



REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, March 17, 2025

5:00 pm

Council Chambers and Video Conference

Present: Mayor M. Shoemaker, Councillor S. Hollingsworth, Councillor S. Spina, Councillor L. Dufour, Councillor L. Vezeau-Allen, Councillor A. Caputo (via video), Councillor R. Zagordo, Councillor M. Bruni, Councillor S. Kinach, Councillor C. Gardi, Councillor M. Scott

Officials: T. Vair, R. Tyczinski, K. Fields, S. Schell, P. Johnson, S. Hamilton Beach, T. Anderson, F. Coccimiglio, T. Vecchio, M. Zuppa, M. Borowicz-Sibenik, P. Tonazzo, C. Rumiell, N. Ottolino, S. Facey, K. Marlow, D. Perri, N. Maione, M. McAuley, R. Van Staveren, M. Depatie

1. **Land Acknowledgement**

2. **Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo

Seconded by: Councillor S. Spina

Resolved that the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of February 24, 2025 be approved.

Carried

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

4. **Declaration of Pecuniary Interest**

5. Approve Agenda as Presented

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo

Seconded by: Councillor S. Hollingsworth

Resolved that the Agenda for March 17, 2025 City Council Meeting as presented be approved.

Carried

6. Presentations

6.1 Audit Planning

Oscar Poloni, Partner, KPMG was in attendance.

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

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo

Seconded by: Councillor S. Hollingsworth

Resolved that all the items listed under date March 17, 2025 – Agenda item 7 – Consent Agenda save and except Agenda items 7.1 and 7.16 be approved as recommended.

Carried

7.2 2024 Council Remuneration and Expenses

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

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo

Seconded by: Councillor S. Spina

Resolved that the report of the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer dated March 17, 2025 regarding 2024 Council remuneration and expenses and employee travel expenses be received as information.

Carried

7.3 2024 Investment Report

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

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo

Seconded by: Councillor S. Spina

Resolved that the report of the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer dated March 17, 2025 regarding the 2024 Investment Report be received as information.

Carried

7.4 Tender for Equipment Purchase – Backhoe

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

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo

Seconded by: Councillor S. Hollingsworth

Resolved that the report of the Manager of Purchasing dated March 17, 2025 concerning equipment purchase as required by Cemetery be received and that the purchase be awarded to J.R. Brisson Equipment Ltee. in the amount of \$159,724 plus HST, with remaining funding allocated from the Cemetery Operations Account.

Carried

7.5 Tenders for Equipment Purchase – Public Works and Landfill

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

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo

Seconded by: Councillor S. Spina

Resolved that the report of the Manager of Purchasing dated March 17, 2025 concerning equipment purchases as required by Public Works and Landfill be received and that the tenders for the supply and delivery of various pieces of equipment, awarded at the low bid price meeting specifications, be awarded as follows:

Public Works Units:

Two 66,000 GVW tandem plow –TMS Truck Centre \$737,360

One three wheeled broom sweeper – FST Canada Inc. \$413,574
with conveyor belt

One articulating wheeled loader – Brandt Tractor Ltd.\$630,866.94

Landfill Unit:

One waste handler crawler – Brandt Tractor Ltd \$781,160.81
for a total amount of \$2,562,961.75 plus HST.

Carried

7.6 eScribe Subscription Agreement

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

The relevant By-law 2025-48 is listed under item 12 of the Minutes.

7.7 Equipment Purchase – Three Pumper Trucks – Fire Services

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

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo

Seconded by: Councillor S. Hollingsworth

Resolved that the report of the Manager of Purchasing dated March 17, 2025 concerning equipment purchase of three pumper trucks as required by Fire Services be received and that the purchase from Safetek Emergency Vehicles Ltd. be approved at the total quoted amount of \$5,191,722 plus HST, with shortfall allocated from Fire Capital Equipment Reserves.

Carried

7.8 Extension of Agreement – Unified Communication System (Telephony)

The report of the Manager of Information Technology was received by Council.

The relevant By-law 2025-44 is listed under item 12 of the Minutes.

7.9 Procedure By-law Review 2025

The report of the City Clerk and supplementary report were received by Council.

7.9.1 Supplementary Report

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo

Seconded by: Councillor S. Spina

Resolved that the supplementary report of the City Clerk dated March 17, 2025 concerning Procedure By-law Review 2025 be received and that the proposed by-law as revised be presented at the April 7, 2025 meeting of Council.

Carried

7.10 Buy Canadian

The report of the Deputy CAO Community Development and Enterprise Services was received by Council.

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo

Seconded by: Councillor S. Hollingsworth

Resolved that the report of the Deputy CAO Community Development and Enterprise Services dated March 17, 2025 concerning Buy Canadian be received as information.

Carried

7.11 Tourism Development Fund Applications – February 2025

The report of the Director of Tourism and Development was received by Council.

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo
Seconded by: Councillor S. Spina

Resolved that the report of the Director of Tourism and Community Development dated March 17, 2025 be received and that the recommendation of the Tourism Sault Ste. Marie Board of Directors to allocate \$12,000 as detailed below be approved.

1. Sault Surge Aquatic Team – Myrtha Backstroke System – \$8,000
2. Sault Ste. Marie Kennel Club – \$4,000

Carried

7.12 2025 Arts and Culture Assistance Grants – Early Intake

The report of the Manager of Recreation and Culture was received by Council.

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo
Seconded by: Councillor S. Spina

Resolved that the report of the Manager of Recreation and Culture dated March 17, 2025, concerning the 2025 Arts and Culture Assistance Program Grants – Early Intake allocation of funds be approved as follows:

1. Rebeka Herron – \$2,526.82
2. DJ Seith – \$2,510.16
3. Sarah Skagen – \$2,494.50
4. Joseph Schlapsi – \$2,376.87
5. Michael Naphan – \$2,369.21
6. Algoma Writer’s Collective – \$2,293.57
7. Tania Daigle – \$2,279.24
8. Haus of Gore – \$6,397.71
9. Sault Blues Society – \$1,677.29
10. Sault Symphony Orchestra – \$5,848.00
11. Algoma Conservatory of Music – \$12,771.00
12. Piecing It Together Shows – \$9,829.12
13. Thinking Rock Community Arts – \$8,320.50
14. Black Fly Jam – \$11,266.00
15. Bawating Babes 2 Spirit Organising Committee – \$12,040.00

Carried

7.13 2025 Firearms and Noise By-law Exemptions – Ermatinger Clergue National Historic Site

The report of the Curator of the Ermatinger Clergue National Historic Site was received by Council.

The relevant By-law 2025-43 is listed under item 12 of the Minutes.

7.14 NOHFC Conditional Contribution Agreement – Wishart Park Project

The report of the Director of Tourism and Community Development was received by Council.

The relevant By-law 2025-41 is listed under item 12 of the Minutes.

7.15 Millennium Court Oil and Grit Separator

The report of the Manager of Design and Transportation was received by Council.

The relevant By-law 2025-47 is listed under item 12 of the Minutes.

7.17 Fire Services By-Law Update 2025

The report of the Fire Chief was received by Council.

The relevant By-law 2025-42 is listed under item 12 of the Minutes.

7.18 Annual Accessibility Status Report – Year End 2024

The report of the Accessibility Coordinator was received by Council.

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo

Seconded by: Councillor S. Spina

Resolved that the report of the Accessibility Coordinator dated March 17, 2025 concerning the annual Accessibility Status Report 2024 be received as information.

Carried

7.19 Property Declared Surplus – 184-188 James Street (Isnize Living Development Ltd. Topline Electric Limited Tony Stirpe)

The report of the Assistant City Solicitor/Senior Litigation Counsel was received by Council.

The relevant By-law 2025-46 is listed under item 12 of the Minutes.

7.20 0 Sackville Road and Part 128 Sackville Road – Declare Surplus (Griffin Group Real Estate Ltd. Dennis Tatasciore)

The report of the Assistant City Solicitor/Senior Litigation Counsel was received by Council.

The relevant By-law 2025-45 is listed under item 12 of the Minutes.

7.1 Preliminary Report of the Integrity Commissioner

The preliminary report of the Integrity Commissioner was received by Council.

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo
Seconded by: Councillor S. Hollingsworth

Resolved that the preliminary report of the Integrity Commissioner dated February 13, 2025 be received as information.

Postponed

7.16 Base Line and Carpin Beach Road Intersection

The report of the Manager of Design and Transportation was received by Council.

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo
Seconded by: Councillor S. Spina

Resolved that the report of the Manager of Design and Transportation Engineering dated March 17, 2025 concerning the request for a four-way stop sign at Carpin Beach Road and Base Line be received as information.

| | 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 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Carried

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 Product of Algoma District Labelling

Moved by: Councillor S. Hollingsworth

Seconded by: Councillor C. Gardi

Whereas the threat of tariffs has an overwhelming majority of individuals choosing Canadian products instead of American-made alternatives; and

Whereas grocery stores nationwide have put out helpful maple leaf labels to identify products that are sourced from, or otherwise made in, Canada; and

Whereas Sault Ste. Marie has many great growers and suppliers that provide items from milk to bakery products, to coffee to beer;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Economic Development department be requested to review the cost of producing stickers or other labels that identify a product as being from the Algoma District, and report to Council at the April 7, 2025 Council meeting on the cost of providing such labels to local grocers or vendors free of charge.

| | 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 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Carried |

9.2 Tariffs

Moved by: Councillor S. Hollingsworth

Seconded by: Councillor M. Bruni

Whereas tariffs on Canadian goods can have far-reaching consequences for both Canadian and American economies; and

Whereas they can disrupt trade relationships, increase costs, and alter the competitive landscape; and

Whereas the implications of such tariffs is crucial for small, mid-size, and large businesses to navigate, especially Algoma Steel Inc., and

Whereas Algoma Steel Inc. continues to be one of the largest industries in the community, and directly impacts the local economy in Sault Ste. Marie; and

Whereas Algoma Steel Inc. for over 115 years has fostered economic growth, leading to creation of “off-shoot” businesses and jobs for Sault Ste. Marie; and

Whereas according to “Seeking Alpha” (a financial publication) “tariffs have pushed prices below production costs for much of the steel industry”; and

Whereas Algoma Steel Inc. has laid off some salaried employees primarily due to uncertainty surrounding these tariffs; and

Whereas Algoma Steel Inc. has been a positive community partner by donating to many causes such as giving \$250,000 to the YMCA, \$1 million to the Sault Area Hospital Foundation for the residential withdrawal management facility, \$10,000 to Superior Adult Learning Program, to name a few; and

Whereas all community leaders need to unite to stand behind Algoma Steel Inc. to ensure that their voice is heard loud and clear that the tariffs are directly impacting the company and hence each person in this community

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Mayor be requested to work with MP Terry Sheehan, MPP Chris Scott, and Jason Naccarato, President of Sault Ste. Marie Chamber of Commerce to write a unified letter addressed to Prime Minister Mark Carney, Ontario Premier Doug Ford, Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer, and US Secretary of Commerce Howard Lutnick to outline the importance of steel as it relates to both economies, highlighting that steel is crucial to the US military and auto industry supply chain, not to mention the negative economic consequences to Sault Ste. Marie, but many communities; and in addition to discuss with Algoma Steel the possibility of creating a community team task force with key stakeholders that includes local politicians to facilitate trade discussions with other markets or any other actions required to support the community's oldest industry.

| | 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 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | 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 R. Zagordo
Seconded by: Councillor S. Spina

Resolved that all By-laws under item 12 of the Agenda under date March 17, 2025 save and except By-law 2025-100 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 2025-40 (Heritage Designation) 99 Huron Street Yard Locker

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo
Seconded by: Councillor S. Hollingsworth

Resolved that By-law 2025-40 being a by-law to designate civic 99 Huron Street as being of architectural or historic value or interest be passed in open Council this 17th day of March, 2025.

Carried

**12.1.2 By-law 2025-41 (Agreement) Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation NOHFC
Tourism Wishart Park Funding**

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo
Seconded by: Councillor S. Hollingsworth

Resolved that By-law 2025-41 being a by-law to authorize the execution of the Agreement between the City, Tourism Sault Ste. Marie and Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation for funding to enhance Wishart Park by adding outdoor recreation play equipment, interpretative signage, boardwalks for wildlife viewing, and a recreation bridge and multi-use path be passed in open Council this 17th day of March, 2025.

Carried

12.1.3 By-law 2025-42 (Appointments) Deputy Chief Fire Operations

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo
Seconded by: Councillor S. Hollingsworth

Resolved that By-Law 2025-42 being a by-law to appoint Mark Morgenstern as Deputy Chief Fire Operations be passed in open Council this 17th day of March, 2025.

Carried

12.1.4 By-law 2025-43 (Regulations Noise and Firearms) Ermatinger Clergue Exemption

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo
Seconded by: Councillor S. Hollingsworth

Resolved that By-Law 2025-43 being a by-law to exempt the Ermatinger Clergue National Historic Site from By-Law 2008-168 being a firearms by-law to prohibit the discharge of firearms in the municipality and from By-law 80-200 being a by-law respecting noises in the City of Sault Ste. Marie from May 2025 to December 2025 be passed in open Council this 17th day of March, 2025.

Carried

12.1.5 By-law 2025-44 (Agreement) Shaw Rogers Unified Communication System Extension

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo

Seconded by: Councillor S. Hollingsworth

Resolved that By-law 2025-44 being a by-law to authorize the execution of the Extension Agreement between the City and SHAW BUSINESS, a division of Rogers Communications Canada Inc., and/or Shaw Business U.S. Inc. for the provision of a Unified Communication System (Telephony) for use by the City be passed in open Council this 17th day of March, 2025.

Carried

12.1.6 By-law 2025-45 (Surplus Property) Surplus 0 and 128 Sackville Road (Griffin Group Real Estate Ltd. Dennis Tatasciore)

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo

Seconded by: Councillor S. Hollingsworth

Resolved that By-law 2025-45 being a by-law to declare the City owned property legally described as PIN 31561-0158 (LT) PT LT 20 RCP H744 TARENTORUS PTS 4, 5, 6 & 7 1R12231; S/T B2789; T15757; SAULT STE. MARIE, being civic 0 Sackville Road and Part PIN 31561-0118 (LT) LT 22 RCP H744 TARENTORUS EXCEPT PT 1 1R2139 AND T113728; S/T B2783, T15768; SUBJECT TO AN EASEMENT IN GROSS OVER PARTS 1 TO 4 PLAN 1R13895 AS IN AL258199; CITY OF SAULT STE. MARIE, being a portion of civic 128 Sackville Road, as surplus to the City's needs and to authorize the disposition of the said property be passed in open Council this 17th day of March, 2025.

Carried

12.1.7 By-law 2025-46 (Property) Declared Surplus – 184-188 James Street (Isnize Living Development Ltd. Topline Electric Limited Tony Stirpe)

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo

Seconded by: Councillor S. Hollingsworth

Resolved that By-law 2025-46 being a by-law to declare the City owned property legally described as PT PIN 31578-0007 SAULT STE. MARIE, being civics 184-188 James Street as

described on Schedule “A” and Schedule “B” attached hereto, as surplus to the City’s needs and to authorize the disposition of the said property be passed in open Council this 17th day of March, 2025.

Carried

12.1.8 By-law 2025-47 (Engineering) Trimount Construction Installation of Oil- Grit Separators Fort Creek Millennium Court (Contract 2024-10E)

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo

Seconded by: Councillor S. Hollingsworth

Resolved that By-law 2025-47 being a by-law to authorize the execution of the Contract between the City and Trimount Construction Group Inc. for the installation of Oil-Grit Separators (OGS) in two locations in the Fort Creek neighbourhood (Contract 2024-10E) be passed in open Council this 17th day of March, 2025.

Carried

12.1.9 By-law 2025-48 (Agreement) eScribe Subscription Agreement Renewal

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo

Seconded by: Councillor S. Hollingsworth

Resolved that By-law 2025-48 being a by-law to authorize the execution of the Agreement between the City and eScribe Software Ltd. (eScribe) for software for a term of three years commencing April 1, 2025, with an automatic extension for an additional three years (*unless notice of termination is provided*), as required by Clerks Department be passed in open Council this 17th day of March, 2025.

Carried

12.1.10 By-law 2025-100 (Council Procedure)

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo

Seconded by: Councillor S. Hollingsworth

Resolved that By-law 2025-100 being a by-law to regulate the proceedings of the Council of the City of Sault Ste. Marie be passed in open Council this 17th day of March, 2025.

Officially Read and Not Dealt With

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 R. Zagordo

Seconded by: Councillor S. Spina

Resolved that this Council move into closed session to discuss:

- six items concerning the potential acquisition of land by the municipality; and
- four items concerning the potential disposition of land by the municipality

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.2001 – section 239 (2)(c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board

Carried

15. Adjournment

Moved by: Councillor R. Zagordo

Seconded by: Councillor S. Spina

Resolved that this Council now adjourn.

Carried

Mayor

City Clerk