

Regular Meeting of the Village of Sundridge Council

Wednesday, April, 8, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Village of Sundridge Council Chambers

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

STAFF: Al Raney, Village Superintendent
Jason Newman, By-Law Enforcement Officer
Andrew Torrance, Fire Chief
Christine Hickey; Treasurer
Nancy Millar; Clerk Administrator

COUNCIL MINUTES

1) CALL TO ORDER

The Chair, Mayor Shawn Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:00p.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 #2026-084

Moved By: Luke Preston

Seconded By: Fraser Williamson

THAT the agenda for the April 8, 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** - None
- 4) **PLANNING MATTERS** - None
- 5) **DELEGATIONS** – None
- 6) **PRESENTATIONS**

6 (A.1) SSFD Fire Chief, Andrew Torrance
Resolution #2026-085
Moved By: Vicki Whitmell
Seconded By: Luke Preston

THAT the presentation/update by Chief Torrance, be received with thanks.

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

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 8, 2026

7 (E.2) Sundridge Wastewater Treatment Facility and Collection System Report January 1 to December 31, 2025

7 (E.3) Sundridge Strong Fire Department Fire Chief Report March 12/26

7 (E.4) Sundridge Strong Fire Prevention Officer Report March 12/26

7 (E.5) Sundridge Strong Union Public Library – Librarian’s Report March

7 (E.6) North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit February Highlights

7 (E.7) ADR Chambers (Integrity Commissioner) Annual Report 2025

7 (E.8) Ministry of Emergency Preparedness and Response – Notification of successful grant application

7 (E.9) District Social Services Administration Board – CAO Report March

7 (E.10) Township of Strong R2026-104 SSFD 2026 Budget Approval

7 (E.11) Almaguin Community Economic Development – DoED Report March
26, 2026

7 (E.12) City of Ottawa Motion to Ministry of the Solicitor General regarding
Proposed new regulation under the restricting public consumption
of illegal substances Act.

7 (E.13) Rideau Lakes communication to Senate; regarding Alto High
Speed Rail Project

8) APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

Resolution #2026-086

Moved By: Sharon Smith

Seconded By: Fraser Williamson

THAT Items listed as Consent Items for April 8, 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. Council Follow Up-List Items
(Village Superintendent & By-Law Enforcement)

Resolution #2026-087

Moved By: Fraser Williamson

Seconded By: Sharon Smith

THAT the Council for the Village of Sundridge discusses the following
items with the Village Superintendent and By-Law Enforcement Officer:

1. Intersection of Main Street & Paget Street
2. High Street Addressing
3. Development of a municipal parking lot (northeast side of the intersection at John Street and Main Street)

AND THAT the following measures will be taken to address Item #1:

- More enforcement of no parking zones near the intersection
- Signage in identified areas
- Letters to business owners clarifying parking on main street is for patron use during business hours;

AND THAT the following measures will be taken to address Item #2

- Staff to ensure that the data is recorded accurately within the 911 and Canada Post Systems
- Staff to ask the Township of Strong to look into their data records within the 911 and Canada Post Systems
- Staff to suggest to the resident that brought this item forward to add special delivery instructions re: access to High Street off of Albert Street;

AND THAT Item #3 having been discussed has been deemed to be not feasible in this area at this time.

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

- 9.2. Draft Budget – April 8th (including all Council requested revisions)

Resolution #2026-088

Moved By: Luke Preston

Seconded By: Vicki Whitmell

THAT the Council receives the April 8th draft budget,

AND THAT Council directs Staff to promote the draft budget as presented this evening to be brought forward to a town hall / public meeting on April 22nd, with the intent to adopt the 2026 budget during the regular council meeting on April 22, 2026.

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

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

9.3. High Rock Lookout Park 2026 Budget

Resolution #2026-089
Moved By: Sharon Smith
Seconded By: Fraser Williamson

THAT the Council for the Corporation of the Village of Sundridge receives the High Rock Lookout Park 2026 budget in the amount of \$4,145.96,

AND THAT Council approves of the budget with the village's share being \$1,658.38.

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

9.4. SSJ Recreation Committee 2026 Canada Day Celebration & Fireworks

Resolution #2026-090
Moved By: Fraser Williamson
Seconded By: Sharon Smith

THAT The Council for the Corporation of The Village of Sundridge receive the correspondence from the Recreation Committee regarding the 2026 Canada Day Celebration and Fireworks Display,

AND THAT Council grants permission for the use of Lion's Park and Boat Launch area for the activities and fireworks display,

AND THAT the SSJ Recreation Committee is responsible for ensuring that all vendors, artists, refreshment / food providers asked or hired by the committee to provide services during the event obtain all permits or licences as required by the municipality or applicable agencies,

AND THAT Council agrees to pass a by-law for the closure of Main Street from 21 Main St. to 118 Main St. on Saturday June 27, 2026 provided there are an appropriate number of committee members and recreational

volunteers to secure and supervise the barricades at the pre-determined road closure locations,

AND FURTHER THAT all applicable agencies and departments be notified (i.e. CN Rail, OPP, Sundridge Strong Fire Department, Parry Sound EMS, and C.E.M.C).

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

- 9.5. Strategic Plan
Resolution #2026-091
Moved By: Luke Preston
Seconded By: Vicki Whitmell

WHEREAS the Village of Sundridge has previously initiated a Strategic Plan that remains incomplete;

AND WHEREAS Council has now approved an Operational Plan, providing a clear foundation for priorities and implementation;

AND WHEREAS Council has identified the importance of continued framework modernization to support effective governance, service delivery, and long-term sustainability;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council directs staff to review the existing draft Strategic Plan and report back with recommendations to complete and finalize the plan;

AND FURTHER THAT staff assess the need for external consulting support to facilitate this work and provide options, including scope, timelines, and budget considerations, for Council's review.

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

9.6. Zoning By-Law Review and Update
Resolution #2026-092
Moved By: Luke Preston
Seconded By: Sharon Smith

WHEREAS the Village of Sundridge has approved an Official Plan that includes priorities related to housing and community growth;

AND WHEREAS Council has identified the need to modernize planning and regulatory frameworks to better enable a range of housing options;

AND WHEREAS the current Zoning By-law may present barriers to innovative and attainable housing forms, including smaller unit sizes and alternative housing models;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council directs staff to initiate a comprehensive review of the Village's Zoning By-law, with a focus on enabling housing development;

AND FURTHER THAT the review include consideration of minimum dwelling size requirements, density, and other regulatory provisions that may limit attainable and diverse housing options;

AND FURTHER THAT staff report back to Council with recommended amendments and an implementation approach.

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

10) **COMMITTEE REPORTS/MINUTES**
Resolution #2026-093
Moved By: Sharon Smith
Seconded By: Vicki Whitmell

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

10 (A.1) Almaguin Highlands Health Centre – December 4, 2025

10 (A.2) Almaguin Highlands Health Centre – January 8, 2026

10 (A.3) Almaguin Highlands Health Centre – February 5, 2026

10 (A.4) SSJ Recreation Committee – March 5, 2026

10 (A.5) Almaguin Community Economic Development – Feb. 26/26

- 10 (A.6) Sundridge & District Medical Centre – February 17, 2026
- 10 (A.7) Sundridge Strong Fire Committee – March 12, 2026
- 10 (A.8) High Rock Lookout Park Committee – March 23, 2026
- 10 (A.9) Sundridge Strong Union Public Library – February 19, 2026
 - 10 (A.9.1) SSUPL Board Reserves Policy
 - 10 (A.9.2) SSUPL Board Volunteers Policy
- 10 (B.1) Regular Council – March 25, 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** – None

13) **ANNOUCEMENTS**

➤ **Shawn Jackson** – Nothing at this time.

➤ **Sharon Smith** – Nothing at this time.

➤ **Luke Preston**

- will be attending the following:

- DSSAB Housing Meeting April 23rd, 2026
- FONOM Conference
- AMO Conference

➤ **Fraser Williamson** – Nothing at this time.

➤ **Vicki Whitmell**– Nothing at this time.

➤ **Nancy Millar, Clerk Administrator** – Nothing at this time.

14) **INTRODUCTION OF FUTURE MOTIONS** - None

15) **CONFIRMING BY-LAW**

Resolution #2026-094

Moved By: Sharon Smith

Seconded By: Vicki Whitmell

THAT By-Law No. 2026-018, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council of the Corporation of the Village of Sundridge at its regular meeting of **April, 8, 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 #2026-095
Moved By: Fraser Williamson
Seconded By: Luke Preston

THAT we do now adjourn at 8:31p.m. until the Regular Council Meeting on April, 22, 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