

# **THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ARMOUR**

## **MINUTES**

May 12, 2026

The regular meeting of the Council of the Township of Armour was held on Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance were: Mayor Rod Ward; Councillors Jerry Brandt, Wendy Whitwell and Rod Blakelock; Absent: Dorothy Haggart-Davis; Delegations: Dave Creasor, Roads Supervisor and Amy Tilley, Waste Management Administrator and Health and Safety Co-ordinator; Guests: Nieves Guijarro and Alice Hewitt; Staff: Charlene Watt, Municipal Clerk and Dave Gray, CAO.

### **VIDEO RECORDING DISCLAIMER:**

Participants were informed that the meeting will be recorded to provide a record of discussions and agreements held within the meeting. By staying in the meeting, virtually or in-person, participants consented to being recorded. Participants also agreed to recordings being posted to YouTube or other distribution services.

### **INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:**

Council acknowledged the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe and recognized the historical and contemporary contributions of the local First Nations and the peoples of Turtle Island.

### **CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

The minutes of the public emergency management meeting held on April 18, 2026 were approved as circulated.

The minutes of the public meeting held on April 28, 2026 were approved as circulated.

The minutes of the regular Council meeting held on April 28, 2026 were approved as circulated.

### **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF:**

No pecuniary interest and general nature thereof were declared.

### **DELEGATIONS:**

Amy Tilley, Waste Management Administrator, presented her May 2026 Staff Report detailing the April 2026 bag counts, including comparisons to previous years. Questions were asked and answered.

Amy Tilley, Health and Safety Co-ordinator, also presented a Staff Report advising Council that she had successfully completed the Workplace Health and Safety Centre Instructor Training Course and is now certified to provide in-house training to staff. Council congratulated the Health and Safety Co-ordinator on her achievement. Questions were asked and answered.

Dave Creasor, Roads Supervisor, presented his May 2026 Staff Report. The Roads Supervisor reported that April 2026 presented significant operational challenges due to above-average rainfall and rapid snowmelt, resulting in widespread washouts and localized flooding across the Township. A "Significant Weather Event" was declared from April 13–17 to support emergency response efforts. Multiple roads were impacted, including Ferguson Road, Doe Lake Road, Horseshoe Lane, Cherry Hill Road, Chetwynd Road, Colbourne Road, North Pickerel Lake Road, Stoney Road, and areas of Skyline Drive, with extended closures required on several key routes. Temporary emergency access was provided via West Point Road through Duins Pineridge Resort property, and sand depots were established to assist residents during flood conditions. Recovery efforts are ongoing, with all municipal roads reopened and repair work continuing on shoulders, culverts, and remaining damaged areas. Spring operations have since transitioned to routine maintenance, including grading, gravel placement, surface treatment, dust control, and completion of street sweeping, while culvert inspections and repairs continue at priority locations. Equipment updates include the expected arrival of a new rubber-tire excavator in May and ongoing diagnostics on grader DPF (exhaust) issues. The Supervisor also recognized staff for

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**DELEGATIONS: cont'd.**

their extensive efforts during the flooding response and requested continued public patience as recovery work progresses. Questions were asked and answered.

**ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL:**

The list of accounts for May 2026 was approved by resolution.

**APPLICATIONS: NONE**

**BY-LAWS:**

By-law #25-2026 being a by-law to establish fees & charges for the Township of Armour and repeal By-law 57-2025 was read a third time and passed by resolution.

By-law #29-2026 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its April 2026 meetings was read in its entirety and passed by resolution.

By-law #30-2026 being a by-law to amend Zoning By-law No. 27-95, as amended, with respect to lands described as Part of Lots 21, 22, 23 and 24, Concessions 3, 4 and 5 (723 Skyline Drive), in order to fulfill a condition of approved Consent File B-049/25 (Armstrong) was read in its entirety and passed by resolution.

**REPORTS:**

Council reviewed the May 2026 Planning Report.

Council reviewed the April 21, 2026 TRI Council Sub-Committee meeting minutes. Council discussed the draft Arena and Landfill shared services agreements. Recommendations will be brought forward to the Sub-Committee. The intent is to have these agreements approved at the June 2026 TRI Council meeting.

Council reviewed the draft April 8, 2026 Almaguin Highlands O.P.P. Detachment Board meeting minutes and the approved 2026 budget.

Council reviewed the 2025 audited financial statements and financial information return from the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit.

Council reviewed the 2025 financial statements from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC).

Council reviewed the draft minutes from the April 23, 2026 Southeast Almaguin Highlands Regional Fire Services Committee meeting.

Council received an infographic update from the Almaguin Highlands Health Council outlining recent healthcare initiatives, partnerships, and strategic priorities across the Almaguin Highlands region. The update highlighted over \$12 million in healthcare investments, the securing of \$600,000 in annual provincial primary care funding, ongoing efforts to reduce primary care waitlists, expanded virtual care services, and continued collaboration with regional healthcare partners to improve access to integrated rural healthcare services. A verbal update was given on the May 7, 2026 AHHC meeting.

A verbal update was given on the May 7, 2026 Almaguin Mayors' meeting. This meeting was the last for this term of Council.

A verbal update was given on the Almaguin Community Hatchery Program and all of this year's successes and activities. Attending community events will be a focus throughout the summer.

A verbal report was given on the BlueSky May 2026 meeting.

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**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Council reviewed a letter from the Municipality of Huron Shores supporting the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands petitioning the Province to reconsider the use of lighter-grade oils for chip-and-tar surface treatment. Council tabled a supporting resolution pending input from the Township's Roads Supervisor.

Council reviewed a resolution from the Township of Perry supporting the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors petitioning the Province and requested provincial legislation amendments to enhance protections for municipal workers and contractors. Council passed a supporting resolution.

Council reviewed a donation request from Women's Own Resource Centre to support their continued initiatives in 2026/2027 at a requested amount of \$0.50 per capita. Council passed a resolution approving a donation.

Council reviewed a request from the Royal Canadian Legion asking for the Township to purchase an ad to support the Veterans Transition Programs in the Military Service Recognition Book. Council passed a resolution approving the purchase of an ad.

Council reviewed a request from MADD asking for the Township to purchase an ad to support their 2026 Campaign. Council passed a resolution approving the purchase of an ad in the annual publication.

Council reviewed a resolution from the Municipality of Shuniah requesting support in petitioning the province to extend the annual OCIF envelope with recommendations. Council passed a supporting resolution.

Council reviewed correspondence from the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit providing the Medical Officer's April 2026 report.

Council reviewed the March 2026 Monthly Jobs Report and the April 2026 Labour Focus from the Labour Market Group.

Council reviewed an Ontario News Release advising that the province is investing \$15 million to protect and support northern communities with annual funding to repair roads, bridges and build long-term resilience.

Council reviewed an Ontario News Release advising that the province is introducing legislation to support implementation of HST relief on new homes.

Council reviewed a news release from North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit extending the drug alert a second time as overdose activity exceeds pandemic levels.

Council reviewed a FONOM media release advising that Northeastern and Northwestern Ontario leaders and industry partners have joined forces to call on the provincial and federal governments to accelerate investment in Highways 11 and 17.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Council reviewed the Notice of Passing for Zoning By-law Amendment By-law No. 26-2026, respecting provisions related to shipping containers.

Council reviewed a public notice from the Recreation Co-ordinator advising that Heritage Festival 2026 has been cancelled.

Council reviewed a staff report from the CAO regarding the entrance at the Industrial Park. The Township's Highway 520 industrial park entrance project was originally intended to support shovel-ready industrial lands and future economic development through anticipated NOHFC funding; however, the Township's request to redirect funding for the project was denied. As completing the paving component would have exceeded the approved 2026 budget and required additional Capital Reserve funding, Council determined that leaving the entrance as gravel would reduce costs while maintaining flexibility for future development and lot creation. Council therefore passed

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**UNFINISHED BUSINESS: cont'd.**

a resolution directing staff to stop work prior to paving, subject to agreement with the contractor.

Council reviewed a letter from the Mayor addressed to the public regarding the PowerBank OLT Appeal for the battery energy storage system OPA/ZBA, outlining Council's prior denial based on safety and environmental concerns, the provincial context and appeal process, recent legal and expert advice indicating limited prospects of success and significant taxpayer cost to continue opposition, and the Township's intention to instead pursue good-faith negotiations to address remaining operational concerns while protecting the community and environment.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Council reviewed public notices advising that the Municipal Office and Garage will be closed on May 18, 2026, in recognition of Victoria Day and May 20, 2026 for staff training.

Council reviewed a proclamation request to designate May 17 – 23, 2026 as National Public Works Week. Council passed a proclamation resolution to honour the contribution public works services make in our communities.

Council reviewed a resolution from the Southeast Parry Sound District Planning Board advising all active consent/subdivision files require comments from the Township of Armour effective May 1, 2026 as the North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority no longer has jurisdiction.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

Resolution #2026-135 - Moved by Jerry Brandt, seconded by Rod Blakelock; That the Council of the Township of Armour approve the minutes of the emergency management public meeting held on April 18, 2026, as circulated. Carried

Resolution #2026-136 - Moved by Wendy Whitwell, seconded by Rod Blakelock; That the Council of the Township of Armour approve the minutes of the public meeting held on April 28, 2026, as circulated. Carried

Resolution #2026-137 - Moved by Jerry Brandt, seconded by Rod Blakelock; That the Council of the Township of Armour approve the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on April 28, 2026, as circulated. Carried

Resolution #2026-138 - Moved by Rod Blakelock, seconded by Jerry Brandt; That the Council of the Township of Armour approve the May 2026 accounts, in the amount of \$388,508.33 for payment, and the Mayor and the Treasurer are hereby authorized to sign cheques for same. Carried

Resolution #2026-139 - Moved by Wendy Whitwell, seconded by Rod Blakelock; That the Council of the Township of Armour have read a third time and approve By-law #25-2026 being a by-law to update the fees or charges for services provided by the Township of Armour and to repeal By-law #57-2025 and that we authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign this by-law and affix the seal of the Corporation thereto. Carried

Resolution #2026-140 – Moved by Jerry Brandt, seconded by Rod Blakelock; That the Council of the Township of Armour have read and approve By-law #29-2026 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its April 2026 meetings and that we authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign this by-law and affix the seal of the Corporation thereto. Carried

Resolution #2026-141 - Moved by Jerry Brandt, seconded by Wendy Whitwell; That the Council of the Township of Armour approve By-law #30-2026, being a by-law to amend Zoning By-law No. 27-95, as amended, with respect to lands described as Part of Lots 21, 22, 23 and 24, Concessions 3, 4 and 5 (723 Skyline Drive), in order to fulfill a condition of approved Consent File B-049/25 (Armstrong); and further that the Mayor

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**RESOLUTIONS: cont'd.**

and Clerk be authorized to sign the by-law and affix the seal of the Corporation thereto.  
Carried

Resolution #2026-142 - Moved by Jerry Brandt, seconded by Rod Blakelock; That the Council of the Township of Armour support the Municipality of Huron Shores and the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands that the Ministry of the Environment reconsider the use of lighter-grade oils for chip-and-tar surface treatment, or develop a suitable alternative, in recognition of the reduced durability and increased maintenance costs experienced by municipalities. **Tabled**

Resolution #2026-143 - Moved by Wendy Whitwell, seconded by Rod Blakelock; That the Council of the Township of Armour supports the Township of Perry and the Association of Ontario Roads Supervisors and request provincial legislation amendments to enhance protections for municipal workers and contractors;  
And That the Province of Ontario be urged to:

- Implement stronger legislative measures addressing interference with municipal workers;
- Enhance protections during declared Significant Weather Events; and
- Improve enforcement and co-ordination with police services. Carried

Resolution #2026-144 - Moved by Wendy Whitwell, seconded by Jerry Brandt; That the Council of the Township of Armour approve a donation to the Women's Own Resource Centre in the amount of \$750 to support their core programming and initiatives in our community. Carried

Resolution #2026-145 - Moved by Jerry Brandt, seconded by Rod Blakelock; That the Council of the Township of Armour approve a 1/4 page advertisement in the Annual Military Service Recognition Book at a cost of \$650 to support the Veterans Transition Program. Carried

Resolution #2026-146 - Moved by Rod Blakelock, seconded by Jerry Brandt; That the Council of the Township of Armour support MADD Canada by approving a 1/4 page advertisement in the MADD Message Yearbook at a cost of \$699 plus HST to support the work they do in our community. Carried

Resolution #2026-147 - Moved by Wendy Whitwell, seconded by Jerry Brandt; That the Council of the Township of Armour supports the Municipality of Shuniah's resolution #167-26 in calling upon the Government of Ontario to extend the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) beyond 2026 at a minimum of \$400 million annually, indexed to inflation, with a renewed multi-year funding framework, regular formula reviews, a contingency reserve, and transparent annual reporting to ensure sustainable infrastructure funding for small and rural municipalities. Carried

Resolution #2026-148 - Moved by Rod Blakelock, seconded by Jerry Brandt; That the May 12, 2026 Staff Report from the CAO regarding the Highway 520 Industrial Park entrance be received;

And That Council direct staff to pursue an amendment to the existing contract to remove the paving component of the Highway 520 Industrial Park entrance, subject to contractor agreement;

And Further That any outstanding project costs be funded through the Capital Reserve.  
Carried

Resolution #2026-149 - Moved by Jerry Brandt, seconded by Wendy Whitwell; WHEREAS, public works professionals focus on infrastructure, facilities, and services that are of vital importance to sustainable and resilient communities and to public health, high quality of life, and well-being of the people of Ontario;

AND WHEREAS, the year 2026 marks the 66th annual National Public Works Week;

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**RESOLUTIONS: cont'd.**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the Township of Armour hereby designate the week of May 17–23, 2026, as National Public Works Week and urges all citizens to pay tribute to our public works professionals, engineers, managers, and employees, and to recognize the substantial contributions they make to protecting our national health, safety, and advancing quality of life for all. Carried

Resolution #2026-150 - Moved by Rod Blakelock, seconded by Jerry Brandt; That the Council of the Township of Armour adjourns this regular council meeting at 8:23 p.m. until the next regular council meeting scheduled for May 26, 2026 or at the call of the Mayor or the Clerk. Carried

Original Signed by Rod Ward

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Rod Ward, Mayor

Original Signed by Charlene Watt

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Charlene Watt, Municipal Clerk