

Regular Meeting of the Village of Sundridge Council

Wednesday, April, 22, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

Village of Sundridge Council Chambers

Mayor Shawn Jackson (electronic participation), Deputy Mayor Sharon Smith, Councillor Luke Preston (electronic participation), Councillor Vicki Whitmell, and Councillor Fraser Williamson (electronic participation)

STAFF: Christine Hickey; Treasurer
Nancy Millar; Clerk Administrator

COUNCIL MINUTES

1) CALL TO ORDER

The Chair, Mayor Shawn Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:37p.m.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Village of Sundridge would like to acknowledge that we are meeting on Williams Treaty Lands and they are the traditional home of the Anishinabek First Nations. We wish to honour the original inhabitants, thanking them for their land stewardship and recognizing our responsibilities to promote the healing of our communities through earnest and sincere application of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission recommendations. Miigwech.”

2) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Resolution #2026-096

Moved By: Fraser Williamson

Seconded By: Vicki Whitmell

THAT the agenda for the April 22, 2026 regular meeting be approved as circulated.

Recorded Vote	For	Against	Abstain
Preston, Luke	Y		
Smith, Sharon	Y		
Whitmell, Vicki	Y		
Williamson, Fraser	Y		
Jackson, Shawn	Y		
CARRIED.			

3) **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

Deputy Mayor Sharon Smith declared a pecuniary interest in Item (9.4).

I, Sharon Smith, declare a pecuniary interest in Item (9.4) on the April 22, 2026 Council agenda. I am making this declaration because I am the Treasurer of the Sundridge Horticultural Society. I confirm that I will not vote on the matter, I will not take part in discussion on any question in respect of the matter, and I will not attempt in any way whether before, during or after the meeting to influence the voting on any such question.

4) **PLANNING MATTERS - None**

5) **DELEGATIONS - None**

6) **PRESENTATIONS - None**

7) **CONSENT ITEMS**

[Items from the Consent List may be moved by members to be discussed under Section 9 – New Business/Action Items]

7 (E.1) Follow Up List – April 22, 2026

7 (E.2) Joint Building Committee Permit Summary – March 2026

7 (E.3) *Moved into Committee of the whole by Luke Preston*

7 (E.4) FONOM – Urgent Action on Highway Safety

7 (E.5) FONOM – FONOM Board Advances Northern Priorities at Meeting in Kirkland Lake

7 (E.6) *Moved into Committee of the whole by Luke Preston*

7 (E.7) FONOM – FONOM Calls for Urgent Action Following Another Fatal Collision on Northern Highway

7 (E.8) The City of Mississauga – Resolution 0060-2026 to encourage collective advocacy for local democratic representation in education

7 (E.9) Township of Strong Resolution SDMC Follow up

7 (E.10) Township of Strong Resolution – CEMC Wages

7 (E.11) *Moved into Committee of the Whole by Shawn Jackson*

7 (E.12) Communication from the Township of Strong regarding Village of Sundridge Resolution regarding Administration Services and the ask to work collaboratively to determine a consistent process regarding the fee for shared service administration.

8) APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

Resolution #2026-097

Moved By: Luke Preston

Seconded By: Sharon Smith

THAT Items listed as Consent Items for April 22, 2026 and the recommendations contained therein be received;

AND THAT any Items for which pecuniary interest has been declared are deemed not to have been voted on or discussed by the individual making the declaration.

Recorded Vote	For	Against	Abstain
Preston, Luke	Y		
Smith, Sharon	Y		
Whitmell, Vicki	Y		
Williamson, Fraser	Y		
Jackson, Shawn	Y		
CARRIED.			

9) NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

9.1. Accessibility Plan

Resolution #2026-098

Moved By: Luke Preston

Seconded By: Vicki Whitmell

THAT the Council for the Village of Sundridge receives the draft Accessibility Plan,

AND THAT after having discussed the plan and the suggested revisions, hereby directs Staff to proceed with preparing a final version of the plan,

AND FURTHER THAT the plan be brought back to next regular meeting of council for adoption.

Recorded Vote	For	Against	Abstain
Preston, Luke	Y		

Smith, Sharon	Y
Whitmell, Vicki	Y
Williamson, Fraser	Y
Jackson, Shawn	Y

CARRIED.

9.2. Recreation Coordinator for multiple municipalities

Resolution #2026-099

Moved By: Fraser Williamson

Seconded By: Sharon Smith

WHEREAS The Village of Sundridge has, along with the Township of Strong and The Township of Joly, has a recreation committee that looks after community celebrations, pre-teen dances, and physical activity nights. The committee made up of volunteers and municipal councillors, does not have the capacity to set up and organize regular events like weekly sports nights or leagues for both adults children.

AND THAT the three municipalities do not currently have a recreation coordinator position

BE RESOLVED THAT The Council for the Village of Sundridge bring this issue to next tri-council meeting to discuss such a position.

AND THAT the Village of Sundridge along with the Township of Strong and the Township of Joly reach out to the Village of South River and The Township of Machar to create a region wide recreation coordinator position.

Recorded Vote	For	Against	Abstain
Preston, Luke	Y		
Smith, Sharon	Y		
Whitmell, Vicki	Y		
Williamson, Fraser	Y		
Jackson, Shawn	Y		

CARRIED.

9.3. Investigation of full services

Moved By: Fraser Williamson

Seconded By: Luke Preston

WHEREAS The Village of Sundridge has a wastewater collection and treatment system which protects Lake Bernard from contamination. The village is not a full-service municipality as it does not have a municipal water service.

AND THAT having water service provides safe reliable drinking water eliminates the need for bottled water,

AND THAT having municipal water along with wastewater systems enables growth to a municipality which would attract potential builds of businesses, senior's apartment buildings and more homes.

AND THAT having a municipal water system would also include the installation of fire hydrants, which would increase safety and reduce owner and tenant insurance rates.

AND THAT studies show municipal water systems help protect local groundwater that flows into Lake Bernard, keeping Lake Bernard safe from contamination.

AND FURTHER THAT the initial costs of setting up a water service is costly the benefits outweigh the cost.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Council of the Village of Sundridge instruct staff to research the costs for the installation of a municipal water service.

AND THAT the Village of Sundridge direct staff to research grants from the provincial and federal government for full or partial coverage of the set-up costs and present it to a future meeting of council

MOTION TO POSTPONE

Resolution #2026-100

Moved By: Fraser Williamson

Seconded by: Luke Preston

THAT the above motion be postponed until after a public survey is conducted to obtain resident input on the need for municipal water and their interest in knowing more about municipal water services.

Recorded Vote	For	Against	Abstain
Preston, Luke	Y		
Smith, Sharon	Y		
Whitmell, Vicki	Y		
Williamson, Fraser	Y		
Jackson, Shawn	Y		
CARRIED.			

9.4. Sundridge Horticultural Society – Expenses for Planting of Flowers

Resolution #2026-101
Moved By: Vicki Whitmell
Seconded By: Fraser Williamson

THAT the Council for the Corporation of The Village of Sundridge receives the correspondence from the Sundridge Horticultural Society,

AND THAT the Horticultural Society is asking for an additional monetary contribution of \$1,000 per year for a total of \$2,000 annually to assist the society with the cost of planting nine flowerbeds, 18 upright planters and 12 hanging baskets throughout the village,

AND FURTHER THAT Council support the request to increase the annual contribution to the total of \$2000.00 per year starting in 2026.

Recorded Vote	For	Against	Abstain
Preston, Luke	Y		
Smith, Sharon	Y		
Whitmell, Vicki	Y		
Williamson, Fraser	Y		
Jackson, Shawn	Y		
CARRIED.			

9.5. Tri Council Items

Resolution #2026-102
Moved By: Fraser Williamson
Seconded By: Sharon Smith

THAT the Council for the Corporation of the Village of Sundridge would like the following items to be included on the upcoming Tri Council Agenda for further discussion:

- Transportation re: Northlander
- Potential addressing issues within municipal and emergency services databases

Recorded Vote	For	Against	Abstain
Preston, Luke	Y		
Smith, Sharon	Y		
Whitmell, Vicki	Y		
Williamson, Fraser	Y		
Jackson, Shawn	Y		
CARRIED.			

- 9.6. Nuclear Waste Management Organization – Transportation of High-Level Radioactive Waste on our Highways; Second Comment Period in Federal Review closes May 10, 2026

Resolution #2026-103
Moved By: Sharon Smith
Seconded By: Vicki Whitmell

THAT the Council for the Corporation of the Village of Sundridge receives the correspondence from Northwatch,

AND THAT Councillor Whitmell will prepare a draft letter expressing Council's concerns,

AND FURTHER THAT this draft letter will be brought back to council for further discussion.

Recorded Vote	For	Against	Abstain
Preston, Luke	Y		
Smith, Sharon	Y		
Whitmell, Vicki	Y		
Williamson, Fraser	Y		
Jackson, Shawn	Y		
CARRIED.			

- 9.7. O'Reg 284-09 Report

Resolution #2026-104
Moved By: Fraser Williamson
Seconded By: Luke Preston

THAT the Council for The Village of Sundridge receives Marjorie Robinson, Consultant's Report regarding the reporting requirements for Ontario Regulation 284/09;

AND THAT Council is aware that the analysis shows that in 2026 the Village should anticipate an overall change in its surplus of approximately \$467,000.00;

AND THAT Council acknowledges that the level of investment in the proposed 2026 budget is approximately 45% of the noted sustainable amount as indicated in the current Asset Management Plan.

Recorded Vote	For	Against	Abstain
Preston, Luke	Y		
Smith, Sharon	Y		
Whitmell, Vicki	Y		
Williamson, Fraser	Y		
Jackson, Shawn	Y		
CARRIED.			

9.8. District of Parry Sound Municipal Association Spring 2026 Meeting

Resolution #2026-105

Moved By: Fraser Williamson

Seconded By: Sharon Smith

THAT the Council for the Corporation of the Village of Sundridge receives the agenda and registration for the District of Parry Sound Municipal Association's Spring Meeting,

AND THAT the following members of Council and staff will attend:

- Fraser Williamson
- Sharon Smith
- Luke Preston
- Vicki Whitmell
- Nancy Millar
- Robin Ferrante

Recorded Vote	For	Against	Abstain
Preston, Luke	Y		
Smith, Sharon	Y		
Whitmell, Vicki	Y		
Williamson, Fraser	Y		
Jackson, Shawn	Y		
CARRIED.			

ITEMS MOVED INTO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

7 (E.3) FONOM – Ensuring Equitable Access to Housing Enabling Infrastructure Funding for Northern Ontario Municipalities

Resolution #2026-106

Moved By: Luke Preston

Seconded By: Vicki Whitmell

THAT the Council for the Corporation of the Village of Sundridge receives the communication from FONOM re equitable access to housing enabling infrastructure funding,

AND THAT Council would like to send a letter of support to FONOM regarding their efforts,

AND FURTHER THAT the support letter be sent to municipalities in the almaguin area.

Recorded Vote	For	Against	Abstain
Preston, Luke	Y		
Smith, Sharon	Y		
Whitmell, Vicki	Y		
Williamson, Fraser	Y		
Jackson, Shawn	Y		
CARRIED.			

7 (E.6) FONOM – FONOM Calls for Fair Housing Funding as Development Charge Changes Risk Leaving Northern Communities Behind

Resolution #2026-107

Moved By: Luke Preston

Seconded By: Vicki Whitmell

THAT the Council for the Corporation of the Village of Sundridge receives the communication from FONOM re fair housing funding,

AND THAT Council would like to send a letter of support to FONOM regarding their efforts,

AND FURTHER THAT the support letter be sent to municipalities in the almaguin area.

Recorded Vote	For	Against	Abstain
Preston, Luke	Y		
Smith, Sharon	Y		
Whitmell, Vicki	Y		
Williamson, Fraser	Y		
Jackson, Shawn	Y		
CARRIED.			

Deputy Mayor Sharon Smith assumed the Chair.

7 (E.11) Township of Strong Resolution - Village of Sundridge Staff Report regarding the CEMC Wages

Resolution #2026-108

Moved By: Shawn Jackson

Seconded By: Luke Preston

THAT the Council for the Corporation of the Village of Sundridge receives the resolution from the Township of Strong regarding the CEMC Staff Report.

Recorded Vote	For	Against	Abstain
Preston, Luke	Y		
Smith, Sharon	Y		
Whitmell, Vicki	Y		
Williamson, Fraser	Y		
Jackson, Shawn	Y		
CARRIED.			

Mayor Shawn Jackson resumed the chair.

10) COMMITTEE REPORTS/MINUTES

Resolution #2026-109

Moved By: Fraser Williamson

Seconded By: Sharon Smith

THAT Items 10 (A.1) to 10 (B.1) be received and discussed.

10 (A.1) SSJ Arena & Hall – April 1, 2026

10 (A.2) Almaguin Highlands Health Council – March 5, 2026

10 (B.1) Regular Meeting – April 8, 2026

Recorded Vote	For	Against	Abstain
Preston, Luke	Y		
Smith, Sharon	Y		
Whitmell, Vicki	Y		
Williamson, Fraser	Y		
Jackson, Shawn	Y		
CARRIED.			

11) STAFF REPORTS – None

12) BY-LAWS

12.1. By-Law No. 2026-019

Resolution #2026-110

Moved By: Fraser Williamson

Seconded By: Sharon Smith

THAT By-Law No. 2026-019, being a by-law to establish the tax ratios for 2026, be approved.

Recorded Vote	For	Against	Abstain
Preston, Luke	Y		
Smith, Sharon	Y		
Whitmell, Vicki	Y		
Williamson, Fraser	Y		
Jackson, Shawn	Y		
CARRIED.			

12.2. By-Law No. 2026-020 Adoption of Tax Rates (Budget Approval)

Resolution #2026-111

Moved By: Sharon Smith

Seconded By: Fraser Williamson

THAT By-Law No. 2026-020, being a by-law to adopt the tax rates and to further provide for penalty and interest in default of payment thereof for 2026, be approved.

Recorded Vote	For	Against	Abstain
Preston, Luke	Y		
Smith, Sharon	Y		
Whitmell, Vicki	Y		
Williamson, Fraser	Y		
Jackson, Shawn	Y		
CARRIED.			

12.3. By-Law No. 2026-021 Delegate Authority (Election)

Resolution #2026-112

Moved By: Luke Preston

Seconded By: Sharon Smith

THAT By-Law No. 2026-021, being a By-Law to delegate authority to the Clerk Administrator to carry out certain acts for which Council may be restricted during the 2026 Election (also known as "Lame Duck"), be approved.

Recorded Vote	For	Against	Abstain
Preston, Luke	Y		
Smith, Sharon	Y		

Whitmell, Vicki Y
 Williamson, Fraser Y
 Jackson, Shawn Y
CARRIED.

12.4. By-Law No. 2026-022 Establish a Joint Compliance Audit Committee

Resolution #2026-113

Moved By: Fraser Williamson

Seconded By: Vicki Whitmell

THAT By-Law No. 2026-022, being a by-law to establish a joint compliance audit committee, and to appoint Committee members for the 2026 municipal election period, be approved.

Recorded Vote	For	Against	Abstain
Preston, Luke	Y		
Smith, Sharon	Y		
Whitmell, Vicki	Y		
Williamson, Fraser	Y		
Jackson, Shawn	Y		

CARRIED.

13) ANNOUCEMENTS

- **Shawn Jackson** – Nothing at this time.
- **Sharon Smith**
 - Attending the District of Parry Sound Social Services Board “Path Forward” housing session on April 23rd in Magnetawan
 - The SSJ Recreation Committee is hosting a Pre-teen dance on May 1st from 6-8pm at the SSJ Arena.
- **Luke Preston**
 - Attending the District of Parry Sound Social Services Board “Path Forward” housing session on April 23rd in Magnetawan
- **Fraser Williamson**
 - HAZMAT Day is May 23rd and Councillor Williamson is looking for coverage as he has other commitments on this day. Councillor Vicki Whitmell will attend.
- **Vicki Whitmell**
 - Attending the District of Parry Sound Social Services Board “Path Forward” housing session on April 23rd in Magnetawan
- **Nancy Millar, Clerk Administrator**

- The new playground installation is scheduled for the week of June 8th, 2026.
- The construction tender for High Street closed with two bid submissions having been received. The project has been awarded to Duncor at a cost of \$131,563.00.

14) INTRODUCTION OF FUTURE MOTIONS – None

15) CONFIRMING BY-LAW

Resolution #2026-114

Moved By: Luke Preston

Seconded By: Vicki Whitmell

THAT By-Law No. 2026-023, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council of the Corporation of the Village of Sundridge at its regular meeting of **April, 22, 2026**, be adopted.

Recorded Vote	For	Against	Abstain
Preston, Luke	Y		
Smith, Sharon	Y		
Whitmell, Vicki	Y		
Williamson, Fraser	Y		
Jackson, Shawn	Y		
CARRIED.			

16) CONSIDERATION OF A CLOSED SESSION – None

17) ADJOURNMENT

Resolution #2026-115

Moved By: Fraser Williamson

Seconded By: Sharon Smith

THAT we do now adjourn at 8:09 p.m. until the Regular Council Meeting on May, 13, 2026, or at the call of the Mayor.

Recorded Vote	For	Against	Abstain
Preston, Luke	Y		
Smith, Sharon	Y		
Whitmell, Vicki	Y		
Williamson, Fraser	Y		
Jackson, Shawn	Y		
CARRIED.			

Shawn Jackson, Mayor

Nancy Millar, Clerk Administrator