



Mayoral Decision MD-2025-02-a

July 18, 2025

RE: Veto of By-Law Number 2025-94

WHEREAS section 284.11 of the Municipal Act, 2001 provides that if the head of council is of the opinion that all or part of a by-law could potentially interfere with a prescribed provincial priority, the head of council may veto the by-law;

AND WHEREAS the Province has prescribed provincial priorities by making O. Reg. 580/22: Provincial Priorities pursuant to section 284.9 of the Municipal Act, 2001.

I, Arie Hoogenboom, Mayor of the Township of Rideau Lakes, hereby exercise my authority pursuant to subsection 284.11(5) of the Municipal Act, 2001 to veto the following By-Law passed by Council:

- Township of Rideau Lakes By-Law 2025-94, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting held on July 7, 2025 to the extent such By-Law adopts, ratifies and confirms Council's direction to staff to send out the 99% drawings for the Chantry Renovations/Additions for tender as soon as possible.

For greater clarity, all other aspects of By-Law 2025-94 shall be deemed to have been approved in writing pursuant to subclause 284.11(4)(a)(i) of the Municipal Act, 2001 on the 7th day of July, 2025.

I hereby provide my rational again for utilizing the strong mayor powers to veto a local by-law that authorizes staff to tender the retrofit and addition to the Chantry Municipal Offices.

1. The development of new offices in Chantry will not encourage new housing or support economic development in an established hamlet/settlement area.
2. Locating an approximately 5-million-dollar public facility in a hamlet will encourage additional local housing starts. A local citizen/developer has offered a free 5-acre parcel on the highway that would facilitate the development of a new adjacent subdivision in an existing village. This option was not properly considered by Council.
3. During this term, the township has significantly increased their debt load, hampering efforts to encourage new housing growth. Requests for incentives to allow new housing on surplus municipal lands have been rejected by Council.
4. Asking contractors to bid on a project, the process of which was flawed and is not supported by the citizens, the staff, nor our hired architects and engineers, is inappropriate.

Sincerely,

Arie Hoogenboom
Mayor