



1. OPENING AND ATTENDANCE

Resolution no 32-03/2023

It is moved by R.BLASKIE seconded by J. COURSOL and unanimously resolved;

THAT the regular meeting of the Municipality of Thorne held on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in Thorne Township, under the chairmanship of the Mayor, Karen Kelly be open.

CARRIED

Present are Robert Wills, Robert Blaskie, Jammie Lee Coursol, Deborah Stafford.
Marsha Bean confirmed her absence

Also attending the meeting: The Director General STACY LAFLEUR

The Mayor informed all present of the passing of one of our councillors, Robert Charette. A notice of vacancy for seat # 5 was acknowledged.

2. VISITORS / QUESTION PERIOD

Marlene Pasch, Marjorie Pasch, Charles Taylor, Norma Charette, Karen McIsaac, Todd Smith

Mrs. Charette inquired about the emergency plan.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Resolution no 33-03/2023

It is moved by R. BLASKIE seconded by J. COURSOL and unanimously resolved;

THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 7, 2023, MEETING

Resolution no 34-03/2023

It is moved by R. WILLS seconded by R. BLASKIE and unanimously resolved;

THAT the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 7, 2023, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

5. FOLLOW-UP

6. BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

1) Report

One permit has been issued this month for 2 this year.

I have sent 8 permits to the MRC Evaluation department to be inspected.

We have conducted our first transfer of permits with the Territory Module from PG Solution. With this upgrade, permits now automatically transfer to the Evaluation Department at the MRC.

We submitted a request to the Cadastral Integrity concerning Dunlop Rd. to be reassessed and taking in consideration the Municipal Minutes of August 7 1978, with the Agreement between then Neil Dunlop and the Township to take over 1050 feet of Dunlop Rd. We have so far only received a notice of reception for the request stating that we should receive their conclusions in the matter of months.

It was also noted that we received many cadastral plans for subdivision purposes with the projection of future landlocked parcels. It is important to notify your surveyor that all new lots created must be bordering either a public or a private right of way for the proposed cadastral plan be approved in order to conform to the Subdivision Bylaw 2002-004.

2) Subdivision

Resolution no 35-03/2023

It is moved by R. WILLS seconded by D. STAFFORD and unanimously resolved;

THAT the municipality of Thorne approve the cadastral plan for the lots as described in the technical description given by Christian Schnob, surveyor, under minutes # 4468 dated January 30, 2023.

CARRIED

3) Adoption of Demolition By-Law

Resolution no 36-03/2023

WHEREAS a demolition by-law is mandatory;
WHEREAS a by-law was prepared by the By-Law officer;
WHEREAS a notice of motion was given at the February meeting;

FOR THESE REASONS:

It is moved by R. WILLS seconded by J. COURSOL and unanimously resolved;

THAT council adopts the by-law as presented.

CARRIED

*4) Adoption of Pool By-Law
Resolution no 37-03/2023*

WHEREAS a pool by-law is mandatory;
WHEREAS a by-law was prepared by the By-Law officer;
WHEREAS a notice of motion was given at the February meeting;

FOR THESE REASONS:

It is moved by R. BLASKIE seconded by D. STAFFORD and unanimously resolved;

THAT council adopts the by-law as presented.

CARRIED

7. ROAD COMMITTEE

1) *Report*

We received a price for the purchase of a new grader. Because the price is over \$ 100, 000 we will need to prepare a tender to post on the SEAO site.

Rick is searching for a dump truck but cannot find any in the area.

In the spring, the backhoe will need two-side panels.

We will need to add the purchase of a tandem and a grader to the budget.

We will have to get the municipal truck painted before it gets too rusty.

We got prices on liquid calcium. Rick suggests that we switch to liquid instead of powder.

There was a meeting between the Thorne and Otter Lake Dg's and road supervisors to discuss the maintenance of Milliken Road. It was suggested that Otter Lake maintains the total of Milliken East and Thorne will maintain Milliken West. It was also decided that Thorne would maintain Stephen Road.

2) *Grader*

Resolution no 38-03/2023

WHEREAS the grader is starting to need a lot of repairs;
WHEREAS a price was received by Brandt for the amount of \$ 387 408.26;
WHEREAS for that amount, we need to post a tender on the SEAO website;

FOR THESE REASONS:

It is moved by R. BLASKIE seconded by R. WILLS and unanimously resolved;

THAT a tender be prepared by the Director General and the road supervisor;

CARRIED

3) *Calcium*

Resolution no 39-03/2023

WHEREAS we receive multiple demands to spread calcium on the dirt roads;
WHEREAS the liquid calcium will last much longer than the powdered calcium;
WHEREAS the road foreman suggests trying this method for 2023;
WHEREAS we received quotes from two companies:

<i>Multi Route</i>	<i>\$ 9 005.99 tax included</i>
<i>Entreprise Bourget</i>	<i>\$ 11 025.00 tax included</i>

FOR THESE REASONS:

It is moved by R. BLASKIE seconded by R. WILLS and unanimously resolved;

THAT the municipality tries this method for a year;
THAT the municipality accepts the lowest bid from Multi Route.

CARRIED

8. ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

1) *Report*

There is little to report this month, as traffic at the transfer station is slow, and quantity is low. We are still awaiting the hydroelectric hookup, promised to be sometime this month. The new roof does a good job of protecting the bins from snow and resultant wetness. The metal bin is still out in the open, but moisture in metal waste is not as likely to become a problem, as it is in household garbage.

On the MRC level, the going train of thought is that there will be picked up of organic waste in some locations, and that the future of residual waste is to construct and operate a waste-to-energy incinerator.

When I last visited the Transfer Station, it was a beautiful sunny afternoon, and the snow was well plowed out of the way, making for a functional transfer station of which we can be proud.

9. LAND USE PLANNING COMMITTEE

1) *Report*
No report this month

10. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

1) *Report*
No report this month

11. RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMITTEE

1) *Report*
Councillor J. Coursol wants the municipality to purchase swings to fix the existing set.
She also mentioned being frustrated about not having the rink this year.

2) *Recreation Committee*
Resolution no 40-03/2023

WHEREAS several letters were sent to the TCRA requesting their intention in remaining a recreation committee;

WHEREAS no response was received by the organization;

WHEREAS the municipality finds it important to have such a committee in place;

FOR THESE REASONS:

It is moved by J. COURSOL seconded by D. STAFFORD and unanimously resolved;

THAT the municipality post a public notice in both newspaper and on the website, seeking volunteers to create a recreation committee.

CARRIED

12. PUBLIC SECURITY COMMITTEE

1) *Report*
No report this month

13. FIRE DEPARTMENT

1) *Fire chief's report*
There were (01) calls

Special Events:

230219-008 Received demand from Thorne Municipality D.G. Stacy and CTM Radio communication to proceed during the weekend for Radio test from the old fire station re-repeater.

First Practice # 02: Was held on Sunday, February 12, 08:00 -12:00 at Station 5

Subject: (SOP) Standard Operational Procedure and decontamination CNESST for Firefighter – First Responder.

Maintenance of vehicles

Station 4: Dany Kluge did all regular maintenance on vehicle # 514, #214 and # 614.

Special notes:

Both municipality D.G. received correspondence from SSI Director Pontiac, North, regarding procedure for the decontamination and future cost. Also received new document # DOS/SOP 230228-01, subject: Wearing a Beard during performance of their task with S.C.B.A. regulation under the CNESST.

2) *Decontamination*

The council was informed that there is a mandatory decontamination program that needs to be put in place for all fire departments.

The Fire Chief prepared three scenarios to comply with this new regulation.

Council wants to know if there are any grants available to help with the cost.

It was decided by council to defer this to the next meeting.

14. DEEDS

8 deeds were received in the month of February for the amount of \$ 3 005.50.

15. SUPPORT RESOLUTIONS

1) *Power Outage – Haut Pontiac*
Resolution no 41-03/2023

WHEREAS there is an Electrical power transmission grid owned by Hydro Quebec (HQ) where residents of Upper Pontiac (Sheenboro, Chichester, L'Isle-aux-Allumettes, Waltham) and some residents of Mansfield-Pontefract are clients;

WHEREAS this said grid is not integrated into Hydro Quebec's Power Transmission Network;

WHEREAS this said grid has no meaningful redundancy in the event of equipment failure leading to unnecessary and lengthy power outages;

WHEREAS this said grid relies solely on Ontario for surplus electricity during peak demand;

WHEREAS in the event of a power outage, without timely and an accurate information from Hydro Quebec, residents cannot fully prepare for the situation;

WHEREAS a power outage on February 4-5th, 2023 left many residents of Upper Pontiac without power for a period of more than 36 hours in dangerously cold temperatures (-39 degrees Celsius);

WHEREAS during the outage on February 4-5th, 2023, communications from Hydro Quebec to residents through the HQ App, Website or otherwise was false and misleading;

WHEREAS during this outage HQ failed to have timely and accurate communications with Municipal and local emergency services especially concerning the length of the outages, plans for restoration and the prioritization of areas/sectors to be restored;

- WHEREAS** this length of the power outage had direct cause in the failure of telephone and internet services, leaving the residents without means of communication for emergency services in potential life-threatening circumstance;
- WHEREAS** the Municipality and its residents suffered undue expenses, loss and damages, during this outage;
- WHEREAS** this outage is the only the latest in a series of lengthy outages over the past several decades;
- WHEREAS** with the provincial & federal incentives and programs for further electrification of heating systems, vehicles, etc.; the demand for power and the load on the grid will only increase exponentially;
- WHEREAS** resolution # 018-23/02 was adopted by the municipality of L'Isle-aux Allumettes;

FOR THESE REASONS:

It is moved by D. STAFFORD seconded by R. WILLS and unanimously resolved;

- THAT** the council of Thorne reiterates the concerns of the municipality of L'Isle-Aux-Allumettes and supports its formal request to Hydro-Québec for the following:
- A Formal Plan, with timelines, to improve their infrastructure to fully integrate the Upper Pontiac into HQ Power Transmission Network ensuring redundancy for hydro services in our area;
 - Improvements to communication with the Clients (residents) as well as with the Municipality, before, during and after an event;
 - Compensation for the residents and Municipalities who may have suffered unnecessary expenses, loss or damages due to the outages;
 - A public meeting hosted by the Municipalities, where HQ can respond to the three items requested above;
- THAT** the municipality forward this resolution to ALL Municipalities within the MRC Pontiac, Warden Jane Toller and MNA André Fortin for their support; as well as to the Minister responsible for the Outaouais, Mathieu Lacombe; the Minister of Economy, Innovation and Energy Pierre Fitzgibbon.

CARRIED

*2) Regulation of Municipal Bio solids use
Resolution no 42-03/2023*

- WHEREAS** the elected officials of the MRC Pontiac have received a request to support the resolution of the MRC Lotbinière concerning the control of the use of biosolids in Quebec;
- WHEREAS** the elected officials of the MRC Pontiac, as well as those of the MRC Lotbinière, are concerned by the recent television reports on the use of biosolids broadcast on Radio-Canada's La Semaine verte and Enquête;
- WHEREAS** these reports mention that certain biosolids seem to be imported from the United States and that they would be potentially contaminated with PFAS, also called eternal contaminants;
- WHEREAS** the volume of these biosolids is immense and that it represents an important management challenge for the municipal world, it is necessary to initiate a serious reflection on their management in order to avoid that they are directed towards incineration or landfilling;
- WHEREAS** the fertilizing value of this product is undeniable, especially in this period of political instability, with the current volatility of the cost of fertilizers which affects agricultural producers;
- WHEREAS** the safe use biosolids in Quebec requires a good analysis of the generated biosolids and the setting of thresholds of PFAS and any other undesirable compound not to be exceeded, or even simply to be prohibited if they present a risk;
- WHEREAS** the setting of thresholds could be coupled with a documentation of potential industrial sources of PFAS in the province in order to reduce the risk to our agricultural lands;
- WHEREAS** three professional associations representing chemists, agronomists and veterinarians have expressed concerns about the use of biosolids and are calling for "the greatest vigilance" and swift action by the public and government;
- WHEREAS** the Quebec Minister of the Environment, Mr. Benoit Charette, has confirmed that the regulations concerning biosolids will be modified in the coming weeks in order to provide a tighter framework, "to ensure that the integrity of our agricultural land is not compromised and that human health is not threatened";

FOR THESE REASONS:

It is moved by R. WILLS seconded by R. BLASKIE and unanimously resolved;

- TO** support resolution 012-01-2023 transmitted by the MRC Lotbinière;
- TO** ask the Quebec Minister of the Environment, Mr. Benoit Charrette, to act to stop the importation of foreign biosolids and to quickly follow up on his commitments to modify the regulatory framework for the use of biosolids;

- TO** reiterate to the Minister the importance of the safe use of biosolids produced in Quebec for rural MRCs so that he does not prevent the use of these products regardless of their origin;
- TO** transmit a copy of the present resolution to the MRCs of Quebec, to the local municipalities of our territory as well as to the FQM and the UMQ for support;
- TO** transmit a copy of the present resolution to our provincial deputy, Mr. André Fortin, as well as to the Minister of the Environment, Mr. Benoit Charrette.

CARRIED

16. SEPTIC SYSTEM
Resolution no 43-03/2023

- WHEREAS** all the plans were submitted for the replacement of the septic system;
- WHEREAS** various systems were proposed by HKR Consultation;
- WHEREAS** the cheapest solution would be approximately \$ 244 934;

FOR THESE REASONS:

It is moved by D. STAFFORD seconded by R. BLASKIE and unanimously resolved;

- THAT** council decided on the conventional system;
- THAT** the Director General prepares the tender;
- THAT** the Director General search for any available grant to cover this cost;

CARRIED

17. FLEA MARKET
Resolution no 44-03/2023

- WHEREAS** a request to use the Clarence Bretzlaff Building for the annual Flea market was received by Joyce McCleary ;
- WHEREAS** she would operate the market as in past years but table rental would be turned over to the Municipal Office;

FOR THESE REASONS:

It is moved by D. STAFFORD seconded by J. COURSOL and unanimously resolved;

- THAT** council grants Mrs. McCleary request and accepts that she operates the market and uses the rental amount for each table for the use of the building.

CARRIED

18. OFFICE / ARCHIVES

The Director General informed council that it is difficult to have three employees working in the same office. She also advised them that we do not have an archive room therefore; she would like to renovate the council room to accommodate one office in addition to the archives. She presented a quote of approximately \$ 1 500.00 for the work.

Councilor J. Coursol will look into deferent solutions for the archives and states that all employees should remain in the same office.

This will be once again defered to the next meeting.

19. GRANT
Resolution no 45-03/2023

- WHEREAS** a grant is available for renovating, upgrading to standards, expansion, construction and replacement of eligible buildings;
- WHEREAS** council will have to decide what work they want completed by priority;

FOR THESE REASONS:

It is moved by D. STAFFORD seconded by R. BLASKIE and unanimously resolved;

- THAT** we apply for this grant to replace the septic system, the electrical wiring inspection and renovate the annex.

CARRIED

20. PONTIAC BURSARIES
Resolution no 46-03/2023

- WHEREAS** the municipality received a request for a donation from the Pontiac Scholarship Fund;
- WHEREAS** these bursaries are given to students from the Pontiac to help with their education;

FOR THESE REASONS;

It is moved by R. WILLS seconded by R. BLASKIE and unanimously resolved;

THAT the municipality donate \$ 250 to the Pontiac Scholarship Fund.

CARRIED

21. MAYOR'S REPORT OF THE MRC MONTHLY MEETING

The Mayor attended the MRC plenary via zoom Feb 8/2023. Councillor R. Wills attended the Mayor's meeting in replacement of the Mayor Feb 15/2023. Councillor R. Wills informed me about content of the meeting regarding the power outage in upper Pontiac and about non-feasibility of a bridge between Mansfield and Calumet Island. Info received via e-mail about Resolutions MRC Budget
The new DG at MRC is Kim Lesage.

22. PAYMENT OF INVOICES
Resolution no 47-03/2023

It is moved by J. COURSOL seconded by D. STAFFORD and unanimously resolved;

THAT the invoices totaling \$ 139 694.64 are paid.

I, the undersigned, STACY LAFLEUR, Director General for the Municipality of Thorne, certify that there are funds available to pay the expenses listed below.

7518218 Canada inc. – HKR Consult.	\$ 7 264.91	Ministre du Revenu du Québec	\$ 7 326.17
9828745 – Mc Grimmon Cartage	\$ 1 783.26	MRC	\$ 80 895.84
Bell Mobility	\$ 67.74	National Bank of Canada	\$ 1 236.96
Beneva – SSQ insurance	\$ 1 787.04	Ottawa Valley Oxygen	\$ 241.44
Benson AutoPart	\$ 575.13	Payroll	\$ 22 221.95
BNC Trust	\$ 1 347.56	Petty Cash	\$ 100.50
Bretzlaff Store	\$ 447.68	Pontiac Scholarship Fund	\$ 250.00
Canada Customs and Revenue	\$ 2 557.07	Purolator	\$ 8.34
Deveau Avocats	\$ 47.14	SAAQ	\$ 4 990.47
Gallant, Charles	\$ 102.60	Santinel	\$ 441.51
Gerard Labelle, CPA	\$ 2 012.06	Scully, Clarence	\$ 44.22
Hydro Qc	\$ 740.80	Sullivan, Jeff	\$ 58.21
Lafleur, Stacy	\$ 159.82	Telebec	\$ 591.34
MacEwen Petroleum	\$ 2 636.32		

Whereof, this certificate is given in Ladysmith, this March 7, 2023.

Stacy Lafleur, Director General

CARRIED

23. ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING
Resolution no 48-03/2023

It is moved by D. STAFFORD seconded by R. BLASKIE and unanimously resolved;

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

CARRIED

Next regular sitting of Council will be held at 7 p.m. on April 4, 2023

Karen Kelly
Mayor

Stacy Lafleur
Director General

La version française est la version officielle - The French version is the official version.