournment

Motion 107-2019: Shankar, Young

That the meeting be adjourned to Monday, May 27, 2019, at 6:30 p.m.
(Time: 8:00 p.m.)

Carried

Original Signed By

Mayor

Original Signed By

Clerk