

**THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF BONNECHERE VALLEY
MINUTES
COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY MAY 5, 2026 1:30 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND VIA ZOOM
CONFERENCING**

PRESENT

Mayor Jennifer Murphy
Deputy Mayor Tracey Sanderson
Councillor Merv Buckwald
Councillor Meredith Caplan Jamieson
Councillor John Epps
CAO/Clerk Annette Gilchrist
Treasurer/Deputy CAO Sandra Barr

REGRETS

None

GALLERY

2

CALL TO ORDER COMMITTEE MEETING

Chair, Tracey Sanderson called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

MOVED BY John Epps

That: The agenda be accepted, as presented.

Carried

PECUNIARY INTEREST OR GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY Meredith Caplan Jamieson

That: The Minutes of the Committee Meeting on April 21, 2026 be accepted as presented.

Carried

DELEGATIONS

Steve Boland and Chris Mantha - Association of Ontario Road Superintendents discussed the upcoming 2026 Municipal Public Works Tradeshow June 3-4th at the Petawawa Civic Centre

REPORTS

Water & Sewer Department

Daryl Verch, Water & Sewer Manager, was present and gave his report.

- a) The Eganville Drinking Water System continues to operate in full compliance with all requirements;
- b) Staff have been doing lots of Ontario One locates for Aecon for the gas line installation and for other sites;
- c) QMS training and preparation for the audit;
- d) Bi-Annual lead testing was completed on April 8, 2026;
- e) Staff checked and added Filter Media to all four filter compartments;
- f) Quarterly water samples were completed;
- g) The Eganville Wastewater System continues to operate in full compliance with all requirements as set out in the Certificate of Approval;
- h) Cleaned the bar screens in all four wastewater pumping stations;
- i) Staff repaired the air lines in the number two digesters that were damaged by the ice forming in the tanks.

Water & Sewer Report Received.

Works & Waste Department

Jason Zohr, Works Superintendent was present and gave his report.

- a) Part time Sanitation Assistant – Staff have conducted interviews for the position and we have extended a Letter of Employment to the individual and he started on May 5th;
- b) Sanitation Driver Returns - Glen Schilkie had been off on medical leave and glad to have Glen returning to his positions at the Waste Sites and driver for the Sanitation Truck;
- c) Summer Students - Our department will have two summer student this year. One will be starting May 4th and the other will be starting at a later date;
- d) Spring Grading - Spring grading has commenced and our grader operators have graded the following roads: Risto, Budd, Corrigan, Mud Lake, McCauley Mountain, Constant Lake, Fiebig, Watson, Merchand Kearns, Silver Lake, Minnie, Perrault, Wren and Searson Road;
- e) Routine Maintenance - Beaver Control, Road Patching and Brushing is also occurring;
- f) Gravel Tender BV2026-01 - We advertised for the supply and placement of maintenance gravel. The tender closed on April 29th and we received a total of 3 tenders. Committee recommends that Tender BV2026-01 for the Supply & Placement of Maintenance Gravel be awarded to Bonnechere Excavating Inc in the amount of \$96,444.48 plus HST;
- g) Winter Sand Tender BV2026-02 - We advertised for the supply, hauling and stockpiling of winter sand. The tender closed on April 29th and we received a total of 1 tender. Committee recommends that Tender BV2026-02 for the Supply, Hauling & Stockpiling of Winter Sand be awarded to R.J. Selle Sand & Gravel Ltd in the amount of \$88,205.00 plus HST;
- h) Bottle Collection - The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks reviewed our request for the bottle collection station at the Sand Road Waste Site. Under ECA No. 412101, the site is approved for the acceptance of Municipal Waste and Household Hazardous Waste which includes aluminum/steel containers, waste glass and plastic. The proposed initiative involves the acceptance of approved waste types, therefore the Ministry has no concerns with this aspect of the proposal and has granted approval;
- i) Waste Sites Summer Hours - On May 15th the winter hours will cease at all the Waste Sites and we will be officially on summer hours;
- j) The Household Hazardous Waste Depot at the Sand Road Waste Site will be open starting Saturday, May 16th;
- k) The Sand Road Waste Site will be closed on Monday, May 18th in recognition of the Victoria Day holiday;
- l) Sno Drifters Mon-Thurs Hours - The Monday to Thursday hours of 8 am to 12 pm (noon) at the Sno Drifters Waste Site will begin on Tuesday, May 19th and will be in effect until Thursday, August 28th.

Works Department Report Received.

Building & Fire Department

Darryl Wagner, CBO & Fire Chief, was present and gave his report.

- a) The Department had twenty-nine calls for service from January to April;
- b) Fire fighter recruitment is ongoing;
- c) May 6th and 20th will be the last two evenings for the Junior Fire Fighter Program. We will be taking the summer off and the program will restart September 16, 2026. There are two more graduates from the original group rolling into the department along, with a father of one of the graduates;
- d) The second new Freightliner pumper fire truck arrived on May 1st;
- e) Seventeen building permits issued from January to April.

Department & Building Report Received.

Finance

Sandra Barr, Treasurer/Deputy CAO, was present and gave her report.

- a) The 2025 draft financial statements from our Auditors, MacKilligan and Associates were provided to Committee;
- b) The 2026 Operating and Capital Budget By-law, and the 2026 Tax Rate By-law will be going to today's Council meeting for approval;
- c) Borrowing By-law 2026-028 will be brought forward to tonight's meeting for the loan for the fire truck in the amount of \$648,200;
- d) On April 24th Sandra attended the virtual 1.0 hour meeting of Municipal Finance Officer Association discussion forum;
- e) On April 24, 2026 we received the second of four payments of the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund in the amount of \$444,675;
- f) The 2026 Annual Repayment Limit from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is included in your package. Our estimated annual repayment limit is \$800,936. Our estimated 2026 loan payments total \$712,682;
- g) On May 5, 2026 Iron Mountain will attend the Municipal Office and shed 24 bankers boxes from 2018 as per our Records and Retention By-law;
- h) For 2026 budget purposes, as per Ontario Regulation 284/09, a municipality may exclude from the budget, amortization expenses pertaining to tangible capital assets, post-employment benefit expenses and asset retirement obligations.

In developing its budget for the year 2026, Bonnechere Valley excluded unfunded post-employment benefits comprised of employee future vacation accrual costs, which at the end of December 31, 2025 amounted to \$126,757. It is estimated that the unfunded post-employment costs for 2025 in the amount of \$126,757 is representative of what the unfunded post-employment benefits will be at the end of 2026. Bonnechere Valley also excluded unfunded asset retirement obligations from its budget for the year 2026. It is estimated that the unfunded asset retirement obligations, which at the end of 2025 amounted to \$3,436,404 is representative of what the unfunded asset retirement obligations will be at the end of 2026.

Any increase in post-employment expenses or asset retirement obligations at the end of 2026 will reduce the accumulated surplus.

At the end of December 2025 the accumulated surplus was comprised of:	
Equity in tangible capital assets	\$35,122,499
Reserves	4,858,664
Equity in government business enterprise	916,652
Library Board	85,998
Unfunded - employee future benefit costs	(126,757)
Unfunded – asset retirement obligation	<u>(3,436,404)</u>
Total accumulated surplus	<u><u>\$ 37,420,652</u></u>

Committee recommends that Council accept the following as excluded items from the 2026 Budget:

Amortization	\$1,982,467
Employee future benefit costs	\$ 126,757
Unfunded asset retirement obligation	\$3,436,404
<i>Finance Report Received</i>	

CORRESPONDENCE

(A) Correspondence "A"

- 1. AMO Watchfile April 16
- 2. AMO Watchfile April 23

3. AMO Watchfile April 29
4. AMO Watchfile April 30
5. AMO Policy April 28
6. County Council Summary April 2026
7. EORN Renfrew County April 2026
8. FCM Communiqué April 27
9. FCM Communiqué April 29
10. ROMA Update April 14
11. Municipal Inspection Program Improvements Memo - April 28 2026

(B) Correspondence "B"

1. Letter Regarding Special Economic Zone -Northern Ontario municipalities
2. Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI) Resolution
3. Resolution Support 'Circular Materials Ontario'

(C) Correspondence "C"

1. TOL Resolution regarding Heritage Properties

C.1 Committee supports the resolution regarding Heritage Properties and directed staff to bring a resolution of support to the May 19, 2026 meeting of Council.

NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- (1)** Mayor's Report – Since Mayor Murphy's last report she attended 21 meetings and several events. Some of the highlights are as follows;

The Eastern Ontario Regional Network Board met on April 16th and 17th in Kingston and the report was provided to Committee. The Mayor is honoured to be re-elected as Chair of EORN with Bob White of Pembroke as Vice-Chair. Of interest, the two dead zones on Highway 41 southbound will be covered by two new Rogers towers in June.

CAO Craig Kelley and the Mayor are going to Toronto on Sunday for the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus Queen's Park Day on Monday and Tuesday.

The Mayor took a moment to speak about the Bank of Montreal Eganville Branch closure. The correspondence we received from both the Government of Canada and the Province of Ontario regarding the closure of the Bank of Montreal branch in Eganville is, quite frankly, deeply disappointing. Our community made a strong, unified case for the importance of maintaining in-person banking services in a rural area, particularly for our seniors, small businesses, and residents who rely on accessible, local support. While we appreciate the responses provided, they fell short of recognizing the real impact this closure will have on our community and offered little in the way of meaningful solutions. Rural communities like ours deserve more than acknowledgment. We deserve action, partnership, and a commitment to ensuring that essential services remain within reach of the people who depend on them every day.

On April 17th, the Mayor was pleased to attend the Grade 10 class at Renfrew Collegiate Institute to speak to the civics class about my role as Warden. She also attended Valley Heritage Radio for their radiothon in support of Hospice Renfrew. On the same day the Mayor along with many members of County elected and staff, attended Magellan Aerospace (Haley's) to learn more about their industry and discuss the dolomite mine and the 90 acres available for an industrial park.

On April 21st, the Mayor and the CAO Annette Gilchrist toured the upgraded Eganville Food Bank. The Food Bank has some new initiatives such as a partnership with CPAN to provide clients with access to Tools for School and Snowsuit Programs and a brand new program called “Meal in a Bag”.

On April 22nd, the Mayor brought greetings on behalf of the County to the Ontario Professional Foresters’ Association Conference.

On April 23rd, the Mayor welcomed Nigel Belchamber to Bonnechere Valley prior to his workshop for people that are interested in running for Council in the upcoming election.

On April 25th, the Mayor was a “judge” at the Renfrew Skating Club Bring on the Fun event. This event brought young skaters from all over the County and beyond.

On April 26th, we had a great time at the BUPL Library Tea. Our Alice in Wonderland theme was a huge success. Thanks to Tracey for organizing the table and special thanks to Michelle for the theme idea and all of the decorations.

On April 30th, Council, elected, paramedics and staff broke ground on the site of the new Whitewater Paramedic Base at the corner of Foresters Falls and Mineview Roads.

On May 3rd, the Mayor was honoured to bring greetings and well wishes to the hikers participating in the Renfrew Hospice Hike for Hospice.

(2)

Quote on Museum Washroom for Ease Grant – Staff received a quote to renovate the Museum Washroom to a Barrier Free Washroom. The quote did not include a hazardous material assessment. The quote did include architectural drawings, plumbing, electrical, door and operator, changing station, grab bars, washroom accessories, demolition, new framing and modifications to existing drywall, paint, flooring and base, and ceiling and contingency fund for a total of \$90,000 plus HST. Committee recommends that staff apply to the Ease Grant for a beach mat for Rotary Beach. Staff will get additional quotes on the museum washroom renovation and search for other grants;

(3)

CIP Application - Committee recommends that the application for Community Improvement Funding be approved and that upon inspection by the CBO following the completion of the improvements an amount up to \$1,500 be paid to Papa Rons Discount Store. They further recommend that this application and approval be forwarded to the County of Renfrew to request matching HYPE funding for this project.

ESTABLISH NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

The next Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday May 19, 2026.

MEDIA SESSION

CLOSED SESSION

MOVED BY Jennifer Murphy

THAT: Committee proceed in Closed Session in accordance with the Municipal Act 2001, section 239.2 to deal with the matters as indicated below:
(b) Personal matters about an identifiable individual

MOVED BY Merv Buckwald

THAT: Committee moves out of Closed Session at 4:14 p.m. to rise and report that Committee met to receive information and give staff direction regarding the demolition of St. John's Lutheran Church Augsburg and approved minutes from April 7 2026.

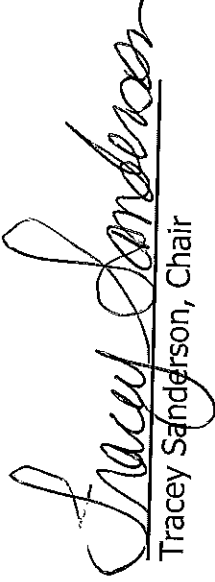
Carried

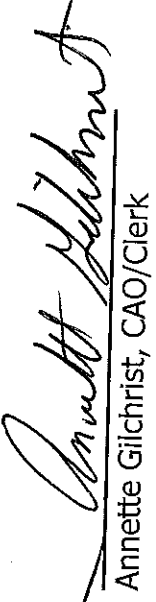
CONCLUSION

MOVED BY Meredith Caplan Jamieson

THAT: The meeting adjourns at 4:15 p.m.

Carried


Tracey Sanderson, Chair


Annette Gilchrist, CAO/Clerk