

THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF BONNECHERE VALLEY
MINUTES
COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 2, 2025 1:30 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND VIA ZOOM
CONFERENCING

PRESENT

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

REGRETS

None

GALLERY

None

CALL TO ORDER COMMITTEE MEETING

Chair, Tracey Sanderson called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

MOVED BY **Merv Buckwald**

That: The agenda be accepted, as presented.

Carried

PECUNIARY INTEREST OR GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY **John Epps**

That: The Minutes of the Committee Meeting on August 12, 2025 be accepted as presented.

Carried

DELEGATIONS

REPORTS

Recreation & Culture

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

- a) In November 2024, Rec staff contacted neighboring municipalities to compare rates for 2025 ice rentals. Their search determined that a 4% increase in our prices would be comparable with the other townships. Committee provided staff direction to bring forward a by-law to the September meeting of Council.

	OLD RATE	NEW RATE
Minor Sports	\$135	\$140
Minor Sports Tournament	\$1350	\$1400
Adult Hourly	\$175	\$180
School Hockey	\$100	\$105
Public skating sponsors	\$135	\$140
Senior, Parent and Tot	\$100	\$105

Recreation Report Received.

Works & Waste Department

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

- a) New Hire Thomas Letang - The Public Works Department would like to welcome Thomas Letang to our Bonnechere Valley Team. Tom started with our department on August 5, 2025 in the role of an Equipment Operator/Labourer. This position became available with the retirement of Danny Monette:

- b) 3-Month Sanitation Assistant Position - With the departure of our summer student and one of our Sanitation Assistants off work this has left a void in the department. Staff have advertised for the 3-month Sanitation Assistant to help cover until we are back up to full capacity. Deadline for receipt of applications was August 29, 2025;
- c) Sno Drifters Mon to Thurs Hours - The Monday to Thursday hours at the Sno Drifters Waste Site ended on August 28th. The site will be open on Thursdays as well as Saturdays beginning September 4th for the months of September and October. The Thursday hours will be 12 pm (noon) to 2 pm;
- d) 4x10hr Shifts - The end of the 4-10hrs shifts for the Public Works Department ends on September 20, 2025;
- e) Hazardous Waste Depot - The last day for the Household Hazardous Waste Depot is Saturday, September 27, 2025. After this date the depot will be closed for the winter;
- f) Hwy 41 Waste Site will be closed on Tuesday, September 30, 2025 for the STAT Holiday of National Truth and Reconciliation;
- g) Completed Projects - The Bell Street sidewalk has been replaced by J. Wilson Paving, Greenwood Paving has completed the Hot Mix Asphalt Project on McGrath Road and the winter sand has been delivered;
- h) Tariff of Fees Bylaw - Due to increase in visitors to our sites which is impacting our hauling fees, staff would like Council to consider a \$1.00 increase the cost of purchasing tags/disposing of garbage at the sites. The \$2.00/per tag or bag fee has been in place since 2016. This change would also impact the dump cards as a 10 square dump/\$20 card would be sold at \$30. The 20 square dump cards/\$40 card would be sold at \$60. Our neighbouring municipalities North Altona Wilberforce is currently charging \$3 per bag and Admaston Bromley is charging \$2.50. Committee recommends that the garbage tag fee/fee to dispose of garbage at the waste site from \$2.00/per tag or bag to \$3.00/per tag or bag;
- i) Construction & Demolition (C&D) Trailer at Sand Road - Lately, we have seen an increase in the amount of materials being brought to the Sand Road Waste Site and being placed in the C&D Trailer. These materials are not one offs, but trailer loads of construction and demolition materials. This is increasing staff time as the trailer now needs to be emptied once during the week and after the weekend. Staff suggested that a \$25 fee to dump material in the C&D Trailer be implemented and the FREE voucher would not be eligible to use at this site. The thought is that by implementing a fee to dispose that residents would more likely take their loads to Sno Drifters where that it the intended purpose for such materials and utilize their FREE voucher. Committee agreed and provided staff direction to bring forward a by-law to the September meeting of Council;
- j) Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Parks Site Visit - On August 28, 2025 we had compliance site/audit of all our Waste Sites which was conducted by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Parks;
- k) Wellington/Patrick Street Cross Walk - The project has commenced, and it is to be installed by mid/end of September;
- l) Connecting Link Construction – Staff had a project meeting on August 28, 2025 with the Contractor;
- m) Snow Removal 2025-2026 Season – John K. Reinert Sand & Gravel Ltd has quoted a price of \$95 per hour + tax for a 4-wheel drive plow for snow removal the 2025-2026 season. Committee recommends that the snow removal for the 2025/2026 winter season be awarded to John K Reinert, Sand & Gravel Ltd in the amount of \$95/hour + tax.

Works Department Report Received.

Building & Fire Department

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

- a) The Department had sixty-eight calls for service from January to August 2025;
- b) Level Two Fire Ban was reduced to a Level One on August 29, 2025;
- c) Fire fighter recruitment is ongoing;

- d) Staff recommend an increase to the 911 civic address sign fee from \$50 to \$100 for a new 911 sign and post to be installed. Committee agreed and directed a by-law be brought back to the September 16, 2025 meeting of Council;
- e) Draft False Alarm By-law - In total we have had 35 false alarm calls since the start of 2023. Most have been a one off calls. On average we would have 5 to 6 personnel respond with apparatus. For a two-hour minimum and labor costs we are roughly \$350.00 per call. As we can only bill apparatus for MTO calls they do not factor in. If apparatus were included, the hourly rate is \$570.50 per hour with the same two hour minimum.
Fire Department & Building Report Received.

CORRESPONDENCE

(A) Correspondence "A"

- 1. AMO Watchfile Aug 14
- 2. AMO Watchfile Aug 21
- 3. AMO Watchfile Aug 28
- 4. AMO Policy Update
- 5. EOWC Priorities and Partnerships at AMO 2025
- 6. EOWC Newsletter
- 7. FCM Communique Aug 26
- 8. FCM Advocacy Update 2025 budget

(B) Correspondence "B"

- 1. 2025 Ontario Senior Award Nominations
- 2. Notice of Motion - Standing Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry
- 3. Algonquin College Media Release-Fall Business Leadership Conference 2025
- 4. MNR Aggregate Resources Act Changes
- 5. Resolution for Incineration, Recycling and Sustainable Waste Management
- 6. Letter to Niagara Region - Human Trafficking Prevention
- 7. Letter to Support H.E.R. Elect Respect Campaign
- 8. Notification Letter Proposed Carbon Storage Regulations
- 9. RCRSTF 2026 Sponsorship Request

(C) Correspondence "C"

- B.1 Committee directed staff to add 2025 Ontario Senior Award Nominations to the next Closed Session.

NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- (1)** Review Licensing Agreement – Committee reviewed the agreement and directed staff to bring the by-law back to the September 16 meeting of Council;
- (2)** Paint Back Door of Library – Committee had no issues to the painting of the back door at the Library, the issue will be referred to the Library Board for their approval.

ESTABLISH NEXT MEETING DATE

The next Meeting will be held on Tuesday September 16, 2025.

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:

- (b) Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal employees
 - (e) Litigation or potential litigation
- Carried

MOVED BY John Epps

THAT: Council moves out of Closed Session at 2:43 p.m. to rise and report that Council met to receive information and give staff direction regarding an invoice from Brian's Little Carpentry, False Alarm Policy and approved minutes from August 12, 2025.

Carried

CONCLUSION

MOVED BY Merv Buckwald

THAT: the meeting adjourns at 2:43 p.m.

Carried


Tracey Sanderson, Chair


Annette Gilchrist, CAO/Clerk