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Please find below a motion of support for the recent motion shared by Renfrew County. We would also like to bring to everyone's attention a motion that we recently passed and forwarded on.

This is an issue that seems to be affecting many small communities and in these tight economic times an important factor to keeping residents in their homes and our water systems safe.

Resolution No. 38-02-2024

Moved by: D. Orr

Seconded by: L. Cook

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands supports the resolution put forth by the County of Renfrew to advocate to the provincial and federal levels of government to make them aware that rural and small urban water and wastewater systems are financially unsustainable; and advocate to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to examine of the unaffordability of water and wastewater system operational costs is systemic provincially and nationally.

Carried

Resolution No. 29-02-2024

Moved by: D. Orr

Seconded by: M. Erskine

where they do not have sufficient financial resources to meet the ongoing demands of everyday living. This has created a situation where residents who are struggling to pay their daily expenses lack the financial resources to maintain the critical infrastructure required to sustain the water and wastewater systems that service their homes. It is critically important that the other levels of government recognize this fact and provide funding assistance that can be accessed based on operational and financial need. Whereas the current housing accelerator fund provides financial support for small communities and water and distribution systems are considered eligible under the program guidelines, And whereas one of the primary criteria for this funding is the ability to prove that the funds will accelerate the development of housing stock on the water or distribution system, And whereas many smaller communities are not experiencing the level of growth necessary to meet the requirements of the program for growth in housing stock, And whereas the water and wastewater systems in those communities represents a higher cost to operate per capita than the systems in larger built-up areas, And whereas the cost of maintaining those systems on a user-pay basis is creating undo financial hardship for the limited number of residents on those systems Therefor be it resolved that the Council for the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands requests that the Province of Ontario implement a funding stream for water and wastewater systems that primarily utilizes operational and financial need as a criteria. And furthermore that a copy of this motion be forwarded to Premier Ford, the Ministry of Housing, the Ministry of the Environment and Michael Mantha, MPP

Carried