

**THE CORPORATION OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF BONNECHERE VALLEY  
MINUTES  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
TUESDAY AUGUST 11, 2026, 1:30 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND 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**

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**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 Jamieson**

**THAT:** The Minutes of the Committee Meeting on July 14, 2026, be accepted as presented.

Carried

**DELEGATIONS**

**REPORTS**

**Water & Sewer Department**

Daryl Verch, Water & Sewer Manager, was not present. Report attached.

- 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 the gas line installation;
- c) Phase one of the John Street project has been approved and continues to move forward with ECA forms being submitted to the Ministry for approval;
- d) The QMS audit went well. No major issues. A minor OFI on chemical receipt documentation, which will be fixed by updating the standard operating procedures and training the Operators. We received comments on how well organized and readily available the documentation was which made the auditors job easier. We will get the audit report in due course and re-certification will follow;
- e) The Eganville Wastewater System continues to operate in full compliance with all requirements as set out in the Certificate of Approval.  
*Water & Sewer Report Received.*

**Works & Waste Department**

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

- a) Lights on Water Street - Most of the lights have been installed on Water Street, staff are waiting for bolts to finish;
  - b) Winter Sand - Filling of the sand shed with winter sand has been completed;
  - c) Village Care - Eganville catch basin pumping has been completed;
  - d) Gravel Roads - With the heavy rain the graders have been spot grading the areas on gravel roads that had washouts;
  - e) Culvert Maintenance - The department has changed 6 culverts so far located on major water ways that were at their end of life;
  - f) Summer Students - The summer students have been busy patching and whipper snipping;
  - g) Vehicles and Equipment - The new plow truck is in Mattawa having the plow, wing and box attachments installed.
- Works Department Report Received.*

### **Recreation & Culture**

Kevin McGrath, Manager of Recreation and Culture, was present and gave his report.

- a) Kingston Cranes and Cimco installed the chiller on July 28<sup>th</sup>;
- b) Enbridge paid for an advertisement on the rink boards;
- c) Fire extinguishers were inspected;
- d) We added a fresh coat of paint on the Olympia room floor and the benches in rooms 6 & 7;
- e) The windows overlooking the rink were cleaned and the border was freshly painted;
- f) The Gun Show is coming up August 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup>;
- g) The ice for the winter season will begin on Monday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, with Cimco coming to start up the plant;
- h) We have a Stag and Doe on August 8<sup>th</sup> in the Eagle's Nest;
- i) Community Resources held their weeklong Day Camp from August 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> in the Eagle's Nest and had a great turn out;
- j) Tourist Information Centre - There are many people stopping in at the Centre on a regular basis. The most frequently requested information continues to be about the Bonnechere Caves;
- k) Gerald Tracey Park - Music in the Park has had good attendance so far. The last session of the summer is Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, with the Friends of Guy Jamieson and Steve Agnew – A Ceilidh Gathering. There was a substantial amount of graffiti at the gazebo and outdoor rink which required a significant amount of time to clean up and repainting. A young person from the village handed in a letter of apology to the Township;
- l) Legion Field - Both soccer and ball have finished their seasons. The Amazing Race will be held August 29<sup>th</sup>. The Museum held the Wheels in the Park car show on July 25<sup>th</sup>. The Tour de Bonnechere cycling event will be on Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup>. Staff will be putting a fresh coat of paint on the Remembrance Crosswalk;
- m) Village - The banner for the Madawaska Valley Studio Tour will be put up before the end of August. The planters around the village continue to be maintained by the horticultural students. We are adding Hopscotch in the Parks;
- n) Rotary Beach - On August 4<sup>th</sup>, kids broke the swim raft. Staff pulled it out of the water. We will need a replacement for next summer;
- o) The buoys will be removed from Lake Clear the last week of August. Grass maintenance continues at all the parks in the municipality. All summer students will be finished by the end of August.

*Recreation Report Received.*

### **Building & Fire Department**

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

- a) The Department had fifty-nine calls for service from January to July;
- b) Fire fighter recruitment is ongoing. The department went through another round of practical and theory testing to obtain accreditation for NFPA 1001 1 & 2. The department is almost 100% compliant with the mandate. We have three years from time of hire for new recruits to become certified. Hazmat awareness and operations will be completed at a later date;
- c) Fifty-four building permits issued from January to July.  
*Department & Building Report Received.*

### **Administration**

Annette Gilchrist, CAO/Clerk, was present and gave her report.

- a) Completed the AMO Delegation Briefs for our meetings with the Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility, Ministry of Transportation, and our joint delegations with the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Municipal Affairs have been submitted by Madawaska Valley and Pembroke accordingly;
- b) The vehicle rideshare app has been approved by Apple iOS and Android. Valley Go applications have now been approved and we are working on getting staff trained and hope to start promoting by the end of August;
- c) The official appointment by-law for the audit committee is on tonight's council meeting agenda. Annette will be working to train our election staff over the next few weeks;
- d) Swim Program - The July swim session was a success. We had 85 participants across all levels. For August session we are expecting 66 participants across all levels. We sold two 5 session passes for Aquafit. We've seen steady attendance of a few people each week for Aquafit;
- e) Music in the Park - August is fully booked;
- f) Amazing Race – there are currently two registrations. Expressions of interest from a few others. Live music will be performed by Rick Soul, he performed Music in the Park on July 17. Facebook ads are going to run for one week. The rules and challenges document was emailed to Jenn and Meredith for review. Posters have been up at the arena, the tourist booth, the library and offices;
- g) Paddle and Parade, Summer Splash Event – there is currently 1 registration. Facebook ads are going to run for one week. Posters have been up at the arena, tourist booth, the library, offices and Opeongo Mountain Resort;
- h) Driftscape is live. Facebook post done on August 5. Businesses and Parks are populated in the app and visible to the public. Points and Rewards program is active. Frisbees and Hats will be given out at the municipal office once they are claimed in the app by the user. Five points are given for each location a user visits. Points can be redeemed at 35 for a frisbee and 75 for a hat. Driftscape will not be used for The Amazing Race. Reps from Driftscape did advise that there will be additional features added in the future which will make it an option;
- i) GLPOA AGM - Staff attended the Golden Lake Property Owners Association Annual General Meeting on Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup>. Bonnechere Valley had a table to promote the township. We sold one hat;
- j) Beach Mat - Working with the Recreation Department on sourcing. General delivery time from date of order could be 3-5 weeks;
- k) Countdown Public Art Project - On September 19<sup>th</sup>, a walk with participants will end at the monument in Gerald Tracey Park, this will take place mid to late afternoon, ending around 5:30. They are expecting 25-30 people. See attached for the walk route poster. No promo material for the concert provided yet, information is available online at the ReDefine Arts website;  
*Administrative Report Received.*

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **(A) Correspondence "A"**

1. AMO Watchfile July 16

2. AMO Watchfile July 30
3. FCM Communique July 13
4. FCM Communique July 23
5. FCM Communique July 27
6. ROMA Communications
7. County Construction Update August 2026
8. Cunningham Swan Municipal Law Brief
9. EOWC July 2026 Newsletter
10. Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations

**(B) Correspondence "B"**

1. Resolution for Heads and Beds Payment in-lieu of Taxes Program
2. Support Permanent Doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF)
3. Resolution for British Home Children & Child Migrants
4. Email request for support for Chute Coulonge
5. Email request to approve hydro line on Unopened Road Allowance
6. Eganville Sno-Drifters warm up shack
7. Letter to Premier Ford and Minister McCarthy - Pesticide Use in Public Recreational Spaces
8. MOE - Review of Producer Responsibility Single Use Cannisters-July 2026
9. Renfrew County Victim Services Golf Tournament
10. Request to transfer a portion of the forced McGrath Road to the Township
11. OLT Review - Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning
12. Resolution in Support of Halton Hill's re Modernizing Ontario's Invasive Plants Rules

**(C) Correspondence "C"**

- B.2 Committee agreed to support the resolution to permanently doubling of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) and directed staff to bring a support resolution to the September 8 meeting of Council.
- B.5 Committee agreed to the request and approved a hydro line on the Township's unopened road allowance.
- B.6 Committee agreed to the request from the Eganville Sno-Drifters Snowmobile Club to erect a warm-up shack on the Township's property at the Sno-Drifters Landfill site where two of their most popular trails intersect.
- B10. Committee agreed to support the request to transfer a portion of the forced McGrath Road to the Township.

**NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- (1)** Mayor's Report – Since Mayor Murphy's last report she attended 5 meetings and several events. Some of the highlights are as follows;

The ROMA Board met on July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026. The EOWC met on July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026. The newsletter is in the correspondence.

On June 29<sup>th</sup>, the Township of Laurentian Hills, the Township of Laurentian Valley, the City of Pembroke, the Town of Deep River, the Township of Whitewater Region, the Town of Petawawa, and CAO/Clerk Annette Gilchrist and the Mayor met with a public utility company regarding their operations of water and wastewater and hydro in the City of Sault St. Marie. On Wednesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Mayor attended the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Fraser-Morris Heubner Funeral Home in Cobden. On Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, the Mayor attended the Wheels in the Park event put on by the Bonnechere Museum. Congratulations to the Museum for this incredible event. On Wednesday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, the Mayor, along with Councillor Caplan-Jamieson, Councillor Sanderson, CAO/Clerk Gilchrist and Community Development Officer Haines, attended the Ontario Trillium Foundation announcement in Round Lake, where we received \$10,200 for an accessible beach mat and picnic tables for Rotary Beach. On Thursday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, the Mayor welcomed Minister Natalia Kusendova-Bashta, Minister of Long Term Care, to Miramichi Lodge. On Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, the Mayor, along with Councillor Sanderson, attended the opening of the BV Inspired tour and visited many spots along the route. On Friday, August 7<sup>th</sup>, the Mayor attended the unveiling of the new sign in Petawawa along the Algonquin Trail. On Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, the Mayor, along with Councillor Caplan-Jamieson and Councillor Epps, attended the Valdy concert at Grace Lutheran Church. Congratulations to Off Grid Productions for this wonderful concert. On Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, the Mayor, along with Councillor Caplan-Jamieson, attended the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Subway sandwiches in Eganville. Congrats to Mini and her family and staff.

The AMO Conference begins on Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup> and ends on Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>.

#### **ESTABLISH NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday September 8, 2026.

#### **MEDIA SESSION**

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

##### **MOVED BY     John Epps**

**THAT:** Committee proceed in Closed Session in accordance with the Municipal Act 2001, section 239.2 to deal with the matters as indicated below:

(k) A position, plan, procedure, criteria, or instruction to be applied to negotiations  
Carried

##### **MOVED BY     Jennifer Murphy**

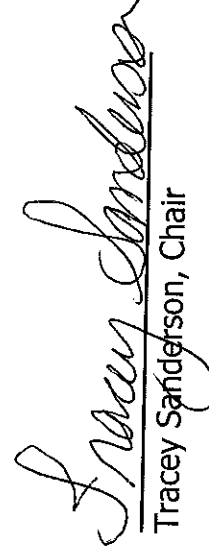
**THAT:** Committee moves out of Closed Session at 3:44 p.m. to rise and report that Committee met to receive information and give staff direction to advise Admaston/Bromley if the proposed agreement was accepted in principle and next steps to be taken and approve minutes from July 14, 2026.  
Carried

#### **CONCLUSION**

##### **MOVED BY     John Epps**

**THAT:** the meeting adjourns at 3:44 p.m.

Carried

  
Tracey Sanderson, Chair

  
Annette Gilchrist, CAO/Clerk