

**THE CORPORATION OF
THE TOWNSHIP OF BONNECHERE VALLEY
MINUTES
COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY May 19, 2026, 5:30 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ZOOM CONFERENCING**

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

REGRETS None

GALLERY None

INDIGENOUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Jennifer Murphy called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ADDITIONS/CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA: None

26.69 MOVED BY Tracey Sanderson
SECONDED BY John Epps

THAT: the agenda be accepted as presented.

Carried

PECUNIARY INTEREST OR GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

26.70 MOVED BY Merv Buckwald
SECONDED BY Meredith Caplan-Jamieson

THAT: The minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on May 5, 2026 as presented be hereby adopted.

Carried

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence "A"

1. AMO Watchfile
2. AMO Policy
3. EOWC Newsletter
4. FCM Communique
5. County Construction Update May-2026

Correspondence "B"

1. EOWC Resolution 2026-03 - Ontario Most Outdated Property Reassessment in Canada
2. Resolution for Integrated Living and Participation Model for Adults with Developmental Disabilities

3. Resolution C203-2026 Provincial Bill 100 – Better Regional Governance Act, 2026
4. Resolution to support Corridor Train Alliance
5. Letter requesting support for motorsports group

Correspondence “C”

26.71 MOVED BY John Epps
SECONDED BY Tracey Sanderson

WHEREAS direction has been given to staff;

NOW BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the correspondence be filed.

Carried

NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9.1 Cheque Register and Board Reports

9.2 Resolution Protecting Municipal Public Works Staff

26.72 MOVED BY Merv Buckwald
SECONDED BY Meredith Caplan-Jamieson

WHEREAS municipal public works employees and contracted service providers are responsible for maintaining critical infrastructure including roads, sidewalks, bridges, drainage systems, and winter maintenance operations that are essential to public safety and emergency response; and

WHEREAS during significant weather events and emergencies, these workers act as frontline responders, ensuring routes remain open for ambulances, fire services, police, school transportation, and the travelling public; and

WHEREAS municipalities across Ontario are reporting an increase in harassment, threats, intimidation, and dangerous interference from members of the public directed at municipal workers and subcontractors while they perform their duties; and

WHEREAS these behaviours have included verbal abuse, threats of violence, obstruction of equipment, and actions that delay or disrupt winter maintenance and emergency response operations, placing workers and the broader public at risk; and

WHEREAS interference with municipal operations during storms and emergencies jeopardizes service levels, delays critical response times, and creates significant occupational health and safety risks; and

WHEREAS the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS) has formally called on the Province of Ontario to strengthen legislative protections, enforcement support, and consequences for those who threaten or obstruct municipal public works staff and contractors;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Bonnechere Valley supports the calls to action advanced by the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors to improve protections for municipal public works workers and subcontractors; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario be requested to introduce legislative and enforcement measures that:

- Recognize municipal public works workers and contractors as essential service providers during declared significant weather events and emergencies;

- Deter and penalize interference, threats, harassment, or obstruction of municipal operations; and
- Provide clear direction and support to police services to proactively respond to these incidents;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, MPP Billy Denault, AORS, and the Commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police.

9.3 Resolution re Heritage Properties

Carried

26.73 MOVED BY Meredith Caplan-Jamieson
SECONDED BY Tracey Sanderson

WHEREAS amendments to the Ontario Heritage Act under the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 introduced timelines requiring municipalities to issue Notices of Intention to Designate for properties listed on municipal heritage registers as of December 31, 2022, originally by January 1 2025 and extended to January 1 2027 under the Homeowners Protection Act, 2024; and

WHEREAS municipalities require sufficient time and resources to undertake research, documentation, consultation and evaluation to determine whether listed properties warrant designation under the Ontario Heritage Act; and

WHEREAS the removal of listed properties from municipal heritage registers if the prescribed timelines are not met may place cultural heritage resources at increased risk of demolition or irreversible alteration before municipalities have the opportunity to properly evaluate their cultural heritage value or interest; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Bonnechere Valley endorse the resolution from the Town of Lincoln and respectfully request that the Province further amend the Ontario Heritage Act to extend the deadline for issuing Notices of Intention to Designate for properties listed on municipal heritage registers to January 1, 2030; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be circulated to the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, MPP Billy Denault and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Carried

CLOSED SESSION – NONE

BY-LAWS

26.74 MOVED BY John Epps
SECONDED BY Merv Buckwald

THAT:

By-Law 2026-033 Being a By-Law to authorize a joint retainer agreement with Lerners LLP

By-Law 2026-034 Being a By-Law to authorize a services agreement with MTE Paralegal Services

By-Law 2026-035 Being a By-Law to confirm the proceedings of Council

BE READ A FIRST TIME, BE DEEMED READ A SECOND TIME, BE DEEMED READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

Carried

ADJOURNMENT

26.75 MOVED BY

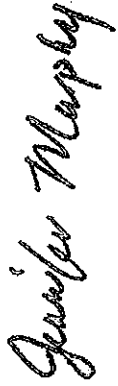
Merv Buckwald

SECONDED BY

Tracey Sanderson

THAT: This Council meeting be adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

Carried



Jennifer Murphy, Mayor



Annette Gilchrist, CAO/Clerk