

The minutes of the regular meeting of Dawson Township Council held on Wednesday November 5th 2025 at 7 pm in the Municipal Office.

PRESENT Mayor D Hartnell. Councillors: B Langner, C Larocque & B Sands. Clerk-Treasurer: P W Giles. Road Supt Randy Asselin.

MINUTES **#25-62** LANGNER & SANDS & CARRIED that the minutes of the regular meeting of Council held on October 1st 2025, be approved as printed.

ACCOUNTS **#25-63** SANDS & LAROCQUE & CARRIED that the accounts in the amount of \$330,211.23 and representing disbursements for the month October 2025, be approved for payment.

RIVERS **#25-64** LANGNER & SANDS & CARRIED that Council authorizes a letter for support to be sent to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks to have the Lake Superior to Lake of the Woods Waterway designated as an additional component of the Boundary Waters-Voyageur Waterway Canadian Heritage Rivers Systems.

HWY 11-17 **#25-65** SANDS & LAROCQUE & CARRIED **WHEREAS** Northern Ontario's economic and social well-being depends on safe, reliable east-west and north-south transportation corridors, particularly Highways 11 and 17, which form the Trans-Canada Highway system across the region; and
WHEREAS these highways carry significant volumes of commercial and passenger traffic, yet remain largely two-lane corridors that face frequent closures and safety risks due to weather, congestion, and collision exposure; and
WHEREAS the four-laning of Highway 17 and modernization of Highway 11 remain long-standing goals of Northern communities; and
WHEREAS the proven "2+1" highway design—alternating passing lanes separated by a continuous median barrier—has demonstrated safety outcomes comparable to full twinning, at substantially lower cost, land, and environmental impact, and can be scaled or converted to four lanes as traffic volumes increase; and
WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has announced initial 2+1 pilot projects in Northern Ontario, providing an important opportunity to test and expand this model across other sections of the Trans-Canada network; and
WHEREAS modernizing Highways 11 and 17 will improve safety, reduce closures, strengthen supply-chain reliability for mining, forestry, agriculture, energy, and tourism, and enhance national resilience and emergency response capacity; and
WHEREAS a coordinated, phased 2+1 build program—prioritizing key Northern sections with high freight volumes and safety concerns—would deliver measurable benefits for communities, Indigenous partners, and the broader Canadian economy;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council formally supports the adoption and phased implementation of a 2+1 highway program on Highways 11 and 17 as a nation-building initiative; and
THAT the Government of Canada be urged to recognize this initiative as a project of national interest under the *Building Canada Act* and to partner with Ontario to co-fund and accelerate planning, design, and construction; and

THAT the Government of Ontario be encouraged to expand the current pilot to a full corridor-wide program, sequencing projects according to readiness, safety benefit, and economic importance; and

THAT both levels of government ensure early, meaningful, and capacity-supported engagement with affected Indigenous Nations, including opportunities for training, contracting, and equity participation; and

THAT the program incorporates consistent corridor-wide safety features (barrier-separated 2+1 cross-sections, controlled passing frequency, wildlife mitigation), resilience measures (closure reduction, climate adaptation), and clean-growth practices (EV-charging readiness, recycled aggregates, and low-carbon materials); and

THAT copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Transport (Canada), the Minister of Infrastructure (Canada), the Ontario Minister of Transportation, Northern MPs and MPPs, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), and neighboring municipalities for endorsement.

IN CAMERA #25-66 SANDS & LANGNER & CARRIED that Council go in camera to discuss personnel and operational issues at 7:38 p.m.

The Road Superintendent left at this time. Mayor Hartnell declared the meeting open at 8:43 p.m.

OTHER The Rd Supt reported on grading and brushing on drains and roads is underway. Winter sand is being prepared and the landfill site continues to be an issue with spiritite dumping, the face of the dump is to be reduced to try to control this. The Clerk-Treasurer reported on the next fire board meeting, property taxes outstanding balances, 2026 OMPF allocation will be reduced again to \$465,600 from \$472,400, the Bi-Annual culvert inspection report was received, 2025 tax sale proceeds are being paid into the court, Council remuneration report was circulated, Council reviewed the cemetery fees, Council discussed the Prudent Investor option within the One Fund program however will not proceed at this time, the Clerk-Treasurer will be on vacation Nov 6th – 12th. The final payment for 2025 of OMPF \$118,100 was received. The Christmas bonus per policy is to be paid.

ADJOURN #25-67 LAROCQUE & LANGNER & CARRIED that the meeting be adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

_____ Mayor _____ Clerk