



1. OPENING AND ATTENDANCE
Resolution No 01-01/2025

It is moved by D. STAFFORD seconded by N. CHARETTE and unanimously resolved;

THAT the regular meeting of the Municipality of Thorne held on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in Thorne Township, under the leadership of the Mayor, Karen Kelly is open.

CARRIED

Present is Robert Wills, Norma Charette, Deborah Stafford, Jammie-Lee Coursol and Marsha Bean, Robert Blaskie

2. VISITORS / QUESTION PERIOD

Brian Langemeyer, Marlene Pasch, Marjorie Pasch, Karen McIssac, Lyne Gaulin, Terri Lyn Blaskie

T. Blaskie inquired if the municipality could contribute by donating a turkey for the upcoming Christmas in January dinner. This request was granted and two turkeys will be donated.

B. Langemeyer asked about the reimbursement process for the transfer station stickers. He was advise to send to the office his concerns in writing.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
Resolution no 02-01/2025

It is moved by D. STAFFORD seconded by J. COURSOL and unanimously resolved;

THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 10, 2024, MEETING
Resolution no 03-01/2025

It is moved by N. CHARETTE seconded by M. BEAN and unanimously resolved;

THAT the minutes of the regular meeting held on December 10, 2024, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

5. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 18, 2024, BUDGET MEETING AND TRIENNIAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES PROGRAM
Resolution no 04-01/2024

It is moved by D. STAFFORD seconded by N. CHARETTE and unanimously resolved;

THAT the minutes of the special meeting held on December 18, 2024, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

6. BUDGET BY-LAW
Resolution no 05-01/2024

WHEREAS the 2025 municipal budget by-law was prepared by the Director General and subsequently presented to Council;

WHEREAS a notice of motion regarding the 2025 municipal budget by-law was duly given at a special meeting of Council held on December 18, 2024;

FOR THESE REASONS,

It is moved by D. STAFFORD seconded by N. CHARETTE and unanimously resolved;

THAT the 2025 municipal budget by-law be and is hereby adopted as presented.

CARRIED

7. ROAD COMMITTEE

1) *Report – Robert Blaskie*

This month's activities have been relatively routine, with the primary focus on snow plowing and ensuring the safety and accessibility of our roads during the winter season.

Regular snow removal operations were carried out across all municipal roads to maintain safe driving conditions. Crews were on schedule and responded promptly to snowfall events.

At the end of Schock Road and Highway 366, flooding issues required cleaning and clearing of the ditch to restore proper drainage. This work was completed efficiently to prevent further water accumulation.

All other roads remain in good condition, and no significant issues or incidents were reported this month.

8. ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

1) *Report – Robert Wills*

Operations at the transfer station continue smoothly. Traffic has decreased slightly, likely due to the colder weather and intermittent snowfall. As of Saturday, the metal recycling bin is full to overflowing, and the recycling bins are nearing their usual capacity. Regular monitoring and timely emptying of the bins will ensure continued efficiency and avoid overflow issues.

A visit to the site near Mountain Road, where Groupement Forestier is conducting timber cutting, revealed the following observations:

Selective Cutting: The operation involves selective harvesting, leaving more trees standing than cut.

Progress: Only one pile of logs was visible, indicating early stages of the cutting process. Additional activity is likely occurring beyond the visible area, around the corner and over the hill.

Road Markings: Mountain Road is divided into stages, likely for coordinating truck movements to enhance safety and efficiency.

Safety Reminder for Mountain Road:

Given the ongoing logging operations:

Travel Caution: Motorists should exercise caution, particularly near blind hills and curves.

Stay Alert: Always stay on your side of the road and remain vigilant for oncoming trucks. This will ensure safety for both travelers and logging vehicles.

Continuous updates on the transfer station and timber cutting activities will help maintain community awareness and operational effectiveness.

9. LAND USE PLANNING COMMITTEE

1) *Report – Norma Charette*

- 2 permits issued.
- 4 permits sent to the MRC Evaluation department to be inspected.
- 1 Subdivision completed and sent to surveyor.
- Answer question by phone, email and in person from taxpayers.
- 1 site visits to property to deliver a first notice, to move items away from snow removal.
- Reading by-laws and other pertinent information required as the by-law officer. Looking into rules and regulations for agricultural land.

2) *Cadastral Plan*

Resolution no 06-01/2025

WHEREAS a cadastral plan has been received;

WHEREAS the by-law officer of Thorne has reviewed the cadastral plan for the lots described in the technical description provided by Hubert Carpentier, surveyor, under minutes # 19402, dated November 25, 2024;

FOR THESE REASONS

It is moved by D. STAFFORD seconded by M. BEAN and unanimously resolved;

THAT the municipality of Thorne approve the cadastral plan as presented.

CARRIED

10. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Report - M. Bean

Major Payments:

Municipality of Otter Lake:	\$ 29,000
MacEwen:	\$ 3,768
Remittances:	\$ 10,000
Battleshield Industries:	\$ 3,096
McGuire Snow contract:	\$ 97,536
John Deer Payment:	\$ 6,463

Loan Balance:

Grade 4 loan balance:	\$ 212,467
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Municipal Comparison:

Last year, a comparison was made with 18 municipalities regarding MILL rates and dump charges.

We found:

MILL rate: We were average among municipalities.

Dump charges: Our charges were notably lower.

Recommendation: Consider repeating this comparison to update our benchmarks.

Fire Department Update:

A meeting was held on December 17 regarding firemen and first responder issues.

Resignation: Thorne firefighter resigned to join another department due to undisclosed issues.

New Regulations: From Quebec, new regulations for structure fires require:

8 people physically present at the fire station grounds immediately.

If fewer are present, a second fire department is automatically called by 911.

Costs: Municipality incurs minimum 3 hours per man and truck costs.

Only the Fire Chief can cancel the second department call-off.

This report summarizes the recent financial transactions, updates on municipal comparisons, and changes in fire department regulations and personnel matters. Further actions may include revisiting municipal comparisons and monitoring compliance with new fire department regulations.

11. RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMITTEE
 1) Report – Jammie-Lee Coursol
- Todd is doing a great job with the rink. The cement base is making a significant difference, improving the facility's usability and maintenance.
 The Recreation Association (RA) has sold out for the Christmas dinner, which is a very positive outcome and reflects strong community engagement.
13. PUBLIC SECURITY COMMITTEE
 1) Report – Deborah Stafford
- Happy New Year to everyone! I hope 2025 brings health, happiness, and success to all.
- Public Security Budget:
 2024 Budget: \$298,844
 2025 Budget: \$324,890
 This increase reflects our commitment to ensuring public safety and addressing evolving needs within the community.
 Councillor Marsha Bean and I will actively participate in quarterly Fire Committee meetings to collaborate on budget planning and address fire safety concerns. Additionally, we will attend other fire department meetings whenever possible to stay informed and provide support.
 As temperatures drop, it is essential to prioritize safety at home. Please ensure your chimneys are clean and well maintained to reduce the risk of chimney fires. Regular inspections and cleanings are a vital step in fire prevention. Let us all work together to make this a safe and successful year for our community!
14. FIRE DEPARTMENT
 Report – Denis Chaussé
- Total 911 Calls: 4**
 911-095 – Motor Vehicle Accident (MVA) Extraction, 399 Rte. 303 (Station 5)
 911-096 – Motor Vehicle Accident (MVA) Extraction, 2720 Rte. 303 (Station 4)
 911-097 – Motor Vehicle Accident (MVA) Extraction, Rte. 303/Ch King (Station 5)
 911-098 – Electric Wires Down, 28 Chemin Mathieu (Station 4)
Total Emergency Medical Calls (Central Paramedic): 10
 Station 4: 2 calls
 Station 5: 8 calls
Special Events: 2
 S/E241201-052 – December 1, 17:00–21:00: Christmas Ceremony, Station 5
 S/E241211-053 – SCBA Tank Refill, Shawville, Station 5
Section Meeting:
 December 17, Station 5, 19:00–22:00
Vehicle Maintenance
 Stations 4 and 5: Regular maintenance performed by Danny Kluge.
Included Vehicles:
 Side-by-Side Rescue Vehicle (11-05)
 Rescue Boat (18-05)
Extraction Tools Maintenance:
 Weekly maintenance performed by certified members from Stations 4 and 5.
 December 24 maintenance conducted by Miranda, Ronnie, Russell, and Guy.
15. HIRING – DIRECTOR GENERAL
 Resolution no 07-01/2025
- WHEREAS** the position of Director General was posted and requires a qualified individual to ensure the effective administration of the municipality;
WHEREAS Jessica Ménard has been identified as a suitable candidate possessing the qualifications, skills, and experience required for the position;
- FOR THESE REASONS,
- It is proposed by R. WILLS seconded by D. STAFFORD and unanimously resolved;
- THAT** Jessica Ménard be hired as the Director General of the municipality, effective January 16, 2025;
THAT her employment conditions, including salary and benefits shall be established in accordance with the terms set forth in the employee policy;
THAT the Mayor is hereby authorized to sign the employment agreement and any related documents on behalf of the municipality.
- CARRIED
16. DEEDS
 4 deeds were received in the month of December for the amount of \$ 183.00.
17. PECUNIARY INTEREST FORMS
 The Pecuniary Interests forms for Councillors (Form SM 70) were deposited
18. LOCAL ROAD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM - MAINTENANCE OF LOCAL ROADS 2024
 Resolution no 08-01/2025
- WHEREAS** the Ministry of Transportation, Sustainable Mobility and Electrification Transportation has provided compensation of \$ 297 314.00 for the maintenance of the road network for the calendar year 2024;
WHEREAS the compensations distributed to the municipality concern the routine and preventive maintenance of local roads 1 and 2 as well as the elements of the bridges, located on these roads, for which the responsibility is incumbent on the Municipality;
- FOR THESE REASONS,

It is moved by N. CHARETTE seconded by M. BEAN and unanimously resolved;

THAT the Municipality of Thorne shall inform the Ministry of Transportation, Sustainable Mobility and Electrification Transportation of the use of compensation for routine and preventative maintenance of Local Roads 1 and 2 and bridge components located on those roads for which the Municipality is responsible in accordance with the objectives of the Local Road Maintenance Assistance Program.

CARRIED

19. MUNICIPALITY OF SHAWVILLE – LIBRARY

Following discussions, some councillors expressed concerns that allocating \$10,000 for library maintenance is a significant expense. They requested that the Director General ask the Shawville/Clarendon Library if this amount could be negotiated and explore the possibility of reducing this amount by half.

20. MAYOR’S REPORT OF THE MRC MONTHLY MEETING

Mayor – Karen Kelly

The primary focus at the MRC presently revolves around the evaluation process. This topic has garnered significant attention due to its critical role in municipal operations and its impact on the accuracy and fairness of property assessments across the region..

21. VARIA

Councillor Coursol reported that on December 28, 2024, the parking area at the transfer station was not sanded, making it very slippery. She inquired about the procedure for addressing such situations if they occur again. The Mayor advised her to contact the Director General, who will take the necessary steps to ensure the issue is resolved promptly.

Councillor R. Blaskie followed up on the issue of the stairs, suggesting the installation of slip-resistant tape to help prevent falls.

22. PAYMENT OF INVOICES

Resolution no 09-01/2025

It is moved by D. STAFFORD seconded by J. COURSOL and unanimously resolved;

THAT the invoices totaling \$ 181 457.63 are paid.

I, the undersigned, STACY LAFLEUR, Director General for the Municipality of Thorne, certify that there are funds available to pay the expenses listed below.

9231-6082 Québec inc. / Fillogreen	\$ 1 329.57	Les Éditions Wilson & Lafleur	\$ 131.25
9828745 – Mc Grimmon Cartage	\$ 1 075.07	MacEwen Petroleum	\$ 3 713.73
Beneva	\$ 1 806.66	Médial Services conseil	\$ 518.35
BNC Trust	\$ 1 792.12	McGuire Mickey	\$ 48 768.45
Caisse Desjardins	\$ 15 253.08	Ministre du Revenu du Québec	\$ 6 777.07
Canada Customs and Revenue	\$ 2 377.13	MRC	\$ 315.00
COMBEQ	\$ 436.91	Municipality of Otter Lake	\$ 32 710.00
Deveau Avocats	\$ 732.11	National Bank of Canada	\$ 3 348.59
Enseigne Pontiac	\$ 215.92	O’Malley’s Equipment	\$ 14.94
FQM	\$ 1 273.28	Payroll	\$ 21 814.94
FQM Assurances	\$ 25 553.96	Petty cash	\$ 23.35
Gerard Labelle CPA inc	\$ 2 414.48	PG Solutions	\$ 4 858.84
Hydro Québec	\$ 918.06	Pontiac Journal	\$ 97.73
Lafleur, Jean-Paul	\$ 150.00	Rumours	\$ 500.00
Lafleur, Stacy	\$ 107.36	Telebec	\$ 436.07
Leders, Richard	\$ 200.00	WePc	\$ 1 793.61

Whereof, this certificate is given in Ladysmith, this January 14, 2025

Stacy Lafleur, Director General

CARRIED

23. QUESTION PERIOD

Mrs. Gaulin inquired about the presence of green algae in Sparling Lake and was informed that no report has been received from the environmental authorities regarding this matter.

24. ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING

Resolution no 10-01/2025

It is moved by D. STAFFORD seconded by J. COURSOL and unanimously resolved;

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

CARRIED

Next regular sitting of Council will be held at 7 p.m. on February 11, 2025

Karen Kelly
Mayor

Stacy Lafleur
Director General

La version française est la version officielle - The French version is the official version.