



REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, February 3, 2025

5:00 pm

Council Chambers and Video Conference

Present: Mayor M. Shoemaker, Councillor S. Hollingsworth, Councillor S. Spina, Councillor L. Dufour, Councillor A. Caputo, Councillor R. Zagordo, Councillor M. Bruni, Councillor S. Kinach, Councillor C. Gardi, Councillor M. Scott

Absent: Councillor L. Vezeau-Allen

Officials: T. Vair, R. Tyczinski, S. Schell, P. Johnson, N. Ottolino, B. Lamming, P. Tonazzo, C. Rumiel, D. Perri, T. Anderson, T. Vecchio, M. Zuppa, M. Borowicz-Sibenik, N. Maione, S. Olar, R. Van Staveren, K. Pulkkinen

1. Land Acknowledgement

2. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor S. Kinach

Resolved that the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of January 13, 2025 be approved.

Carried

3. Questions and Information Arising Out of the Minutes and not Otherwise on the Agenda

4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

4.1 Mayor M. Shoemaker – By-law 2025-13 (Official Plan Amendment) 550 Second Line East (Orlando Rosa for Second Line Properties Ltd., Harvey West)

Applicant is a client of law firm.

4.2 Mayor M. Shoemaker – By-law 2025-14 (Zoning) 550 Second Line East (Orlando Rosa for Second Line Properties Ltd., Harvey West)

Applicant is a client of law firm.

5. Approve Agenda as Presented

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor M. Bruni

Resolved that the Agenda for February 3, 2025 City Council Meeting as presented be approved.

Carried

6. Presentations

6.1 2024 Medal of Merit

Joel Syrette was in attendance to perform a smudge.

Connie Raynor-Elliott was presented with the Medal of Merit in acknowledgement of her outstanding contributions to the community.

Frank D'Addetta, representing 100 Guys Who Care, was in attendance to announce a \$20,000 donation for SOYA by March 2025, matched by another \$20,000 donation from an anonymous sponsor.

7. Communications and Routine Reports of City Departments, Boards and Committees – Consent Agenda

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor M. Bruni

Resolved that all the items listed under date February 3, 2025 – Agenda item 7 – Consent Agenda be approved as recommended.

Carried

7.1 Annual Report of Integrity Commissioner 2024

The report of the Integrity Commissioner was received by Council.

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor M. Bruni

Resolved that the 2024 Annual Report of the Integrity Commissioner be received as information.

Carried

7.2 Tax Sale Procedure Update and Delegated Authority

The report of the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer was received by Council.

The relevant By-law 2025-22 is listed under item 12 of the Minutes.

7.3 Seasonal Security Services

The report of the Manager of Purchasing was received by Council.

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor S. Kinach

Resolved that the report of the Manager of Purchasing dated February 3, 2025 concerning Seasonal Security Services as required by various City departments be received and that the services be awarded to North East Regional Security Services at the rates quoted, commencing March 1, 2025 for three years, with the option to extend up to two additional years by mutual agreement.

Carried

7.4 Fire Suppression Sprinkler System – Building “G” Public Works

The report of the Manager of Purchasing was received by Council.

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor M. Bruni

Resolved that the report of the Manager of Purchasing dated February 3, 2025 concerning Fire Suppression Sprinkler System installation at City Works Centre, as required by Public Works and Engineering be received and that the project be awarded to S & T Electrical Contractors Limited in the amount of \$144,175.00 plus HST.

Carried

7.5 Bus Wash Replacement – Transit

The report of the Manager of Purchasing was received by Council.

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor S. Kinach

Resolved that the report of the Manager of Purchasing dated February 3, 2025 concerning the supply and installation for Bus Wash Replacement as required by the Transit Division be

received and that the tender be awarded to Garage Supply Contracting Inc. in the amount of \$539,223.58 plus HST, with funding reallocated from the Transit 2022 budget for transit hoists.

Carried

7.6 RFP – Independent Claims Adjusting Services

The report of the Manager of Purchasing was received by Council.

The relevant By-law 2025-7 is listed under item 12 of the Minutes.

7.7 Insurance Program Renewal – Policy Period 2025-2026

The report of the Risk Manager was received by Council.

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor S. Spina

Resolved that the report of the Risk Manager dated February 3, 2025 concerning the Insurance Program Renewal – Policy Period 2025-2026 be received and that the Legal Department be authorized to bind coverage for the City in accordance with Intact’s Municipal Insurance Program Renewal Documents which establishes the premium payable as \$2,026,962 plus applicable taxes.

Carried

7.8 Outside Agency Grant Agreements 2025

The report of the Director of Community Services was received by Council.

The relevant By-laws 2025-15, 2025-16, 2025-17, and 2025-18 are listed under item 12 of the Minutes.

7.9 Green Shipping Corridor Funding Approval

The report of the Manager of Business Development was received by Council.

The relevant By-law 2025-23 is listed under item 12 of the Minutes.

7.10 Tourism Development Fund Applications – January 2025

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor M. Bruni

Resolved that the report of the Director of Tourism and Community Development dated February 3, 2025 be received and that the recommendation of the Tourism Sault Ste. Marie Board of Directors to allocate \$51,400 as detailed below be approved:

- 2025 Indigenous Land Symposium (\$5,000);

- Ringette Ontario Provincial A Championships (\$20,000);
- Searchmont Ski Runners 2025 Season (\$6,000); and
- Sault Cycling Club Fat Bike Groomers (\$20,400).

Carried

7.11 Video Remote Interpreting Trial

The report of the Accessibility Coordinator was received by Council.

The relevant By-law 2025-24 is listed under item 12 of the Minutes.

7.12 Correspondence

8. Reports of City Departments, Boards and Committees

8.1 Administration

8.2 Corporate Services

8.3 Community Development and Enterprise Services

8.4 Public Works and Engineering Services

8.5 Fire Services

8.6 Legal

8.7 Planning

8.8 Boards and Committees

9. Unfinished Business, Notice of Motions and Resolutions Placed on Agenda by Members of Council

9.1 Traffic Lights

Moved by: Councillor S. Kinach

Seconded by: Councillor M. Bruni

Whereas Council's goal is to have regular steady and smooth traffic flow; and

Whereas smooth continuous routes decrease aggressive driving, stunt driving and reduce idling emissions; and

Whereas traffic volumes are significantly lower during the late-night hours, particularly after 11 p.m., making the full operation of traditional traffic signals less necessary in certain locations;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that staff be requested to report back to Council regarding a trial period for some traffic lights to switch over to flashing red and yellow lights between the hours of 11 p.m. and 5 a.m.

	For	Against	Conflict	Absent
Mayor M. Shoemaker	X			
Councillor S. Hollingsworth	X			
Councillor S. Spina	X			
Councillor L. Dufour	X			
Councillor L. Vezeau-Allen				X
Councillor A. Caputo	X			
Councillor R. Zagordo	X			
Councillor M. Bruni	X			
Councillor S. Kinach	X			
Councillor C. Gardi	X			
Councillor M. Scott	X			
Results	10	0	0	1
				Carried

9.2 AMO Healthy Democracy Partnership

Moved by: Councillor A. Caputo

Seconded by: Councillor L. Dufour

Whereas the Healthy Democracy Project is a Board of Directors supported and funded initiative through to 2024, meant to promote the value and importance of municipal governments across Ontario, while focusing on the importance of diversity of leadership and perspectives; and

Whereas AMO, as one initiative known as the Local Democracy Accelerator within the Project, is working with four member municipalities to organize and convene community partners to identify challenges, adapt and test solutions, and share knowledge to strengthen democratic engagement across Ontario with five core goals:

- More local democratic and political engagement;
- Better appreciation for municipal government;
- Improved political civility and tone;
- Expand and diversify candidate pool;
- Increase voter turnout and voter diversity; and

Whereas Sault Ste. Marie was chosen as one of the four Local Democracy Accelerator municipalities to participate in this project;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the City of Sault Ste Marie commits to supporting AMO's Healthy Democracy Project through the Local Democracy Accelerator by having elected officials and staff work with the Healthy Democracy Project team on this initiative AMO to help identify local challenges and potential solutions;

Further Be It Resolved that the City of Sault Ste Marie support its participation in the Local Democracy Accelerator through its own research into barriers to democracy, including, but not limited to:

- Contacting current elected officials and staff to identify barriers to those working within these positions;
- Contacting former Councillors, Mayors and staff to identify barriers they may have faced;
- Contacting candidates who were not successful in their respective municipal elections to find their barriers, and whether or not they would consider running again; and
- Contacting diverse communities within Sault Ste Marie to identify if folks in those communities would consider engaging in local politics and to what degree. Should they choose not to, pursue reasons why they would not;

And that staff be requested to report back to Council on these findings, potential programs, solutions and interventions that can be implemented in conjunction with AMO's support through the Healthy Democracy Project and the City of Sault Ste Marie's participation in the Local Democracy Accelerator initiative.

	For	Against	Conflict	Absent
Mayor M. Shoemaker	X			
Councillor S. Hollingsworth	X			
Councillor S. Spina	X			
Councillor L. Dufour	X			
Councillor L. Vezeau-Allen				X
Councillor A. Caputo	X			
Councillor R. Zagordo	X			
Councillor M. Bruni	X			
Councillor S. Kinach		X		
Councillor C. Gardi	X			
Councillor M. Scott	X			
Results	9	1	0	1
				Carried

9.3 Sackville Road Extension

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo
 Seconded by: Councillor A. Caputo

Whereas the City of Sault Ste. Marie approved the Sackville Road extension as part of the City’s five-year capital plan; and

Whereas the costs for the Sackville Road extension are built into the capital budget for 2025 and future years; and

Whereas the Province of Ontario recently approved a funding application to provide the City of Sault Ste. Marie with \$5 million in funding to pay some or all of the Sackville Road extension; and

Whereas the existing portion of Sackville Road is in a poor state of repair and does not have Class A services;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that staff be requested to report to Council on whether the existing Sackville Road surface should be reconstructed in conjunction with the construction of the Sackville Road extension and if so, where such reconstruction could fit within the five-year capital plan.

	For	Against	Conflict	Absent
Mayor M. Shoemaker	X			
Councillor S. Hollingsworth	X			
Councillor S. Spina	X			
Councillor L. Dufour				X
Councillor L. Vezeau-Allen				X
Councillor A. Caputo	X			
Councillor R. Zagordo	X			
Councillor M. Bruni	X			
Councillor S. Kinach	X			
Councillor C. Gardi	X			
Councillor M. Scott	X			
Results	9	0	0	2
				Carried

9.4 US Tariff Response

Moved by: Councillor A. Caputo
 Seconded by: Councillor C. Gardi

Whereas United States President Donald Trump may impose 25% tariffs on Canadian goods; and

Whereas tariffs could lead to a halt of the supply chain and create economic uncertainty in municipalities of all sizes with special concern here in Sault Ste. Marie on the potential for significant disruption within the steel industry; and

Whereas municipalities are the foundation on which the Canadian economy is built, and as such should offer our support for a Team Canada united response; and

Whereas municipalities have significant purchasing power through capital and infrastructure programs, with Sault Ste Marie's capital program for 2025 being \$45 million alone, while the Association of Municipalities of Ontario cite that infrastructure spending across Ontario in the next 10 years is expected to exceed \$250 billion; and

Whereas municipalities have traditionally been prevented by trade agreements from giving preference to Buy Canadian; and

Whereas Federal and Provincial leaders are encouraging all Canadians to Buy Canadian;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Sault Ste Marie Council effective the date of any implemented tariffs:

- Stand with Team Canada on the message that tariffs are not in the best interests of Canadian or American consumers and businesses; and
- Call on the Federal and Provincial governments to work with municipalities on measures to protect Canadian consumers and businesses; and
- Call on the Federal and Provincial governments to remove all barriers to municipalities preferring Canadian companies in procurement for capital projects and supplies as well as those that prevent municipalities from preferring Canadian companies for projects and supplies; and
- Call on the Federal and Provincial government to remove all trade barriers between provinces; and
- Endorse the Federal and Provincial call for Buy Canadian and encourage Saultites to Buy Canadian whenever possible.

	For	Against	Conflict	Absent
Mayor M. Shoemaker	X			
Councillor S. Hollingsworth	X			
Councillor S. Spina	X			
Councillor L. Dufour				X
Councillor L. Vezeau-Allen				X
Councillor A. Caputo	X			
Councillor R. Zagordo	X			
Councillor M. Bruni	X			
Councillor S. Kinach	X			
Councillor C. Gardi	X			
Councillor M. Scott	X			
Results	9	0	0	2
				Carried

10. Committee of the Whole for the Purpose of Such Matters as are Referred to it by the Council by Resolution

11. Adoption of Report of the Committee of the Whole

12. Consideration and Passing of By-laws

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor M. Bruni

Resolved that all By-laws under item 12 of the Agenda under date February 3, 2025 save and except By-laws 2025-13 and 2025-14 be approved.

Carried

12.1 By-laws before Council to be passed which do not require more than a simple majority

12.1.1 By-law 2025-6 (Agreement) 2 Diesel Bus Purchase Transit

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor M. Bruni

Resolved that By-law 2025-6 being a by-law to authorize the execution of the Agreement with New Flyer Industries Canada ULC for the acquisition of two (2) twelve-metre diesel buses be passed in open Council this 3rd day of February, 2025.

Carried

12.1.2 By-law 2025-7 (Agreement) Sedgwick Canada Inc. Sedgwick Du Canada Inc.

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor M. Bruni

Resolved that By-law 2025-7 being a by-law to to authorize the execution of the Agreement between the City and Sedgwick Canada Inc. Sedgwick Du Canada Inc. for independent claims adjusting services be passed in open Council this 3rd day of February, 2025.

Carried

12.1.5 By-law 2025-15 (Agreement) Bushplane Heritage Centre Grant

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor M. Bruni

Resolved that By-law 2025-15 being a by-law to authorize the execution of the Agreement between the City and The Ontario Bushplane Heritage and Forest Fire Educational Centre o/a Canadian Bushplane Heritage Centre for a grant in the amount of Two Hundred and Five Thousand (\$205,000) Dollars to assist with the collection, preservation and exhibits of bushplanes and related material to promote public understanding of their historic significance, as well as to serve as a centre for research and information on bushplane and forest fire fighting heritage be passed in open Council this 3rd day of February, 2025.

Carried

12.1.6 By-law 2025-16 (Agreement) The Art Gallery of Algoma Grant

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor M. Bruni

Resolved that By-law 2025-16 being a by-law to authorize the execution of the Agreement between the City and The Art Gallery of Algoma for a grant in the amount of Three Hundred Twenty Eight Thousand Five Hundred and Fifty (\$328,550) Dollars to assist with the provision

of art and culture to the residents of the City of Sault Ste. Marie and other visitors be passed in open Council this 3rd day of February, 2025.

Carried

12.1.7 By-law 2025-17 (Agreement) 49th Field Regiment Museum Grant

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor M. Bruni

Resolved that By-Law 2025-17 being a by-law to authorize the execution of the Agreement between the City and Sault Ste. Marie and 49th Field Regiment R.C.A. Historical Society for a grant up to Two Hundred Ninety Thousand (\$290,000) Dollars to assist with the collection, preservation, study and exhibits of the history of the people and the development of Sault Ste. Marie and immediate surrounding area be passed in open Council this 3rd day of February, 2025.

Carried

12.1.8 By-law 2025-18 (Agreement) Soo Pee Wee Arena Grant

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor M. Bruni

Resolved that By-law 2025-18 being a by-law to authorize the execution of the Agreement between the City and Soo Arena Association (o/a Soo Pee Wee Arena) for a grant in the amount of Twenty-Four Thousand Five Hundred and Nine (\$24,509) Dollars be passed in open Council this 3rd day of February, 2025.

Carried

12.1.9 By-law 2025-19 (Zoning) 690 Black Road (2640038 Ontario Inc. – Scott Wolowich)

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor M. Bruni

Resolved that By-law 2025-19 being a by-law to amend Sault Ste. Marie Zoning By-laws 2005-150 and 2005-151 concerning lands located at 690 Black Road (2640038 Ontario Inc. – Scott Wolowich) be passed in open Council this 3rd day of February, 2025.

Carried

12.1.10 By-law 2025-20 (Development Control) 690 Black Road (2640038 Ontario Inc. – Scott Wolowich)

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor M. Bruni

Resolved that By-law 2025-20 being a by-law to designate the lands located at 690 Black Road an area of site plan control (2640038 Ontario Inc. – Scott Wolowich) be passed in open Council this 3rd day of February, 2025.

Carried

12.1.11 By-law 2025-21 (Appointments to Local Boards) Municipal Heritage Committee

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor M. Bruni

Resolved that By-law 2025-21 being a by-law to amend By-law 2023-11 (being a by-law to appoint members to the Municipal Heritage Committee) be passed in open Council this 3rd day of February, 2025.

Carried

12.1.12 By-law 2025-22 (Agreement) Tax Arrears Extension

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor M. Bruni

Resolved that By-law 2025-22 being a by-law to delegate the authority to adjust property taxes pursuant to Sections 357, 358 and 359 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* to the Treasurer, or her/his delegate; and to authorize the execution of Tax Arrears Extension Agreements pursuant to sections 378 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* to the Treasurer, or her/his delegate, and to delegate signing authority to execute same on behalf of the City of Sault Ste. Marie to the Treasurer or her/his delegate, be passed in open Council this 3rd day of February, 2025.

Carried

12.1.13 By-law 2025-23 (Agreement) Green Shipping Corridor Program (GSCP)

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor M. Bruni

Resolved that By-law 2025-23 being a by-law to authorize the execution of the Agreement between the City and His Majesty the King in Right of Canada, as represented by the Minister of Transport for Green Shipping Corridor Program (GSCP) funding be passed in open Council this 3rd day of February, 2025.

Carried

12.1.14 By-law 2025-24 (Agreement) Canadian Hearing Services, Inc. Video Remote Interpreting Service

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor M. Bruni

Resolved that By-law 2025-24 being a by-law to authorize the execution of the Agreement between the City and Canadian Hearing Services, Inc. for the purpose of trialing Video Remote Interpreting service for American sign language interpretation at the Civic Centre be passed in open Council this 3rd day of February, 2025.

Carried

12.1.3 By-law 2025-13 (Official Plan Amendment) 550 Second Line East (Orlando Rosa for Second Line Properties Ltd., Harvey West)

Mayor M. Shoemaker declared a conflict on this item. (Applicant is a client of law firm.)

Councillor Gardi assumed the Chair as Acting Mayor.

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor M. Bruni

Resolved that By-law 2025-13 being a by-law to to adopt Amendment No. 257 to the Official Plan for the City of Sault Ste. Marie (Orlando Rosa for Second Line Properties Ltd. 550 Second Line East, Harvey West) be passed in open Council this 3rd day of February, 2025.

	For	Against	Conflict	Absent
Mayor M. Shoemaker			X	
Councillor S. Hollingsworth	X			
Councillor S. Spina	X			
Councillor L. Dufour				X
Councillor L. Vezeau-Allen				X
Councillor A. Caputo	X			
Councillor R. Zagordo	X			
Councillor M. Bruni	X			
Councillor S. Kinach	X			
Councillor C. Gardi	X			
Councillor M. Scott	X			
Results	8	0	1	2
				Carried

12.1.4 By-law 2025-14 (Zoning) 550 Second Line East (Orlando Rosa for Second Line Properties Ltd., Harvey West)

Mayor M. Shoemaker declared a conflict on this item. (Applicant is a client of law firm.)

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor M. Bruni

Resolved that By-law 2025-14 being a by-law to amend Sault Ste. Marie Zoning By-laws 2005-150 and 2005-151 concerning lands located at 550 Second Line East (Orlando Rosa for Second Line Properties Ltd. 550 Second Line East, Harvey West) be passed in open Council this 3rd day of February, 2025.

	For	Against	Conflict	Absent
Mayor M. Shoemaker			X	
Councillor S. Hollingsworth	X			
Councillor S. Spina	X			
Councillor L. Dufour				X
Councillor L. Vezeau-Allen				X
Councillor A. Caputo	X			
Councillor R. Zagordo	X			
Councillor M. Bruni	X			
Councillor S. Kinach	X			
Councillor C. Gardi	X			
Councillor M. Scott	X			
Results	8	0	1	2

Carried

- 12.2 By-laws before Council for FIRST and SECOND reading which do not require more than a simple majority**
- 12.3 By-laws before Council for THIRD reading which do not require more than a simple majority**
- 13. Questions By, New Business From, or Addresses by Members of Council Concerning Matters Not Otherwise on the Agenda**
- 14. Closed Session**
 Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour
 Seconded by: Councillor S. Kinach

Resolved that this Council move into closed session to discuss one item concerning a personal matter about an identifiable individual;

Further Be It Resolved that should the said closed session be adjourned, the Council may reconvene in closed session to continue to discuss the same without the need for a further authorizing resolution.

Municipal Act R.S.O. 2002 – section 239 (2)(b) personal matters about an identifiable individual

Carried

15. Adjournment

Moved by: Councillor L. Dufour

Seconded by: Councillor S. Kinach

Resolved that this Council now adjourn.

Carried

Mayor

City Clerk