

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF EAST FERRIS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 12, 2025

PRESENT: Terry Kelly, Councillor
Rick Champagne, Mayor

Lauren Rooyakkers, Deputy Mayor
Nick Brazeau, Councillor

ABSENT: Steven Trahan, Councillor

STAFF Jason Trottier, CAO/Treasurer Kim Rose, Clerk
PRESENT:

1. Call to Order

Mayor Champagne called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

2025-181

Moved by Councillor Brazeau

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

THAT the draft agenda presented to Council and dated the 12th day of August, 2025 be adopted as prepared.

Carried Mayor Champagne

3. Accepting the Minutes of the Previous Meeting(s):

a. Approval of Council Minutes: Regular Meeting of July 8th, 2025

2025-182

Moved by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Councillor Brazeau

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of July 8th, 2025 be adopted as circulated.

Carried Mayor Champagne

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

None for this session.

5. Declarations of Conflict of Interest- Pecuniary Interest Thereof

None for this session.

6. Announcements and Updates from Council Members

Mayor Champagne advised that construction will be occurring on HWY 94, and added that Council has a delegation with the MTO regarding the addition of bike lanes on HWY at the upcoming AMO Conference.

Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers noted the recent funding announcement for the arena roof repairs and curling club renovations.

7. Delegations to Council:

None for this session.

8. Committee Reports:

a. Public Works and Infrastructure Committee

Minutes of July 24th, 2025

b. Emergency Management Program Committee

Minutes of July 22nd, 2025

c. Fire and Emergency Services Committee

None for this session.

d. Planning Advisory Committee

None for this session.

e. Committee of Adjustment

Minutes of July 16th, 2025

f. Recreation, Parks and Culture Committee

Minutes of July 15th, 2025

1. Recommendation(s) from Minutes

Council deferred this item to the next meeting of Council.

g. Striking Committee

None for this session.

9. Board Reports:

a. Library Board

None for this session.

b. OPP Detachment Board

None for this session.

c. Cassellholme, DNSSAB, Health Unit and NBMCA

1. Cassellholme re: Minutes of May 22nd, 2025 Board of Management Meeting

2. Cassellholme re: 2024 Financial Statements

3. North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority re: Minutes of June 11th, 2025

4. North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority re: 2024 Financial Statements

10. Departmental Reports & Resolutions:

None for this session.

11. Notice of Motions

None for this session.

12. By-laws:

a. By-law No. 2025-38: 1st, 2nd and 3rd Reading

2025-183

Moved by Councillor Brazeau

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

WHEREAS Council for the Municipality of East Ferris deems it expedient to pass three readings of the following by-law at this session;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT a by-law to authorize an agreement between the Corporation of the Municipality of East Ferris, and Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) for capital project funding, BE READ a first, second and third time, passed and numbered 2025-38;

AND THAT said by-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the Seal of the Corporation.

Carried Mayor Champagne

- b. By-law No. 2025-39: 1st, 2nd and 3rd Reading

2025-184

Moved by Councillor Brazeau

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

WHEREAS Council for the Municipality of East Ferris deems it expedient to pass three readings of the following by-law at this session;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT a by-law to authorize the CAO/Treasurer to submit an application to Ontario Infrastructure and Lands Corporation for the financing of certain new capital projects, BE READ a first, second and third time, passed and numbered 2025-39;

AND THAT said by-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the Seal of the Corporation.

Carried Mayor Champagne

- c. By-law No. 2025-40: 1st, 2nd and 3rd Reading

2025-185

Moved by Councillor Brazeau

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

WHEREAS Council for the Municipality of East Ferris deems it expedient to pass three readings of the following by-law at this session;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT a by-law to appoint a Municipal Law Enforcement Officer BE READ a first, second and third time, passed and numbered 2025-40;

AND THAT said by-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the Seal of the Corporation.

Carried Mayor Champagne

13. Correspondence and Information Items:

- a. Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

re: Save the Date: 2025 Northeastern Municipal Council Workshop

2025-186

Moved by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

WHEREAS the 2025 Northeastern Municipal Council Workshop Conference is taking place in Sudbury on October 21st and 22nd, 2025;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that all members of Council be approved to attend the workshop;

AND FURTHER that staff be directed to register members accordingly.

Carried Mayor Champagne

- b. AMO Communications
re: Watchfile of July 10th, 17th, 25th and 31st, 2025 and August 7th, 2025
- c. Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
re: 2+1 Highway Enhancements
- d. Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
re: Softwood Lumber Dispute
- e. Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
re: NORDS Pilot Program Draft Resolution

2025-187

Moved by Councillor Brazeau

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

WHEREAS the Northern Ontario Resource Development Support (NORDS) pilot program was introduced to help Northern Ontario municipalities address infrastructure pressures resulting from natural resource sector activities;

AND WHEREAS the funding provided through the NORDS pilot was very well received by the municipal sector, as it delivered timely and much-needed financial support to many communities across the North;

AND WHEREAS the program has allowed municipalities, such as the City of North Bay, to strategically stack multi-year allocations in order to support large-scale infrastructure initiatives critical to community development and economic growth;

AND WHEREAS the NORDS pilot program has clearly demonstrated its value and effectiveness in helping Northern municipalities address the infrastructure challenges tied to resource development and extraction;

AND WHEREAS rural and northern municipalities are also facing infrastructure degradation resulting from the increasing size and frequency of agricultural machinery and activity, which is currently outside the scope of the pilot;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of East Ferris strongly urges the Government of Ontario to make the Northern Ontario Resource Development Support (NORDS) program a permanent fixture of its support to Northern municipalities;

AND FURTHER THAT the Province consider expanding program eligibility to recognize the significant impact that agricultural equipment and operations have on municipal infrastructure, particularly in rural communities;

AND FURTHER THAT municipalities be encouraged to continue utilizing the ability to stack NORDS allocations over multiple years to support the planning and delivery of major infrastructure projects;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Northern Economic Development and Growth, the Minister of Agriculture, Food

and Agribusiness, the Minister of Infrastructure, the Minister of Natural Resources ,and local MPP.

Carried Mayor Champagne

f. CN Rail

re: Rail Safety Week 2025

2025-188

Moved by Councillor Brazeau

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

WHEREAS **Rail Safety Week** is to be held across Canada from September 15 to 21, 2025;

WHEREAS 261 railway crossing and trespassing incidents occurred in Canada in 2024; resulting in 68 avoidable fatalities and 58 avoidable serious injuries;

WHEREAS educating and informing the public about rail safety (reminding the public that railway rights-of-way are private property, enhancing public awareness of the dangers associated with highway rail grade crossings, ensuring pedestrians and motorists are looking and listening while near railways, and obeying established traffic laws) will reduce the number of avoidable fatalities and injuries cause by incidents involving trains and citizens; and

WHEREAS Operation Lifesaver is a public/private partnership whose aim is to work with the public, rail industry, governments, indigenous communities, police services, media and others to raise rail safety awareness; and

WHEREAS CN and Operation Lifesaver have requested City Council adopt this resolution in support of its ongoing efforts to raise awareness, save lives and prevent injuries in communities, including our municipality.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Municipality of East Ferris supports national **Rail Safety Week** to be held from September 15 to 21, 2025.

Carried Mayor Champagne

g. John Delahunt

re: Cross Culvert - Nosbonsing Park Road

h. City of St. Catherines

re: Elect Respect Pledge

2025-189

Moved by Councillor Brazeau

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

WHEREAS the Municipality of East Ferris received a request for support from the City of St. Catharines Council calling on elected officials, organizations and community members to support the Elect Respect campaign and sign the online pledge at www.electrespect.ca;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Municipality of East Ferris Council supports the Elect Respect pledge and commits to:

- Treat others with respect in all spaces—public, private, and online,
- Reject and call out harassment, abuse, and personal attacks,
- Focus debate on ideas and policies, not personal attacks,
- Help build a supportive culture where people of all backgrounds feel safe to run for and hold office,
- Call on relevant authorities to ensure the protection of elected officials who face

abuse or threats, and
•Model integrity and respect by holding one another to the highest standards of conduct; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to, relevant MPs and MPPs, the Ontario Provincial Police and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Carried Mayor Champagne

14. Action Items:

- a. Approval of Correspondence and Information Circulated with the Agenda

2025-190

Moved by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

Seconded by Councillor Brazeau

THAT Council approve the Correspondence and Information as circulated with the agenda of August 12th, 2025.

Carried Mayor Champagne

15. Approval of Accounts Payable

2025-191

Moved by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

Seconded by Councillor Brazeau

THAT Council approve the general accounts for the Municipality of East Ferris as indicated in the cheque register(s) dated August 12th, 2025 in the amount of \$967,355.55.

Carried Mayor Champagne

16. Other Business

None for this session.

17. In Camera

2025-192

Moved by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

THAT this meeting proceeds to In-Camera session at 6:06 p.m., under Section 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25 in order to address a matter pertaining to:

(b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees for a discussion regarding Volunteer Appreciation nominations; and

(c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board for a discussion regarding a potential land acquisition.

Carried Mayor Champagne

2025-193

Moved by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Councillor Brazeau

THAT Council does now return to regular session at 6:38 p.m.

Carried Mayor Champagne

18. Resolutions Resulting from In-Camera

2025-194

Moved by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

Seconded by Councillor Brazeau

WHEREAS Council reviewed the draft In-Camera Minutes from the Recreation, Parks and Culture Committee meeting held July 15th, 2025 regarding the “Volunteer Recognition Program” Nominations;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that Council approves of the recommendations from the Recreation, Parks and Culture Committee and approve the four nominations selected.

Carried Mayor Champagne

19. Confirmatory By-law

a. By-law No. 2025-41: 1st, 2nd and 3rd Reading

2025-195

Moved by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

Seconded by Councillor Kelly

WHEREAS Council for the Municipality of East Ferris deems it expedient to pass three readings of the following by-law at this session;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council from July 8th, 2025 to August 12th, 2025, BE READ a first, second and third time, passed and numbered 2025-41;

AND THAT said by-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the Seal of the Corporation.

Carried Mayor Champagne

20. Adjournment

2025-196

Moved by Councillor Brazeau

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rooyakkers

THAT we do now adjourn at 6:39 p.m. and meet again on September 9th, 2025.

Carried Mayor Champagne

Mayor
Rick Champagne

Clerk
Kim Rose