



The Corporation of the Township of White River

Minutes for the Regular Meeting of Council for February 12, 2025

Present:

Council:	Tara Hart	Mayor
	Dwijen Bharad	Councillor
	Rodney Swarek	Councillor
	Rob Sedore	Councillor
	Raymond St. Louis	Councillor- absent with notice
Staff:	Marilyn Parent	Acting CAO/Clerk
	Lethbridge	
	Renée Berube	Deputy Clerk
	Whitney Roussy	Administrative Assistant
Public:	Angelo Bazzoni	

1. Call meeting to order

Mayor Hart called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest/Pecuniary Interest None

3. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution No. 2025-022

Moved by: Councillor Swarek
Seconded by: Councillor Sedore

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Township of White River approves the agenda for the Regular Meeting of February 12, 2025, as circulated.

Carried

4. Delegations/Presentations (none scheduled)

5. Adoption of Minutes of Prior Council Meetings (Open Session)

Resolution No. 2025-023

Moved by: Councillor Sedore
Seconded by: Councillor Swarek

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for The Corporation of the Township of White River adopt the minutes for the open session of the Regular Council meeting of January 22, 2025, as circulated

Carried

6. Business Arising from Minutes

No business arising from the minutes was raised.

7. Departmental Reports

7.1 Receive Departmental Reports Resolution

Resolution No. 2025-024

Moved by: Councillor Sedore
Seconded by: Councillor Bharad

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Township of White River receive the departmental reports listed in item 7 of this evening’s agenda.

Carried

7.2 Recreation & Events Committee

Winter Carnival planning is underway.

7.3 Community Development Committee

N/A

7.4 Economic Development Committee

Mr. Bazzoni will be attending a meeting later this month with White River Forest Products on the impact that tariffs will have on the mill operations and how unnecessary expenditures may hurt the community.

EDC had a meeting Feb 11, 2025. Discussion of the consultant contacting FEDNOR for funding. Also asking Council for a partnership between EDC and Township for NOHFC funding for possible interns. EDC prepared to contribute funds but would require a partnership with Township regarding payroll etc.

Truck stop parking is still being considered. The consultant has a copy of the proposal. Reinforcing the idea that White River is “halfway to everywhere.” Truckers need more amenities like restaurants and bathrooms.

7.5 Water/Sewer

There have been a few leaks the waterworks department along with Provost have been investigating the cause. One hydrant has been secured, and investigations continue on Hwy 614. The main line encased in pipes is being investigated.

7.6 Public Works

N/A

7.7 Parks & Recreation

Weekly reports from Justin Gregory were submitted and reviewed.

7.8 Fire Department

N/A

7.9 Deputy Clerk Report

The Deputy Clerk and the Acting CAO/Clerk overviewed their report for Council

8. Correspondence

- 8.1 Email: FONOM
- 8.2 Letter: Industrial Inquiry Commission Reviewing Canada Post
- 8.3 Email: AMO 2025 Annual Conference
- 8.4 Letter: Minister of Rural Affairs
- 8.5 Email: Open letter to Provincial Party Leaders- OINP

Resolution No. 2025-025

Moved by: Councillor Swarek
Seconded by: Councillor Bharad

WHEREAS WHEREAS the Canada Industrial Relations Board, as instructed by the Federal Minister of Labour, Steven MacKinnon, ordered the end to the postal strike and the resumption of mail service at Canada Post on December 17, 2024, under Section 107 of the *Canada Labour Code*.

WHEREAS the Federal Minister of Labour, Steve MacKinnon, created an *Industrial Inquiry Commission* under Section 108 of *Canada Labour Code*, led by William Kaplan, that will work with the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) and Canada Post to examine the future of the public post office, including possible changes to the *Canadian Postal Service Charter*.

WHEREAS Canada Post is, first and foremost, a public service.

WHEREAS the *Commission* has been tasked with reviewing the obstacles to negotiated collective agreements between CUPW and Canada Post, the financial situation of Canada Post, Canada Post's expressed need to diversify and/or alter its delivery models in the face of current business demands, the viability of the business as it is currently configured, CUPW's negotiated commitments to job security, full-time employment, and the need to protect the health and safety of workers.

WHEREAS the *Commission* only has until May 15, 2025, to submit its final report to the government and make recommendations about the future structure of Canada Post.

WHEREAS while there is room for written input, the Commission process is not widely publicized, nor equivalent to a full and thorough public service review of Canada Post's mandate allowing for all stakeholder input, as has been undertaken by previous governments.

WHEREAS it will be crucial for the *Commission* to hear our views on key issues, including maintaining Canada Post as a public service, the importance of maintaining the moratorium on post office closures, improving the *Canadian Postal Service Charter*, home mail delivery, parcel delivery, keeping daily delivery, adding postal banking, greening Canada Post, EV charging stations, food delivery, improving delivery to rural, remote and Indigenous communities, and developing services to assist people with disabilities and help older Canadians to remain in their homes for as long as possible – and at the same time, helping to ensure Canada Post's financial self-sustainability.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The Corporation of The Township of White River provide input to the Commission in the form of a written submission.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Corporation of The Township of White River will write the Federal Minister of Labour, Steven MacKinnon, and the Federal Minister of Public Services and Procurement of Canada, Jean-Yves Duclos, who is responsible for Canada Post, to demand that no changes be made to the *Canada Post Corporation Act*, Canada Post's mandate or the *Canadian Postal Service Charter* without a full, thorough, public review of Canada Post, including public hearings, with all key stakeholders, in every region of Canada.

Carried

9. Resolutions

9.1 Disbursements

Resolution No. 2025-026

Moved by: Councillor Sedore

Seconded by: Councillor Bharad

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Corporation of the Township of White River approves the disbursements as of December 31, 2024 in the amount of \$106,371.35, as circulated.

Carried

Resolution No. 2025-027

Moved by: Councillor Bharad Swarek

Seconded by: Councillor Swarek

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Township of White River approves the disbursements as of February 12, 2025, in the amount of \$98,735.75, as circulated

Carried

9.2 By-law Ontario Transfer Payment Agreement

Resolution No. 2025-028

Moved by: Councillor Sedore
Seconded by: Councillor Swarek

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 2025-05, being a By-law to enter into a Fire Protection Grant Agreement between the Township of White River and the Ontario Transfer Payment Agreement;

AND THAT this By-law shall come into full force and effect on the date of its passage.

Carried

9.3 By-law GIS Contract

Resolution No. 2025-029

Moved by: Councillor Bharad
Seconded by: Councillor Sedore

BE IT RESOLVED that By-law 2025-06, Being a By-law to enter into a Geographical Information Systems (GIS) Support Contract with the Sault Ste. Marie Innovation Centre (SSMIC) for GIS services;

AND THAT this By-law shall come into full force and effect on the date of its passage.

Carried

9.4 Thunder Bay Municipal League Conference

Resolution No. 2025-030

Moved by: Councillor Sedore
Seconded by: Councillor Bharad

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Township of White River approves Tara Hart attendance at the Thunder Bay Municipal League Conference & Annual General Meeting on March 5th-7th,2025. Expenses incurred for this travel will be reimbursed according to Municipal Policy.

Carried

10. Other Business

- 10.1 Water System Stream funding Program
- 10.2 enCompassIT- security cameras
- 10.3 Landfill Expansion – Kresin Engineering

11. Closed Session None scheduled

12. Adjournment

Resolution No. 2025-031


Moved by: Rodney Swarek

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this meeting be adjourned at 8:00 pm


Carried

13. Next Meeting

The next Council Meeting is the Regular Meeting on February 26, 2025.



Mayor



Deputy Clerk