

TOWNSHIP OF MACHAR
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 26, 2025

Council present: Mayor Lynda Carleton, Deputy Mayor Ron McLaren, Councillors Blair Flowers and Neil Scarlett. Councillor Pearl Ivens absent with notice. Staff present: Deputy Clerk Teresa Coombs and Treasurer Jadah Wierenga.

Guests Observing: Mark Savill, Wendy Main, Mary Ann Helmond, Stephen Armstrong, Doug Eisses.

6:30 pm 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.

Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof; Nil.

GUESTS

6:30-6:45 pm Donald Bruce – Request for Support for Machar Township Firework Show

Requesting permission to fire fireworks at the Eagle Lake Narrows Park and monetary donation. The fireworks would be launched from a barge and would allow more room for spectators to safely view the show. A road closure is not required if launching from a barge. Donald is requesting a monetary donation to cover the cost of policing. A donation receipt will be provided if a donation is made. The cost for policing was \$874.05 last year that Donald covered himself due to the fundraising falling short. Safety of the boaters requires a police presence on the lake to keep them a safe distance away. He has submitted all the paperwork to the Fire Chief and is currently waiting on a response. Donald is requesting a spot in the Budget for fireworks annually instead of an annual request. Fundraising is coming along nicely so far.

Council requested Admin create a Staff Report for Jun 9, 2025.

BUSINESS

1. Adoption of May 12, 2025 minutes, Resolution

76-25 Flowers, Scarlett

THAT we adopt May 12, 2025 minutes, subject correction in typo #2. CARRIED

2. 2025 Draft Budget, Resolution

Budget package reviewed: Report from Treasurer/Clerk-Administrator, Draft 2025 Budget, Tax Tools; Set 2025 Levies, 2025 Overall Levy Changes, 2025 Impact on Median/Typical Property, Media Articles on 2025 Budget challenges and percentage increases; Council passes the Town of North Bay's 2025 Budget with a tax rate increase of 3%, as well as Callander at a 3% tax increase, Magnetawan passes a 5% tax increase for the 2025 Budget, Comparison of 2024 Tax Rates, Ad required for Budget Adoption. Council were pleased with the package that the Clerk Administrator and Treasurer worked together on. The Levy options were discussed: various percentage increases provided based on how much was taken from Reserves to cover the cost of the Arena Capital Project. Council selected the middle overall levy change of 4.986727%, not wanting the rate to be too high that we're adding strain on property owners or too low so that we're not compromising service levels. Tax Impact on Median/Typical Property assessed at \$162,000 = \$87.77 change for 2025. Council confirmed funding for the Retaining Wall at Eagle Lake Narrows Beach is provided by Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC).

77-25 McLaren, Scarlett

THAT we instruct Administration to proceed with a 2025 Budget of \$2,719,966 at a 4.986727% overall levy change. CARRIED

3. Ministry of Transportation re: Highway 124 Speed Limit increase (60 km/h to 80 km/h), Resolution

78-25 Flowers, Scarlett

THAT we agree with the Hwy 124 speed limit increase from 60 km/h to 80 km/h commencing 425m North of Marie St, in the Village of South River, instead of 440m North of Hwy 11 North Junction, in the Township of Machar. CARRIED

4. N Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit Re: Risk Assessment of Small Drinking Water System, Low Risk

A risk assessment and a compliance inspection were conducted and determined the Township of Machar is low risk. The Directive required that we post a sign stating “Public Notice Do Not Drink This Water” at every location in the small drinking water system that has a service connection, tap or other water delivery device which might permit human consumption of the water. Routine checks are required to confirm signs continue to be posted, in a good state of repair and are easily readable. The Township of Machar complies.

5. MPAC 2024 Annual Report

Reviewed and awaiting reassessment.

6. Municipal Finance Officers’ Association (MFOA) Summary of 2025 Ontario Budget

Acknowledged. More applicable to cities, not Rural.

COMMITTEES

7. Shared Services Monthly Reports for Apr, Arena and Fire

Items provided: Fire Chief’s monthly report for May 2025 (Edraulic cutter arrived and is in service), Income Statement for Apr 2025 (Revenue 85.37%, Expenses 37.37%), AP Ledger for Apr \$43,278.36 Total Expenditures. Arena Chief Operator report for Apr 2025, Income Statement for Apr 2025 (Revenue 10.59% and Expenses 13.94%), AP Ledger for Apr \$14,826.58 Total Expenditures.

8. South River Machar Medical Centre minutes of Apr 15, Resolution

Council suggested Admin Staff look into RNPGE Contract.

79-25 Flowers, Scarlett

THAT we support motions in Medical Centre minutes of Apr 15, 2025, as follows: adopt the minutes, Pay Lists, Budgetary Control, accept the quote receives by MacFarlane Construction, adjourned until May 20, 2025. CARRIED

9. EMS (Emergency Medical Service) Agenda for May 22, 2025, Package

Acknowledged.

10. DSSAB (Distr of Parry Sound Social Services Admin Bd) area rep, CAO Report May 2025 AVAILABLE

Acknowledged.

11. Eastholme. Home for the Aged – Vol 2 Issue 1 Newsletter

Acknowledged.

12. Almaguin Clerk’s meeting May 27

Acknowledged.

- 13. FONOM Annual General Meeting Resolutions: Increase in Prov share for Mandated Public Health Programs, Policing costs for all communities, Provincial/Municipal Fiscal Review, Expand Extended Producer Responsibility to the ICI Sector, and An Addition to the Ministry of Transportation**

Acknowledged.

INFORMATION

- 14. FONOM May 7, Office Photos**
- 15. NBay Parry Sound District Health Unit News Release: New Initiative Promotes Basic Activities for Child Success**
- 16. Larissa Jensen Community Relations re: Hydro One – Crews Responding to Outages**
- 17. ICYMI (In Case You Missed It) Municipality of Magnetawan Council Highlights May 14, 2025**
- 18. Township of Puslinch Support Resolution No 2025-120 regarding Municipality of Durham Council Motion to Amend Prior Motion to ban the Nazi Swastika in Canada**
- 19. Municipality of North Perth May 8, Re: Opposition to Strong Mayor Powers in the Municipality of North Perth**
- 20. The Town of Goderich May 9, Re: Notice of Motion – Town of Goderich Rejection of President Trump’s Rhetoric Regarding the Annexation of Canada and Trade Tariffs**
- 21. The Town of Goderich May 9, Re: Opposition to Amendments to O. Reg. 53022 to Strong Mayor Powers**
- 22. Corporation of the Town of Mattawa May 15, approved a resolution on the Strong Mayor Powers**
- 23. AMO Education May 7, New Workshop: Trauma and Violence Informed Decision Making for Elected Officials**
- 24. AMO Education May 8, AMO Strategic Leadership Workshops**
- 25. AMO Education May 15, AMO Strategic Leadership Workshops**
- 26. AMO Education May 20, Strategic Leadership Workshops – Revitalize Your Leadership**
- 27. AMO Events May 12, New Date for AMO’s important Trade and Tariff Forum**
- 28. AMO Events May 12, Only a few spots remain for AMO Rural Healthy Democracy Forum**
- 29. AMO Policy Update May 12, Proposed Legislation on Planning Approvals & Development Charges**
- 30. AMO Policy Update May 13, Modelling Tool**
- 31. AMO Policy Update May 15, Provincial Budget Priorities**
- 32. AMCTO Municipal Minute May 14, Last Call: Register for Our Exclusive Members Webinar**
- 33. AMO Watchfile - May 08, In This Issue:**
 - AMO releases *Engaging Youth in Local Democracy* report.
 - AMO resources to support your classroom engagement.
 - New Health and Safety Water Stream fund.
 - Nominations open for Medal of Distinction in Public Administration.
 - One spot remaining for AMO Rural Healthy Democracy Forum!
 - AMO 2025 Conference - Ontario’s premier municipal event.
 - MMAH has opened its Request for Delegations for AMO 2025 - Now open.
 - Showcase your innovation - Submit your projects for the PJ Marshall Awards.
 - Before you know it, it's August! AMO 2025 Conference trade show selling out fast!
 - Teeny Tiny Summits 2025 - Don’t miss these important community building events.
 - Virtual Net-Zero Workshop is one month away.
 - RailCan proximity survey live until June 1.
 - Humber Polytechnic Emergency Management Symposium - June 6, Toronto.
 - Ontario Bike Summit.
 - Net-Zero Communities Accelerator Program coming to Ontario.
 - Careers.
- 34. AMO Communications -Watchfile May 15, In This Issue:**
 - AMO releases *Engaging Youth in Local Democracy* report.
 - AMO resources to support your classroom engagement.
 - New resources added to AMO's Gender Based Violence Toolkit.
 - Emergency Preparedness Week: May 4 - 11, 2025.
 - New Health and Safety Water Stream fund.
 - Nominations open for Medal of Distinction in Public Administration.
 - Only 20 spots remaining for AMO Rural Healthy Democracy Forum!
 - Join colleagues at the AMO 2025 Conference - Ontario’s premier municipal event.
 - Showcase your innovation - PJ Marshall Awards submissions are now open.
 - Before you know it, it's August! AMO 2025 Conference trade show selling out fast!
 - Teeny Tiny Summits 2025 - Don’t miss these important community building events.
 - AMO's workshop on planning for people in your community: May 8 virtual workshop.

- Article - Investing in Uncertain Times!
 - Virtual Net-Zero Workshop registration now open.
 - BPS Energy Reporting Portal now open.
 - Blog: My Experience as a Co-op Student.
 - Every Second Counts! Know when to call 9-1-1.
 - Humber Polytechnic Emergency Management Symposium - June 6, Toronto.
 - AMCTO-Mitacs Municipal Innovation Internship Program.
 - Ontario Bike Summit.
 - Net-Zero Communities Accelerator Program coming to Ontario.
 - Careers.
- 35. Invasive Species Centre May 8,** Media, Research and Events Scan April 25- May 8
- 36. Invasive Species Centre May 14,** UPCOMING WEBINAR – What Makes it Work? Sustaining Community Action in Invasive Species Management
- 37. LMG May 13,** Labour Focus
- 38. MFOA May 20,** New Webinar Economic Update
- 39. Office of the Employer Adviser May 8,** OEA Spring Newsletter
- 40. Ontario society of Professional Engineers May 14,** New fall dates for Our Virtual Two-Day Climate Resilience Course

ADDITIONAL/ROUND TABLE/NOTICE OF MOTION

CLOSED SESSION

ADJOURN

80-25 McLaren, Flowers

THAT we give 1st, 2nd, 3rd and final reading to Confirming By-Law and that we adjourn until our Regular meeting scheduled for Mon, Jun 9, 2025. CARRIED

Mayor Lynda Carleton

Deputy Clerk Teresa Coombs

TC/al/kk