

## **VACANT BUILDINGS – COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

**Mover:** Matthew Shoemaker

**Secunder:** Luke Dufour

**WHEREAS** it is in the City of Sault Ste. Marie's interests to see assessment growth across all sectors; and

**WHEREAS** there are documented areas of assessment decline or stagnation across the City, evidencing lower property values across specific pockets or neighbourhoods in the City; and

**WHEREAS** staff has developed mapping of areas of assessment decline or stagnation; and

**WHEREAS** community improvement programs have been successful in spurring assessment growth in targeted sectors and areas; and

**WHEREAS** community improvement programs must be vetted and approved by the provincial government;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Planning Department query the provincial government on their opinion on adding a community improvement program for vacant buildings in areas of assessment declining or stagnation that undergo renovations to make them habitable again, with a minimum threshold on amounts spent on the improvements, based on the maps already developed by the Planning Department, which shall be made public as part of the report to Council requested herein; and

**FURTHER THAT** staff make a recommendation on whether to implement such a community improvement program.