THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF BONNECHERE VALLEY
MINUTES
COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY JULY 14, 2026, 1:30 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND VIA ZOOM CONFERENCING

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

REGRETS **Councillor Merv Buckwald**

GALLERY **3**

CALL TO ORDER **COMMITTEE MEETING**
Chair, John Epps called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA
MOVED BY **Tracey Sanderson**
THAT: The agenda be accepted, as presented. Carried

PECUNIARY INTEREST OR GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
MOVED BY **Tracey Sanderson**
THAT: The Minutes of the Committee Meeting on June 16, 2026, be accepted as presented. Carried

DELEGATIONS
Presentation to Geri McPhail for the 2026 Ontario Senior of the Year

Eleanor McMahon presentation of Ontario Bike Summit

REPORTS

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

a) Maintenance gravel has been applied to the roads (3460.3 tonnes), supplied by BEI. We are just now waiting on them to supply the stockpile gravel;
b) Winter Sand - The supply of winter sand has been completed in Foymount;
c) New Steamer - The purchase of the new steamer which was a budgeted item has now been picked and joins our equipment fleet as of June 24th;
d) Emergency Back-up Generators - TYVIC Electric has completed the installation of the 2 new emergency back-up generators for the Public Works Office/Garage located at 294 Foymount Road. The two generators which were approved purchases in this year's budget help to provide a vital lifeline for our public works building. It will prevent costly downtime, protect expensive equipment and ensure safe working conditions for crews. This assists the department by Keeping essential vehicles moving. If the power went out, the garage's fuel station went dead. A generator ensures truck, plows and emergency vehicles can refuel without interruption. It also maintains emergency operations. As a command centre, the office can as a

dispatch hub and the generators keep communication systems, radios and computers online;

e) The Roads Department second summer student has started with us. Steven Kapp began his employment with us on Monday, June 22, 2026. Steven will be returning to Opeongo High School in the fall;
f) Equipment Operator/Labourer Position – The position has been filled;
g) The Sand Road & the Sno Drifters Waste Site will be closed on Monday, August 3rd in recognition of the Civic Holiday;
h) John Street Rehabilitation Project - The Tenders have advertised for the John Street Rehabilitation Project. Deadline to receive tenders is July 21, 2026.
i) Committee was provided a draft revision to the waste by-law updating it to reflect the current regulations.

Works Department Report Received.

Recreation & Culture

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

a) Canada Day celebrations in and around the arena were successful;
b) "Game On" from the Community Resource Centre in Killaloe is hosting Day Camps on the ice surface from August 11th – 14th;
c) CIMCO is continuing work on the Chiller and Condenser project;
d) The Rotary Club held their Canada Day breakfast and had a great turnout approximately 300 people;
e) Authors Night will be held every Monday in July from the 6th to the 27th from 5 – 9 pm;
f) The swim program has started. The Rotary beach sign will be painted. The works Department brought a load of sand for the beach, and the playground was rototilled;
g) Tourist Information Centre - Garden and grass maintenance continues. The weekly average number of visitors is 100 people (Tuesday – Sunday);
h) Gerald Tracey Park - Garden and grass maintenance continues. Music in the park is booked Wednesdays & Fridays until the end of August;
i) Legion Field - Grass maintenance continues. Minor ball has their year-end games July 9th. Little league ball (competitive) is continuing. Opeongo soccer continues into August. There is a Wheels in the Park car show July 25th;
j) Legion Field Canteen Pilot Program - The Canteen has been open for a month now. The busiest days are Mondays/Wednesdays and Thursdays as they coincide with Ball and soccer. The cost to run the Canteen for three hours is $58.25 in wages plus supplies and utilities. The average revenue for June was:
   Mondays = $14/ day
   Wednesdays = $8.25/ day
   Thursdays = $12.50 / day
   The largest revenue we had was $32. We will continue to track the visitors and sales for July and report back at the August meeting;
k) McRae Park - Garden and grass maintenance continues. Staff trimmed the brush back from the Lookout point with Public Works;
l) Village - Garden and grass maintenance continues. The Bonnechere Inspired Banner will be going up soon;
m) Foymount - Summer maintenance continues. The students weeded and mulched the flower bed, as well as rototilled the playground.

Recreation Report Received.

Building & Fire Department

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

a) The Department had fifty calls for service from January to June;
b) Fire fighter recruitment is ongoing. A former firefighter has rejoined the department. We are confident that after a few refreshers he will be up to

standards. Additionally, Darryl received a call from a firefighter that is relocating to Eganville. He is looking to join the department as well. He is certified under the current standards;

c) Calian Group presented a pilot project in Eganville with regards to cancer screening. The pilot will be conducted in Ottawa and Renfrew County. The program is voluntary for firefighters, but all will be encouraged to participate. Currently the cost is out of pocket but as this moves forward, the hope is the Government offers support. Additionally, there may be grants and we can enquire with our benefit coverage provider. The screening process is quite extensive and early detection is key. Support is also provided should there be a confirmed diagnosis;
d) A few years back, a 2013 Ford Expedition was purchased for $2500. It was used as transportation of firefighters to, incidents, mutual aid calls, conferences and carried equipment. It is near its end of life and annual maintenance is increasing. The Fire Department Association has earmarked approximately $20,000 towards the purchase of a truck and inquired as to whether the balance can come from the fire budget. A preliminary search has already begun. They are monitoring Gov Deals, County surpluses and other various sites. There are some specific wants such as 4x4, crew cab, truck cap for the bed and slide out tray and a tow package. The reason is to outfit the truck with equipment for wildland fires. The truck can go places our pumpers cannot or should not go. Additionally, we will be receiving another grant from the province for cancer prevention. We are sourcing a 16 'trailer. We will be dividing the trailer in half, one side is a clean room and the other will be for gear, equipment etc. that was used on calls and has become contaminated. In the past, all contaminated equipment, gear has been thrown in the back of the recue vans. This exposes our firefighters to off gassing of carcinogens that could lead to cancer. The truck would be pulling the trailer when required. Purchasing used comes at a risk. Depending on the year, there will be required repairs as it ages. The alternative is to purchase new. We will be concentrating on vehicles built in or around 2020. Committee approves a combined purchase with the Fire Department Association for a ¾ or 1 ton truck to replace SUV 9864 as long as it fits into the Fire Budget;
e) Forty building permits issued from January to June.

Department & Building Report Received.

Administration

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

a) As Chair of the CAO group for Renfrew County, Annette organized a cohort for Municipal Administration Program Unit 1 in September 2025 and Unit 2 in January 2026. We currently have 21 participants registered for Unit 3 and the cap is at 25. This has allowed municipal employees to take this training and network with their colleagues across the county for a couple of hours twice a month from September to May. There are 4 units total for the Municipal Administration Diploma;
b) Annette has been working with the Elections Ontario portal to get ready for the 2026 election and work on the voters list. She has also contacted some election workers and will be focussing on training in September ahead of the October election. Staff updated the elections website regularly with new and significant information. Most recently the deadline to confirm your school support has passed however you can still change it, and we have updated this information online;
c) We need to call a special meeting of Council on July 29th at 1:30 pm to approve the John Street Tenders. An Agenda for that meeting will be sent out July 15th and the recommendation will be forwarded upon receipt from our engineers;
d) Electric Vehicles - To start the pilot project Annette is recommending that we rent the vehicle Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays so that we have time to charge in between rentals. It will be available from 8am to 4pm. Staff can extend hours and look at fast charging in between at a higher cost ($7 vs

$30) if we get a lot of interest. To start she has a setup a charge of $10 per hour for a minimum of 2 hours and the daily rate would be $60 so if you are renting it for 6 hours you might as well take it for the day. The app ensures you take pre and post pictures of the car to record any damage if anything happened. It won't let the car go without them. Once we get the app approved, Annette will test it out and then we can promote the rideshare availability and Valley Go app to the public. The car can be used by Township staff when not in use via the software system that controls the app so that we do not have to rent it to ourselves. However, if we are using it on days when it is to be charging, we may have to use the Level 3 charger to ensure it is fully charged for the public users. We will collect the data and report back at the August 11th meeting.

Charging Stations - For the 3 months the charging station at the Township Office has been operating we have received:

Revenue $1,276.00

Expenses $907.00 ($191 in Flo fees, $145 in HST costs, $428 in hydro costs and $143 in charges for the car at our Level 3 station) No included is the costs was when staff charged off the Township building. At this time we have $369 in profits and have saved $405 in mileage. This does not included the costs for the Rideshare Insurance which was $9xxx for the year.

Administrative Report Received.

CORRESPONDENCE

(A) Correspondence "A"

1. AMO Watchfile June 18
2. AMO Watchfile June 25
3. AMO Watchfile June 29
4. AMO Watchfile July 2
5. AMO Policy June 18
6. County Construction Update July 2 2026
7. County Council Summary June 2026
8. EORN Renfrew County June 2026 Update
9. EORN Newsletter
10. FCM Communique June 15
11. FCM Communique June 22
12. FCM Communique June 30
13. Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations
14. June MOH Report to the Board 2026
15. ROMA June 2026 Board Meeting Highlights

(B) Correspondence "B"

1. Finlay's Law - ER wait times resolution
2. Kraftchick Thank you Letter and Email Request
3. Wind Phone Proposal - McRae Park

4. County-Wide Review of Communal Services

5. Request to Remove Off road motorcycles from Algonquin Trail

6. Prince Edward County Resolution No. 2026-208 Regarding Reinstating FIPPA Compliance

7. Resolution for Rural Hospital Funding

8. Request for Provincial Action on the Accuracy of Municipal Voters Lists

9. Resolution for support of Oncology Clinic in Huntsville

10. Support of the EOWC Call to Return to Property Tax Reassessment Cycle

11. Notice of Motion Regarding a Provincial review of women and children experiencing IPV

12. Letter to Deputy Premier re Tick Borne Diseases

13. County Voting on Name for New Trail

(C) Correspondence "C"

B.2 Kraftchick Thank you Letter and Email Request – Committee agreed to waive the costs for the demolition and building permit.

B.3 Committee agreed to the request for the Wind Phone Proposal - McRae Park

B10. Committee agreed to support the resolution for the Return to Property Tax Reassessment Cycle and directed staff to bring a support resolution to the August 11 meeting of Council

B.11 Committee agreed to support the resolution for a provincial review of women and children experiencing IPV and directed staff to bring a support resolution to the August 11 meeting of Council.

NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(1) Mayor's Report – Since Mayor Murphy's last report she attended 17 meetings and several events. Some of the highlights are as follows;

County Council - On June 22nd, the Inter-Municipal Committee also had a meeting with the City of Pembroke. The Mayor also participated in the interviews for the new Director of Community Services and the Director of Public Works. Congratulations to Dean Quade and Taylor Hanrath, respectively, for their success in achieving these new positions.

The ROMA Board met on June 12th, 2026. They reviewed our current financials and draft audited financials with Executive Treasurer, Afshin Majidi, had a Board briefing on Circular Materials Presentation with Maria Rodriguez, Policy Advisor, AMO and ROMA Resourcing Discussion with Lindsay Jones, Executive Director, AMO.

The EORN Board met on June 22nd for a briefing on some new initiatives the EORN staff are proposing. Of interest, no new towers came into service during the FIFA Tournament due to a Rogers' policy.

The RCDHU Board met on June 25th, 2026. Dr. Morganstern's report was provided under correspondence.

On June 29th, CAO Annette Gilchrist and the Mayor met with executive members of BMO to discuss the possibility of a bank machine and a night deposit in Eganville. We should be advised soon as to what BMO will do.

On Wednesday, June 8th, the Mayor attended the AORS Conference in Petawawa to bring greetings to the vendors, volunteers and attendees. On Thursday, June 9th, the Mayor attended the Officers' Luncheon at Garrison Petawawa where we heard about new technologies and met the new Commander. On Saturday, June 13th, it was the Mayor's pleasure to cut the ribbon on the new Postcard Bookcase in Foymount. She also attended the Night Market hosted by the Bonnechere Museum. On Friday, June 19th, it also her honour to host the 19th Annual Warden's Golf Tournament where we raised over $17,000 for the 10 Food Banks across the County. On Tuesday, June 23rd, it was the Mayor's honour and privilege to present at the Paramedic Service Awards recognizing 10, 20 and 30 years of service. On Wednesday, July 1st, the Mayor attended all of our Canada Day activities, including the Alligator Boat Race, Cupcakes at the Museum and the Duck Race. On Sunday, July 5th, the Mayor attended the opening of the Eganville Photography Club at Charlie's Eatery. On Friday, July 10th, the Mayor attended the Rural Ontario Development Grant (ROD) announcement with MPP Billy Denault and Minister of Rural Affairs, Lisa Thompson, where a total of approximately $114,000 was awarded to the Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards, the Township of South Algonquin, the City of Pembroke, the Ottawa Valley Tourist Association and a private business in the Town of Arnprior. On Friday, July 10th, Minister Thompson, MPP Denault and the Mayor attended the opening ceremony of the 170th Beachburg Fair. On Saturday, July 11th, the Mayor, along with Councillor Sanderson, attended the Golden Lake Property Owners' Association AGM at the Makwa Centre. This morning, Tuesday, July 14th, it was the Mayor's pleasure to have breakfast with Minister Steven Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines, to discuss hydro transmission and the mine site in Whitewater Township.

ESTABLISH NEXT MEETING DATE

The next Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday August 11, 2026.

MEDIA SESSION

CLOSED SESSION

MOVED BY **Tracey Sanderson**

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

(d) Labour relations or employee negotiations

(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 5:02 p.m. to rise and report that Committee met to receive information and give staff direction to advise Admaston/Bromley of their review of the minutes of settlement and next steps to be taken and to add a by-law to the August 11th council meeting to approve the union contract and approve minutes from June 16 2026. Carried

CONCLUSION

MOVED BY **Meredith Caplan Jamieson**

THAT: the meeting adjourns at 5:18 p.m. Carried

John Epps, Chair

Annette Gilchrist, CAO/Clerk