

## **Minister's Appointee to Black River – Matheson Report – June 17, 2024**

**To:** Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

**From:** Kathy Horgan, Minister's Appointee

**Date:** June 17, 2024

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On April 29, 2024 by Minister's order (the Order), I was appointed to exercise the duties and obligations of the Township of Black River - Matheson council, including making decisions, as necessary, in relation to the by-election for a new council and making any other decision that would otherwise be made by council, if required, in accordance with the duties and obligations of council as set out in the Municipal Act, 2001, any by-law or policy of the Township or any other applicable legislation.

The Order also requires that I report to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of each month on the exercise of my duties and obligations under the Order. This report, along with prior reports, will be posted on the municipality's website in its dedicated [Minister Appointee Reports](#) webpage.

### **Meetings**

A regular meeting was held on June 11, 2024, during which routine business was dealt with, including adopting minutes from meetings held in May and receiving minutes from the Porcupine Health Unit Board of Health.

At this meeting I appointed a deputy treasurer who will assist the Clerk-Treasurer with the development of the 2024 budget. This appointment will cease once the 2024 tax bills and utility bills are issued following the adoption of the budget.

The recommendation to proceed with procuring liquid calcium for dust suppression on the gravel roads, at a cost of \$545,240 plus HST, was not approved. The Director of the Infrastructure Services was directed to report back at the June 25, 2024 meeting with an interim plan for applying calcium and watering the gravel roads at 2023 levels and to identify the cost for consideration during the 2024 budget deliberations. The long-term plan was deferred to the new council.

### **Integrity Commissioner Reports**

The June 11, 2024 meeting also included reports and notices in relation to Integrity Commissioner reports.

- I received and made public two investigative finding reports by the Integrity Commissioner concerning the former mayor.

- In each report, the Integrity Commissioner concluded that the former mayor did not contravene the code of conduct. No recommendations were provided.
- Consideration of these reports, including any presentations by the Integrity Commissioner, was deferred to the new council.
- I also received a copy of a letter from the Integrity Commissioner to a complainant advising that a code of conduct complaint filed against the former mayor was dismissed with no investigation report.

The reports and dismissal letter are currently available in the agenda package for the June 11, 2024 meeting on the municipality's website and will also be available on the Township's new [Integrity Commissioner webpage](#) now that it is fully functional.

The next report from the Minister's Appointee will be submitted on or about June 30, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathy Horgan  
Minister's Appointee  
Township of Black River – Matheson