

NOTICE OF MOTION

Council proceeds with a 2/3 vote to allow voting.

1.

Ms. Geneviève Lajoie - Municipal Water

M. Paul Groulx presides during the discussion.

Resolution No. 2023-238

Moved by:Genevieve Lajoie

Seconded by:Anik Charron

WHEREAS, elevated levels of manganese in the municipal water supply have raised concerns among our community members;

WHEREAS, Health Canada has established a strict standard of 0.12 for manganese levels in drinking water, while the province of Ontario currently lacks specific guidelines for manganese;

WHEREAS, the absence of provincial guidelines underscores the necessity for our municipality to develop its own comprehensive strategies and best practices in response to the expressed worries of our community;

WHEREAS, as of yet, no specific Municipal procedures have been identified or adequately addressed for managing heightened levels of manganese in the past, necessitating a proactive and comprehensive approach to establish clear policy and procedures for addressing heightened levels of manganese in the future;

WHEREAS, the municipality has proactively built a reserve to address water quality improvement, and to further enhance the effectiveness of these efforts, it is imperative that the next budget allocates proper staff resources dedicated to this project. Additionally, council must formally declare water quality improvement as a top priority in our strategic plan to affirm the municipality's commitment to addressing this urgent matter.

WHEREAS, public input and engagement are vital to ensure that the community's concerns and perspectives are considered in the decision-making process;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council affirms its commitment to prioritize water quality improvement and formally declare water quality improvement as a top priority in our strategic plan, and in the 2024-2025 budget goals. This declaration reaffirms the municipality's commitment to addressing water quality concerns and ensures that resources and efforts are directed towards effectively resolving the issue;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT a committee is established, comprised of staff, the Mayor, one council member, representatives from the Eastern Ontario Health Unit (EOHU), and the Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA). This committee's mandate is to assess past responses to heightened levels of manganese, identify areas for improvement, and develop clear policy and procedures for managing future incidents effectively;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the committee shall conduct a public consultation and engagement sessions to gather community input on water quality concerns and proposed strategies. Community feedback will be incorporated into the decision-making process to ensure the municipality's actions align with the needs and expectations of our residents;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the committee will continue in the efforts of the Municipality to collaborate with water quality experts, research institutions, and relevant organizations to access cutting-edge technologies, advancements, and expert consultation. This collaboration will ensure that the municipality remains at the forefront of water quality management practices;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT progress reports and updates on water quality improvement initiatives, including measures to address heightened levels of manganese, shall be presented to council and made accessible to the public. Transparency and accountability will be prioritized throughout the implementation process;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the municipality shall establish a clear timeline with measurable goals and milestones for the implementation of the water quality improvement initiatives. Regular monitoring and reporting of progress will be conducted to ensure that the set objectives are achieved effectively.

For	Against	Conflict	Absent
Paul Groulx		X	
Francine Leblanc		X	
Genevieve Lajoie	X		
Sylvain Cleroux		X	
Anik Charron	X		
Results	2	3	0
Defeated (2 to 3)			0