



MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING
Monday, June 22, 2026

Mayor Lynda Carleton, Deputy Mayor Ron McLaren, Councillor Blair Flowers, Councillor Pearl Ivens, Councillor Neil Scarlett, Clerk Administrator Angela Loney and Deputy Clerk Teresa Coombs.

1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement

The Township of Machar acknowledges the Robinson-Huron and Williams Treaties on the land of the Anishinabek that we meet today. We seek to work respectfully with Indigenous people, and are thankful for their teachings and stewardship of the land.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof; Nil.

2. Public Meeting/Guests and Delegations

2.1 Application to Purchase Lakeshore Road Allowance 4-12110 (422 East Bay Rd), Resolution

Posted in office, on the Township website and on the property for 4 weeks as required.

090-2026

Moved By Ivens

Seconded By Flowers

THAT we read a first, second, third and final time and pass By-Law No. 9-26; to close and sell part of the original road allowance in front of Lot 26, Con 3.

Carried

2.2 Application to Purchase Lakeshore Road Allowance 4-04801 (206 Morris Ln), Resolution

Posted in office, on the Township website and on the property for 4 weeks as required.

091-2026

Moved By Scarlett

Seconded By McLaren

THAT we read a first, second, third and final time and pass By-Law No. 10-26; to close and sell part of the original road allowance in front of Lot 29 Con 2.

Carried

2.3 Application to Amend Zoning By-Law; 2-08400 (Kale's Spur Rd), Resolution

Public Meeting held under Section 34 of the Planning Act to inform the public of a proposed Zoning By-law Amendment application. Notice of a Public Meeting was provided by 1st class mail on Jun 2, 2026. Mayor invited the applicant to speak to their application. The subject lands are located within the Rural (RU) and Environmental Protection (EP) Zone in the Zoning By-Law. The Zoning By-Law Amendment is required to rezone the shoreline residential lots to a Rural Exception (RU*16) Zone and to permit an accessory apartment within an accessory building (detached garage). The current definition within the Zoning By-Law only permits an accessory apartment where it is located within the primary dwelling on a property. Comments were requested; Clerk Administrator advised no comments received. Clerk Administrator advised Planning Report provided; the proposed rezoning of the subject property is consistent with the PPS (Provincial Policy Statement) and conforms to the Official Plan, it is recommended that the Zoning By-Law Amendment to rezone a portion of the subject property to a Rural I Exemption (RU*16) Zone be approved.

092-2026

Moved By Flowers

Seconded By Scarlett

THAT Council receive the Planning Report dated Jun 22, 2026 regarding the proposed Zoning By-Law Amendment application for the subject property located at Kale's Spur Road (Kirk Smith and Kelly Barrow Smith); and
THAT we give 1st, 2nd, 3rd and final reading to By-Law No. 11-26; being a by-law to amend By-Law No. 45-12, as amended, the Zoning By-Law with respect to lands located at 58 Kale's Spur Road, Part Lot 11, Con 9 PC 9383 N/S (2-084).
Carried

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings

3.1 Adoption of Minutes, Resolution

093-2026

Moved By Scarlett

Seconded By McLaren

THAT we adopt Jun 1, 2026 minutes.

Carried

4. Business

4.1 South River Ride Share - OTIF Funding support request, Resolution

094-2026

Moved By Scarlett

Seconded By McLaren

WHEREAS residents of rural and northern communities often face limited transportation options, including little or no access to taxi services, public transit, or rideshare programs; and

WHEREAS reliable transportation is essential for accessing healthcare services, employment opportunities, education, essential goods and services, social activities, and tourism destinations; and

WHEREAS the reintroduction of the Northlander passenger rail service will provide an important transportation link between Northern Ontario communities and larger urban centres; and

WHEREAS the Village of South River has been confirmed as a passenger stop along the Northlander route; and

WHEREAS the Village of South River submitted an application to the Ontario Transit Investment Fund in March 2025 seeking support for a rural rideshare program that would provide flexible, locally delivered transportation services for residents, visitors, and Northlander passengers requiring first-mile and last-mile connections; and

WHEREAS the proposed rideshare program represents a practical and scalable transportation solution that meets the objectives of the Ontario Transit Investment Fund and would provide significant regional benefits to surrounding municipalities, including the Township of Machar;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Machar supports the Village of South River's Ontario Transit Investment Fund application for a rural rideshare program and respectfully requests that the Honourable Minister of Transportation give timely and favourable consideration to this proposal; and

FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation, MPP Graydon Smith, MP Scott Aitchison, and the Village of South River and its immediate neighbouring municipalities.

Carried

4.2 ELCA - Letter to Council re Narrows Project

Eagle Lake Conservation Association has requested the environmental assessment report be published. Admin drafted a letter in response (approved to be sent), advising that no environmental assessment report was commissioned for this project. The shoreline erosion issue at Eagle Lake Narrows Park was addressed through a process that included consultation with planning professionals, the engagement of a qualified engineering firm to design an appropriate solution, and the acquisition of the required approvals and permits from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. As such, there is no environmental assessment report available for publication.

4.3 BLRA - Letter requesting Use of (Bray Lake) Boat Launch July 25, Resolution

095-2026

Moved By Scarlett

Seconded By Ivens

WHEREAS Council has received a request from the Bray Lake Residents Association to use the public boat launch area on Bray Lake for the purpose of an art contest award, lunch BBQ, and an invasive species identification and management seminar on Jul 25, 2026 from 10am to 3pm,

WHEREAS BLRA will demonstrate it carries general liability insurance,

WHEREAS BLRA agrees it will be responsible for all set-up, take-down, clean up and removal of refuse,

NOW THEREFORE THAT we give permission to Bray Lake Residents Association to invite community members to attend the community BBQ and education event at the Bray Lake Boat Launch on Saturday, July 25, 2026.

Carried

4.4 Asset Management Progress Report 2026, Resolution

096-2026

Moved By Ivens

Seconded By Flowers

THAT we receive the Asset Management Progress Report 2026, dated Jun 22, 2026, for information.

Carried

4.5 Donald Bruce - Email re: Canada Day Fireworks, Staff Report, Resolution

Correspondence reviewed, along with accompanying staff report. The Canada Day fireworks display is not a Township event and staff are not responsible for statements - event coordinators are.

097-2026

Moved By Scarlett

Seconded By McLaren

THAT we receive the Canada Day Fireworks Show 2026 Staff Report, dated Jun 22, 2026.

FURTHER THAT we recognize the fireworks display has been a long-standing community tradition and appreciates the efforts of organizers and volunteers who have supported the event over the years. At the same time, Council has a responsibility to consider public safety, operational impacts, and the interests of all residents when evaluating requests involving municipal property and taxpayer funding.

Carried (3 to 2)

4.6 AHCC Social and Kidd's HHBC Garden Centre Blowout - Camp Molly Flyer

Reviewed.

4.7 South River Lions Club Canada Day invitation

Mayor Carleton plans to participate in the parade and Council agreed to contribute to the cake in partnership with the Village of South River.

5. Accounts

5.1 List of Proposed Payments for May, Resolution

098-2026

Moved By Ivens

Seconded By McLaren

THAT we approve List of Proposed Payments for May, 2026: \$457,438.64 Grand Total.

Carried

6. Boards and Committees

6.1 Shared Services Monthly Reports for May – Fire, Arena and Rec

Items provided: Fire Chief's monthly report for Jun, Income Statement for May (Revenue 42.94%, Expenses 29.20%, Fire Air System over budget), AP Ledger for May \$9,150.75 Total Expenditures. Arena Chief Operator report for May, Income Statement for May (Revenue 49.82% and Expenses 30.21%), AP Ledger for May \$7,222.30 Total Expenditures, and Rec Report for Jun 2026.

6.2 Joint Building Committee permit summaries for May, 2026, Resolution

Reviewed permit fees and project values, permit totals (30) at the end of (May, 2026) (54 in 2025) as follows: Machar & Ryerson 7, Strong 6, South River 5, Sundridge 3 and Joly 2.

099-2026

Moved By Flowers

Seconded By Scarlett

THAT we accept Building Permit Summaries for May, 2026.

Carried

6.3 Central Almaguin Planning Board minutes of Feb, Mar & Apr, 2026, Resolution

100-2026

Moved By Scarlett

Seconded By McLaren

THAT we acknowledge Planning minutes of Feb 4, Mar 4, and Apr 1, 2026.

Carried

6.4 Municipal Partners Provincial Offences Act (POA) Advisory Committee meeting May 28, 2026

101-2026

Moved By Ivens

Seconded By Scarlett

WHEREAS the delivery of Court Services is governed by Transfer Agreements entered into with the Province (MOU & Local Side Agreement); and the Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA) entered into between The Town of Parry Sound and the Corporation of the Township of Armour, Township of Seguin, Township of Carling, Township of Perry, Town of Kearney, Village of Burk's Falls, Village of South River, Village of Sundridge, Township of Hagerman, Municipality of Whitestone, Township of Joly, Township of Machar, Municipality of McDougall, Township of McKellar, Township of McMurrich/Monteith, Municipality of Magnetawan, Township of Ryerson, Township of Strong and Township of the Archipelago, as amended, in addition to applicable legislation, including the Provincial Offences Act (POA); and WHEREAS The POA Advisory Committee, on May 28, 2026, recommended that the Town of Parry Sound Council, along with the Councils of the 18 municipalities within the Parry Sound Catchment Area support the POA Advisory Committee Report – Advocacy for Set Fines & Costs Payable Under the POA and call upon the Attorney General of Ontario requesting a review of the set fine amounts, and the costs payable upon conviction set out in Ontario Regulation 915 under the Provincial Offences Act;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of Machar call upon the Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario to request a review of the set fine amounts, and the costs payable upon conviction set out in Ontario Regulation 915 under the Provincial Offences Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Province of Ontario be urged to modernize set fines as necessary to ensure penalties remain meaningful as a deterrent and as a community safety device, in addition to ensuring the sustainability of administering POA court services at the municipal level; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Province of Ontario regularly review and adjust set fines to keep pace with inflation and maintain their effectiveness as a deterrent.

Carried

6.5 EMS Advisory Committee minutes of Feb 26 & agenda of May 28

Local Rep Councillor Pearl provided a recap of her key takeaways.

6.5 Health Unit - New Beach Sign Aims to Prevent Health Risks, Replace Routine Monitoring

New signs have been delivered and will be swapped out with the old signage that is to be picked up by Health Unit staff.

7. Information

7.1 AHHC Minutes May 7, 2026

7.2 AMCTO Municipal Monitor Q2 2026

8. In-Camera (Closed) Session, Resolution

102-2026

Moved By Flowers

Seconded By Scarlett

THAT we proceed into Closed Session in order to address a matter pertaining to labour relations or employee negotiations, and a request under the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Time: 7:20 pm.

Carried

103-2026

Moved By Flowers

Seconded By McLaren

THAT we come out of Closed Session. Time 7:43 pm.

Carried

9. Adjournment

104-2026

Moved By Ivens

Seconded By Flowers

THAT we give 1st, 2nd, 3rd and final reading to Confirming By-Law and that we adjourn until our Regular meeting scheduled for Jul 13, 2026.

Carried

Lynda Carleton, Mayor

Angela Loney, Clerk Administrator