



The Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie  
Special Meeting of City Council  
Agenda

Monday, September 25, 2023

5:00 pm

Sault Ste. Marie Michigan City Hall

225 East Portage Avenue, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan USA

Meetings may be viewed live on the City's YouTube channel  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/SaultSteMarieOntario>

---

Pages

**1. Opening Comments**

**1.1 Mayor Don Gerrie**

Introduction of City Commission

Call to Order

Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance

City Manager Brian Chapman – introduction of staff in attendance

**1.2 Mayor Matthew Shoemaker**

Introduction of City Council

CAO Malcolm White – introduction of staff in attendance

**2. Approve Agenda as Presented**

Mover Councillor C. Gardi

Seconder Councillor L. Dufour

That the Agenda for the September 25, 2023 Twin Saults Joint Council Meeting as presented be approved.

**3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest**

**4. Committee of the Whole**

Mover Councillor C. Gardi

Seconder Councillor L. Vezeau-Allen

Resolved that City Council proceed into Committee of the Whole to consider the following matter referred to it for consideration – Twin Saults Joint Council / Commission meeting.

**5. International Mutual Aid Agreement**

3 - 4

A report of Sault Ste. Marie Ontario Fire Chief Peter Johnson is attached.

**6. Sault Ste. Marie Ontario Economic Development Update**

5 - 9

Deputy CAO, Community Development and Enterprise Services Tom Vair

Director of Economic Development Rick Van Staveren

**7. Sault Ste. Marie Michigan Project Update**

**8. Sault Ste. Marie Michigan Convention and Visitors Bureau Update**

**9. Sault Ste. Marie Ontario Tourism Update**

Deputy CAO, Community Development and Enterprise Services Tom Vair

**10. International Bridge Administration**

**11. Cruise the Great Lakes Update**

**12. Key Exchange**

**13. Adjournment**

Mover Councillor M. Scott

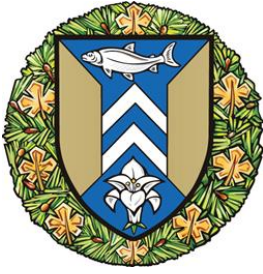
Seconder Councillor L. Dufour

Resolved that the Committee of the Whole now rise and report on the matter referred to it by City Council – Twin Saults Joint Council / Commission Meeting.

Mover \_\_\_\_\_

Seconder \_\_\_\_\_

That this Council shall now adjourn.



**The Corporation of the  
City of Sault Ste. Marie**

**COUNCIL REPORT**

September 25, 2023

TO: Mayor Matthew Shoemaker and Members of City Council  
AUTHOR: Peter Johnson, Fire Chief  
DEPARTMENT: Fire Services  
RE: International Mutual Aid Agreement

---

**Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to renew the International Mutual Aid Agreement between the City of Sault Ste. Marie Michigan and the City of Sault Ste. Marie Ontario for fire service emergency responses.

**Background**

A Mutual Aid Compact and By-law were approved on October 15, 1984, by both twin cities. The two countries are separated by the border but are joined by this agreement and the activities of fire suppression, rescue and emergency response. The agreement is activated when aid is required in the form of additional apparatus or staff for emergency service operations.

**Analysis**

Over the life span of the agreement there have been multiple responses to Sault Ste. Marie Michigan. Between 1998 and 2022 there were 7 responses, with the most recent being in June 2015. Typically, one apparatus staffed with Fire Crew has responded.

In the event either city requires assistance, this agreement will provide the necessary means to ensure an approved process is in place ahead of the emergency.

**Financial Implications**

Either municipality rendering aid pursuant to this agreement shall be reimbursed for loss or damage to any equipment.

**Strategic Plan / Policy Impact / Climate Impact**

Service Delivery - The International Mutual Aid Agreement will ensure that the City of Sault Ste. Marie Fire Service will continue to provide efficient and effective service to the community, resulting in excellent customer service.

**Recommendation**

It is therefore recommended that Council take the following action:

International Mutual Aid Agreement

September 25, 2023

Page 2.

The agreement and relevant by-law 2023-161 will appear under item 12 of the October 10, 2023 Agenda.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Johnson

Fire Chief

705.949.3333

[p.johnson@cityssm.on.ca](mailto:p.johnson@cityssm.on.ca)



# **Sault Ste. Marie Economic Development Update**

**Sault Ste Marie Michigan, City Council  
Meeting  
September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

# Economic Growth Projects

- Algoma Steel Electric Arc Furnace
  - Over \$700MM Project
  - Proceeding on track for full implementation in 2029
  - First furnace scheduled online in 2024
- Downtown Plaza Project
  - Scheduled to open Fall 2023
  - Four season programming
  - Public stage, food, ice rink, retail, fountain, play area

# Economic Growth Projects

- New Downtown Farmers Market
  - Relocating market into a new facility on Brock Street, adjacent to the Downtown Plaza
  - Officially opened this past weekend
- Queen Street Rejuvenation
  - Multi-year phased rejuvenation of the Downtown Area
  - Phase 1 starts 2024 with \$6M investment
- Industrial Land Sales
  - 31 Acres combined sold and conditionally sold in 2023
  - Aiding in job creation and tax base growth
  - Environmental assessment planned to develop access road into Wood Park Court Industrial Park – will open up an additional 60+ acres of developable land

# Economic Growth Projects

- Strategic Plan
  - Developing new Economic Development Strategic Plan
    - Green/Cleantech/Industrial land focused
    - Cross border cooperation
    - Will align to new Corporate Strategic Plan
    - Tentative release Q1 2023
- Other Economic Growth
  - Station Mall \$60M Investment Announced
  - Retail Development on Great Northern Road (Princess Auto, Winners/ Home Sense)
  - Wellington Square Mall Revitalization, now called the Shoppes on Transcanada
  - New 107 unit apartment building under construction with Royal Canadian and Sal-Dan Developments
  - Strong focus on housing development from Federal and Provincial governments with new incentives that are expected to spur new construction



**Thank you.**  
**Miigwetch.**  
**Merci.**