

**THE CORPORATION OF
THE TOWNSHIP OF BONNECHERE VALLEY
MINUTES
COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY July 14, 2026, 5:30 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ZOOM CONFERENCING**

PRESENT

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

REGRETS

Councillor Merv Buckwald

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

26.89 MOVED BY

Tracey Sanderson

SECONDED BY

John Epps

THAT: the agenda be accepted as amended with the removal of Union Agreement By-Law.

Carried

PECUNIARY INTEREST OR GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

26.90 MOVED BY

John Epps

SECONDED BY

Tracey Sanderson

THAT: The minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on June 16, 2026 as presented be hereby adopted.

Carried

CORRESPONDENCE

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

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

Correspondence "C"

26.91 MOVED BY Tracey Sanderson
SECONDED BY John Epps

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 to support Vacant Commercial Storefront Tax

26.92 MOVED BY John Epps
SECONDED BY Tracey Sanderson

Whereas Council of the Township of Bonnechere Valley understands the vitality of main streets across Ontario which are essential to the economic, social and cultural health of the community; and

Whereas numerous long-term vacant commercial storefronts, which detracts from the character of the community, reduces pedestrian traffic, discourages business investment, and negatively impacts the viability of surrounding small businesses; and

Whereas the current Municipal Act, 2001 does not provide municipalities with the explicit legal authority to implement a "Vacant Commercial Storefront Tax," although other jurisdictions are actively advocating for such tools to address similar challenges;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Bonnechere Valley hereby support the resolution from Prince Edward County regarding the request to allow municipalities to institute a vacant commercial storefront tax; and

That Council requests that the Government of Ontario amend the Municipal Act, 2001, to grant Ontario municipalities the permissive authority to implement a "Vacant Commercial Storefront Tax" or similar levy to encourage the productive use of long-term vacant retail properties; and

That this support resolution be forwarded to the Minister Rob Flack of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Premier Doug Ford, and MPP Billy Denault for their consideration.

9.3 Resolution of Support for Traffic Calming

Carried

26.93 MOVED BY Tracey Sanderson
SECONDED BY John Epps

WHEREAS history demonstrates that speeding and public safety concerns are increasing across Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Provincial government has shown interest and allocated financial resources to certain municipalities to implement alternative measures to photo radar, reaffirming its ongoing commitment to addressing public safety issues; and

WHEREAS this commitment currently applies only to municipalities utilizing photo radar as a deterrent, however, such funding support would assist all municipalities with limited financial resources in protecting their citizens - especially seniors and school-aged children; and

WHEREAS digital speed signs have emerged as a reliable solution using radar technology to display real-time speeds, prompting drivers to slow down with studies showing their effectiveness in school zones where speeding incidents dropped by 17.5%, with typical speed reductions of 10-20% and overall compliance with the posted speed limit up by 30-60%, encouraging safer driving habits and helping to protect pedestrians, cyclists, and families in residential areas.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Bonnechere Valley received the resolution from the Village of Merrickville Wolford regarding traffic calming and speeding mitigation techniques;

AND THAT Council endorse and support the resolution and request that the province expand its stated interest and financial commitment to include all municipalities in Ontario, adopting a province-wide approach to public safety and thereby ensuring the well-being of all Ontarians;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Transportation, Minister of Finance, MPP Billy Denault, AMO, ROMA and all Renfrew County OPP Detachment Boards.

Carried

CLOSED SESSION – NONE

BY-LAWS

26.94 MOVED BY John Epps
SECONDED BY Tracey Sanderson

THAT:

By-Law 2026-039 being a by-law for a Road Allowance Closure and Sale (Craig)

By-Law 2026-040 being a by-law for a Road Allowance Closure and Sale (Smith)

By-Law 2026-041 being a by-law for a Road Allowance Closure and Sale (McDonald)

By-Law 2026-042 being a by-law for a Road Allowance Closure and Sale (Jessup)

By-Law 2026-043 being a by-law to authorizing a site plan agreement with Eganville Apartments Inc.

By-Law 2026-044 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.

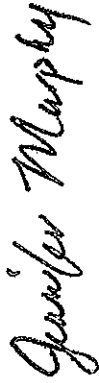
Carried

ADJOURNMENT

26.95 MOVED BY Tracey Sanderson
SECONDED BY John Epps

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

Carried



Jennifer Murphy, Mayor



Annette Gilchrist, CAO/Clerk

**THE CORPORATION OF
THE TOWNSHIP OF BONNECHERE VALLEY
MINUTES
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY July 29, 2026, 9:30 A.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ZOOM CONFERENCING**

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

REGRETS Councillor Merv Buckwald

GALLERY 1

INDIGENOUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Jennifer Murphy called the meeting to order at 9:30 p.m.

ADDITIONS/CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA: None

26.96 MOVED BY Meredith Caplan Jamieson
SECONDED BY Tracey Sanderson

THAT: the agenda be accepted as presented.

Carried

PECUNIARY INTEREST OR GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

26.97 MOVED BY John Epps
SECONDED BY Meredith Caplan Jamieson

THAT: Tender BV2026-03 HL4 Construction on John Street be awarded to Bonnechere Excavating Inc. In the amount of \$3,482,308.28 (excluding HST).

Carried

CLOSED SESSION – NONE

BY-LAWS

26.98 MOVED BY Tracey Sanderson
SECONDED BY Meredith Caplan Jamieson

THAT:

By-Law 2026-045 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.

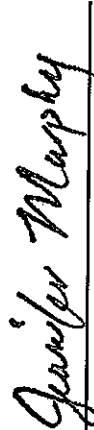
Carried

ADJOURNMENT

26.99 MOVED BY John Epps
SECONDED BY Tracey Sanderson

THAT: This Council meeting be adjourned at 9:42 a.m.

Carried



Jennifer Murphy, Mayor



Annette Gilchrist, CAO/Clerk