

**THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF BONNECHERE VALLEY
MINUTES
COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY NOVEMBER 4, 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

Councillor Meredith Caplan Jamieson

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 John Epps

That: The agenda be accepted, as presented, with the addition of Correspondence Item B.12 Ministry of Natural Resources – Inviting input on regulation proposals under the proposed Wildland Fire Management Act (WFMA). Carried

PECUNIARY INTEREST OR GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY Merv Buckwald

That: The Minutes of the Committee Meeting on October 21, 2025 be accepted as presented. Carried

DELEGATIONS None

REPORTS

Water & Sewer Department

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

- a) The Eganville Drinking Water System continues to operate in full compliance with all requirements;
- b) Two Inspectors were on site on October 8th for our annual audit. The reports have been received;
- c) Flow Metrix was on site to do the annual calibration checks on the ABB Flow Meters;
- d) Staff repaired and extended three service boxes;
- e) Fire Hydrant repairs;
- f) Staff preformed locates for Enbridge Gas and Cavanagh Construction;
- g) Repaired a water service on Mill Street;
- h) Quarterly Water Samples THM,s, Haa,s Nitrates & Nitrites and a complete set of chemical sample results;
- i) Pritchard Power Systems were on site to carry out the bi-Annual maintenance on the generator;
- j) The Eganville Wastewater System continues to operate in full compliance with all requirements as set out in the Certificate of Approval;
- k) Staff continuing to check the sanitary manholes;

- l) Pritchard Power Systems were on site to carry out the bi-Annual maintenance on the three generators;
- m) Removed two Geo-Tubes and took the digested sludge to the Waste Site for top cover;
- n) Flow Metrix was on site to do the annual calibration checks on the ABB Flow Meters in the Geo-Tube Building.
Water & Sewer Report Received.

Building & Fire Department

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

- a) The Department had eighty-one calls for service from January to October 2025;
- b) Level Two Fire Ban went on August 11, 2025 and is still on;
- c) Fire fighter recruitment is ongoing;
- d) One of the Junior Firefighter has completed the program and has officially joined the department;
Fire Department & Building Report Received.

Works & Waste Department

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

- a) Sno Drifters Thursday Hours - The Thursday hours for the Sno Drifters waste site are complete. The last day was Thursday, October 30, 2025;
- b) The rehabilitation of Bonnechere Street (Connecting Link) is progressing well. November 14, 2025 is currently the expected finish date for the construction project;
- c) Fall Leaf Pick up - The annual curbside fall leaf pick up for Village of Eganville residents will take place on Monday, November 10, 2025;
- d) Garbage Collection During Christmas Season - There will be no curbside garbage collection for Village of Eganville residents on Thursday, December 25, 2025 or Thursday, January 1, 2026, due to Statutory Holidays. Staff will conduct curbside garbage collection on Wednesday, December 24, 2025 and Wednesday, December 31, 2025 for village residents;
- e) Waste Sites during Christmas season - No waste sites are impacted by the Christmas season therefore, all sites will be open as regularly scheduled for winter hours;
- f) Grader Training - Chris Contant has completed Level 1 – Grader Operator Training. He is the third staff person trained in this area;
- g) Line Painting on municipal roads is currently underway;
- h) Winter Maintenance on Connecting Link - The area maintenance contract with EMCON Services Inc for the winter maintenance services on the 2.8 km of the Connecting Link on Hwy 60 and the 1.4 km of the Connecting Link on Highway 41, in the Village of Eganville ended on April 30, 2025. The new contract was awarded by MTO to another provider. The quotation which we received from them to provide this winter maintenance service was double the amount previously paid to EMCON. Operationally, staff are exploring the option to bring the night shift back into our rotation.
Works Department Report Received.

CORRESPONDENCE

(A) Correspondence "A"

1. AMO Oct 23 Policy
2. AMO Oct 23 Watchfile
3. AMO Oct 31 Watchfile
4. AMO Policy Oct 28

5. AMO Policy Oct 29
6. FCM Communique Oct 20
7. FCM Communique Oct 24
8. FCM Communique Oct 28
9. FCM Communique Oct 30
10. County Council Summary October 2025
11. Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus
12. ROMA Update

(B) Correspondence "B"

1. Resolution - Municipality of Tweed - Collaboration Action Sustainable Waste Management in Ontario
2. Resolution - Keep Climate Change as a Foremost National Priority
3. Advocacy for Funding to Address EAB Infestation
4. Removing HSTGST from New Homes to Support Housing Affordability
5. Letter to Min Todd McCarthy from Mayor Roy TOW regarding Blue Box Collection and Impact to Small Business
6. Closure of Before and After School Programs
7. Public Safety Requirements to Protect Our Communities
8. Rent Protection for Tenants
9. Seniors Active Living Fair 2025 BV Letter
10. Town of East Gwillimbury Resolution Regarding EG's Opposition to the Protect Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025
11. Circulation Notice for Site Plan Application
12. Ministry of Natural Resources – Inviting input on regulation proposals under the proposed Wildland Fire Management Act (WFMA)

(C) Correspondence "C"

B.9 Committee supports the request from the Eganville & District Senior's for their Senior Active Living Health Fair that will be taking place on Monday November 24th, 2025, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Mayor Murphy agreed to provide the Opening Remarks for the event. Staff will have a booth at the event.

B.11 Circulation Notice for Site Plan Application – Council recommends that each dome unit have its own septic, not a Communal Septic and that stairs and a railings will be required as per the Building Code Act, as the domes are 6 feet high.

B.12 Ministry of Natural Resources – Inviting input on regulation proposals under the proposed Wildland Fire Management Act (WFMA) – Committee recommends that CAO/Clerk Annette Gilchrist will attend the information meeting.

NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- (1)** Mayor's Report – Since Mayor Murphy's last report she attended 15 meetings and a several events. Some of the highlights are as follows;

The October County Council summary was provided to Committee.

Of important note, Dean Felhaber, President, Ben Hokum and Son Limited, accompanied by John Yakabuski, presented the company's proposal for a

biomass cogeneration facility in North Altona Wilberforce Township. The plant will generate carbon-neutral electricity using 150,000 green metric tonnes per year of mill residues and low-grade pulpwood, with 12.5 megawatts of electrical energy exported to Ontario's grid and 1 megawatt of electrical energy used on-site. Key highlights of the proposed project include a \$65 million investment with a projected \$53 million/year economic impact, 30 to 40 full-time rural jobs, offsets of 32,000 tonnes of CO₂ annually, utilization of underused biomass, enhanced forest health and reducing fire risk and alignment with Ontario's goals for clean energy, rural development, and sustainable forestry. The challenge for this very important initiative is the lack of hydro transmission lines.

ROMA - The ROMA Board report from October 16th and 17th, 2025 was provided to Committee.

EORN - The EORN Board met on October 30th. Although our regional cellular project is going very well, there are a couple of Municipalities who have interfered with private lands and some hard decisions have to be made about those areas for coverage to meet their mandate. Bonnechere Valley's Rogers cell network will be fully complete in 2026. While the Mayor was in that meeting, all Automated Speed Enforcement was banned by the Provincial Government.

RCDHU - The Board of Health held its Board retreat on October 27th.

Youth Summit - Bonnechere Valley hosted our second annual Youth Summit on October 10th, where 16 young minds attended to engage with our external partners and have a round table with Sarah and myself. In her last report, Sarah listed the items that the youth would like to see in our community. Although some of them are not feasible, there were others that we should look at during budget time, ie. Arcade at the Youth Building. This is the perfect time to look for grants related to Youth programming.

Government Week - It was the Mayor's pleasure to visit Eganville District Public School and speak with both Grade 5 classes about the roles of the different levels of government. The students were enthusiastic, curious, and full of great questions. One class was already studying civics, while the other was focused on history. Despite the different lessons, both groups were highly engaged and eager to learn about how government works. Sarah provided a helpful handout from AMO outlining the responsibilities of each level of government, which gave the students a clear picture of what we do at the municipal level.

On November 1st, Mayor Murphy attended the official Grand Opening of MPP Billy Denault's constituency office. On November 1st, Mayor Murphy attended the Decades Dinner and Dance hosted by the Bonnechere Museum at the Eganville Legion.

(2) ROMA Delegation Requests - Annette Gilchrist reported to Committee that the Township can apply to three ministries with up to three issues each. Committee recommends that the take the following issues: #1 Solicitor General - Increase to Policing and lack of consultation or control over levels of service and cost. #2 Ministry of Transportation - Connecting Link Contract Issues. #3 Ministry of Transportation Number Item Two - Province took over Hwy 174 and Gardiner and Don Valley Parkway - What about taking over the connecting links;

(3) Canada Day - Committee directed staff to reserve 50 drones for the Township's Canada Day celebration, rather than fireworks.

ESTABLISH NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

The next Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday November 18, 2025.

MEDIA SESSION

CONCLUSION

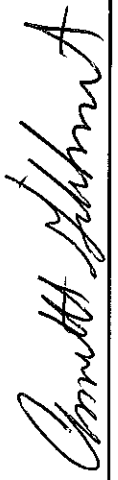
MOVED BY **Merv Buckwald**

THAT: the meeting adjourns at 2:23 p.m.

Carried



Tracey Sanderson, Chair



Annette Gilchrist, CAO/Clerk