



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF WEST NIPISSING /  
LA CORPORATION DE LA MUNICIPALITÉ DE NIPISSING OUEST

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING**  
**VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING**  
**ON MONDAY, MARCH 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 AT 6:00 PM**

**PRESENT:** MAYOR JOANNE SAVAGE  
COUNCILLOR YVON DUHAIME  
COUNCILLOR CHRISTOPHER FISHER  
COUNCILLOR ROLAND LARABIE  
COUNCILLOR LÉO MALETTE  
COUNCILLOR DAN ROVEDA  
COUNCILLOR DENIS SÉNÉCAL  
COUNCILLOR LISE SÉNÉCAL  
WARD 7 (vacant)

**ABSENT:**

**BUDGET MEETING**

**A) DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST / DÉCLARATION D'INTÉRÊTS PÉCUNIAIRES**

There were no pecuniary interests declared.

**B) AGENDA / ORDRE DU JOUR**

**B-1** A resolution was passed to adopt the Agenda.

**No. 2021/106** Moved by: Councillor C. Fisher  
Seconded by: Councillor R. Larabie

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Agenda for the SPECIAL meeting of Council held on March 29, 2021 be adopted as  presented /  amended.

**CARRIED**

**C) 2021 BUDGET PRESENTATIONS (continuation) / PRÉSENTATION BUDGÉTAIRES POUR L'ANNÉE 2021 (suite)**

The CAO provided a brief introduction the day's proposed discussion beginning with the WN Public Library projects and on to Capital and other departments if time permits:

**C-1(a) West Nipissing Public Library**

The CEO of the West Nipissing Public Library made a presentation to Council concerning the library's services, programs and activities including classes. Council was also briefed on how the Library has adapted its services to new protocols due to COVID-19.

**C-1(b) Budget**

- The Chief Administrative Officer provided a brief recap of the previous meetings and the items which have been "parked" for discussion throughout the overview of the various departments and making recommendations to achieve Council's objectives using previous year's surplus as well as one-time funding while maintaining an increase of 3.7%.
- Council discussed the proposed budget increase and stated their position with regard to the proposed increase and the projects. Four councillors supported the increase, as proposed; however, some did not support the proposed increase and stated their rationale.
- Following discussion, council agreed that the Economic Development community initiative funds be removed as well as the reserve contribution for the demolition of the Field School.

- The CAO agreed to come back on March 31 with a scenario which will bring the budget down to approximately 2.00%.

**No. 2021/107**     Moved by:     Councillor C. Fisher  
                         Seconded by:     Councillor Y. Duhaime

At approximately 2:30 PM, a motion was tabled for a 15 minute recess; following which the Council meeting will continue.

**CARRIED**

- It was agreed that discussions would continue on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 at 1:00 PM

## **D) NEW BUSINESS / AFFAIRES NOUVELLES**

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### **D-1** Resolution for Vaccine Allocation.

**No. 2021/108**     Moved by:     Councillor L. Malette  
                         Seconded by:     Councillor C. Fisher

**WHEREAS**, the Municipality of West Nipissing is within the district of the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit (Health Unit); and

**WHEREAS**, the Health Unit received its first allocation of vaccine more than a month and a half later than Southern Ontario and Ottawa health regions; and

**WHEREAS**, vaccine allocation for the Health Unit has not increased over time to compensate for the delay in provision of the first vaccine allocation; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 transmission rates in Northern Ontario, as evidenced by the effective reproduction numbers  $R_{(t)}$ , are among the highest in the province; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the vaccine allocation, the Health Unit is still in phase 1 of the rollout while public health unit regions in Southern Ontario and Ottawa are in phase 2; and

**WHEREAS**, 26.5% of the population in the Parry Sound District and 22.4% of the population in the Nipissing District are aged 65 years or older, compared to 16.7% for all of Ontario (2016 Census); and

**WHEREAS**, the delay in the Health Unit vaccine allocations is causing increasing inequities in the booking of COVID-19 vaccination clinics; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the vaccine allocation, Indigenous populations have not received their required allocation.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Municipality of West Nipissing request that the vaccine allocation be prioritized to public health unit regions that are still in phase 1 to enable them to catch up to those regions in Southern Ontario and Ottawa; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this motion be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Christine Elliot, Minister of Health, Vic Fedeli, MPP – Nipissing, Norm Miller, MPP – Parry Sound Muskoka, John Vanthof, MPP – Timiskaming-Cochrane, Mayors/Reeves within the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit district, Ontario Boards of Health, and the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA); ; and that Marc Serré, MP – Nickel Belt, Anthony Rota, MP – Nipissing-Timiskaming also advocate with the Federal Government to work with the Health Unit and 31 member municipalities.

**CARRIED AS AMENDED**

## **E) ADJOURNMENT / AJOURNEMENT**

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### **E-1** Confirm the proceedings of Council.

**No. 2021/109**     Moved by:     Councillor C. Fisher  
                         Seconded by:     Councillor L. Sénécal

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-law No. **2021/24** being a By-law of the Municipality of West Nipissing to confirm the proceedings of Council at its SPECIAL meeting held on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of March 2021, shall come into force and take effect on the date it is passed.

**CARRIED**

**E-2** Adjourn the meeting of Council.

**No. 2021/110** Moved by: Councillor C. Fisher  
Seconded by: Councillor L. Sénécal

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the SPECIAL meeting of Council held on March 29, 2021 be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

« *Mayor Joanne Savage* »

JOANNE SAVAGE  
MAYOR

« *Melanie Ducharme* »

MELANIE DUCHARME  
CLERK