

**THE CORPORATION OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF BONNECHERE VALLEY  
MINUTES  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 18, 2026, 1:30 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND VIA ZOOM  
CONFERRING**

**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, John Epps called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

**MOVED BY** Meredith Caplan Jamieson

**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 January 13, 2026, be accepted as presented.

Carried

**DELEGATIONS**

None

**REPORTS**

**Recreation & Culture**

Kevin McGrath, Manager of Recreation and Culture, was not present. Report submitted.

- a) On Family Day there was a Senior, Parent & Tot Skate, sponsored by Renfrew County Catholic School Board from 1 – 1:50 pm, Family Child Services sponsored a Public Skate from 2 – 2:50 pm and another Public Skate was sponsored by Foodland from 3 – 4:15 pm;
- b) We had a minor hockey tournament on February 1<sup>st</sup> for the U7 Team;
- c) There was one Boys High School Varsity High School tournament on February 18<sup>th</sup>
- d) Eganville Public school has booked skating 4 times per week. Two for hockey, two for skating;
- e) Adam Bernard has booked ice time every Wednesday morning throughout February for RCDSB Hockey;
- f) The Senior, Parent and Tot ice times are continuing every Monday. The attendance has been roughly 20 – 25 people;
- g) Minor Hockey teams will start playoffs the week of the 10<sup>th</sup>;
- h) EHL first round of Playoffs begins February 13<sup>th</sup>;
- i) The Eagle’s Nest Hall is being used for the hockey tournaments. We continue to have the Eagles Nest open on Friday evenings for EHL;

- j) On Public skate times the hall will be used for games for the kids;
- k) Hall is booked for three events;
- l) We have the BMO meeting February 19<sup>th</sup> for the Township;
- m) Centennial Park the Outdoor rink is open, and staff continue to flood weekly;
- n) Taking the Bonnechere Cup Banner down along with the Christmas lights on the bridge. Working with Allen Burce; Bruce Pole, and Roads Department, hopefully within the next couple of weeks, weather permitting.

*Recreation Report Received.*

### **Finance**

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

- a) Still busy finalizing year-end entries and working on the draft 2026 budget. The auditors have already began working on year end for 2025 and will be onsite Thursday February 19<sup>th</sup> and Friday February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026;
- b) The January Income Statement is in your package, the first two columns compare January 2025 to January 2026, both revenues and expenses;
- c) On January 26, 2026 the Township received the first of four payments from the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) in the amount of \$444,675;
- d) Fifty-four water and sewer customers have signed up for online accounts to receive their water and sewer bills electronically. Another notice to sign up was put in the February 1<sup>st</sup> billing.

*Finance Report Received*

### **Administration**

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

- a) Committee was provided with a copy of the updated Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan. We will be updating the Plan on our website with the revised 2026 Plan;
- b) Committee was provided with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Report for 2025. Bonnechere Valley received 6 requests and 5 were closed. The sixth request was only received on December 12, 2025 and it is now closed;
- c) The Bank of Montreal Open House is scheduled for Thursday February 19<sup>th</sup> from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. We hope to have a good turnout to support our efforts to keep the branch open;
- d) Election – “So You Want to Run For Council” Workshops to run in Renfrew County with Nigel Belchamber. There is one workshop in Eganville on Thursday April 23, 2026 from 2:00 - 4:30 pm at the Eganville Arena;
- e) The Police Services Board approved two community appointments which now have to be formally appointed by each Council on the detachment board. Committee recommends that Cheryl Summers and Steve Gravefell be appointed as community members to the Killaloe OPP Detachment Board for a period concurrent with the present term of Council;
- f) The Library Board unanimously approved Eileen Whyte to their Board. Committee recommends that Eileen Whyte be appointed as Bonnechere Valley’s community member to the Bonnechere Union Public Library Board for a period concurrent with the present term of Council;
- g) March Break - Camp Smitty is hosting March Break Day Camp again. Sarah has started to get information from community groups to include in the March Madness calendar;
- h) Summer Job Fair – Sarah is working on planning another Summer Job Fair geared for high school students. Similar to last year, it will be on the Friday of March Break;
- i) 25<sup>th</sup> Amalgamation Committee - The logo has been sent out to community groups for them use on their event posters and advertisements. We are having a button added to the home page on our website that will lead people directly to the 25<sup>th</sup> amalgamation information and events;
- j) Eganville and Area Community Development Group - EACDGM met on February 12<sup>th</sup> to discuss the duck race for 2026;

k) Newsletters - The information call for March/April newsletters has gone out to community groups.  
*Administrative Report Received.*

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

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

1. AMO Watchfile Feb 5
2. AMO Watchfile Feb 12
3. EOWC January 2026 Newsletter
4. EOWC February 2026 Newsletter
5. FCM Communique Feb 3
6. FCM Communique Feb 9
7. County of Renfrew approves 2026 budget

#### **(B) Correspondence "B"**

1. Resolution Regarding Enhanced School Bus Safety
2. Request from Camp Lutherlyn
3. Resolution-Affordable Housing
4. Support for Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025
5. Food Bank Request
6. Call to Action for Justice and Protection of Canada's Children
7. Support for Steel and Lumber Sectors
8. Notice Comprehensive Zoning By-Law for Admaston/Bromley
9. Re-Nature Request for Resolution of Support - Bonnechere Valley
10. Renfrew Veterinary Report

#### **(C) Correspondence "C"**

B.2 Committee approved the request from Camp Lutherlyn for a letter of support and directed staff to write the letter of support.

B5. Committee agreed to the Food Bank request to add a storage shed at the back of the Food Bank if they choose to. Committee provided staff direction that staff work with the Food Bank.

B.6. Committee agreed to support the resolution for Call to Action for Justice and Protection of Canada's Children and directed staff to bring a support resolution to the March 10 meeting of Council.

B.7 Committee supports the resolution regarding support for Steel and the Lumber Sectors and directed staff to bring a support resolution to the March 10 meeting of Council.

B.8 Committee has no concerns with the Comprehensive Zoning By Law for the Township of Admaston Bromley.

B.9 Committee supports the request from the Renfrew County Catholic District School Board to re nature by Growing Canada's Community Canopies initiative and Committee directed staff to bring a support resolution to the March 10 meeting of Council.

**NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- (1) OPP Detachment Board Report

**ESTABLISH NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday March 10, 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:

(f) Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose

Carried

**MOVED BY Merv Buckwald**

**THAT:** Committee moves out of Closed Session at 3:35 p.m. to rise and report that Committee met to receive information and give staff direction regarding the Lake Clear OLT Appeal and approved minutes from December 16, 2025.

Carried

**CONCLUSION**

**MOVED BY Meredith Caplan Jamieson**

**THAT:** the meeting adjourns at 3:36 p.m.

Carried



John Epps, Chair



Annette Gilchrist, CAO/Clerk