

**MINUTES OF McMURRICH/MONTEITH TOWNSHIP
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING - TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2026**

The Council of the Township of McMurrich/Monteith met Tuesday, July 7, 2026, inside the Council Chambers

Present: Mayor: Glynn Robinson; Council Members: Vicky Roeder-Martin, Terry Currie, Daniel O'Halloran, and Craig White.

Staff present: Terry Sararas, CAO, Cheryl Marshall, Clerk/Treasurer, Allyson Pedwell, Deputy-Clerk/Deputy-Treasurer, Ryan McFarland, Fire Chief, Neil Hellam, Public Works Superintendent

Audience: Izzy McAughey. Recipients of the Dr. Richardson Bursary: Geno Piercey, Ewan McKean, Chase Koopal, also Stephanie and Dustin Piercey, Will Koopal.

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm

Council made presentation of the Dr. Richardson Bursary to students.

2. Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting:

2.1 Council – June 16, 2026

3. List of proposed resolutions for the meeting:

None

4. Declaration of pecuniary interest and general nature thereof:

Vicky Roeder-Martin made declaration on 6.1 and 10.2 as she is employed by Sprucedale United Church

5. Delegations:

5.1 Staff Report: Public Works- Council discussed crowns on the gravel roads, John St: 1 culvert is \$20,000, the status will be changed on a portion of the road (trail to turnaround), Dust control on Selena Dr, Gravel being applied on Stisted S in 2 weeks time.

5.2 Staff Report: Fire Chief- The new pick up truck has been delivered, Council discussed the unused sled and it is recommended that it is donated to Fire Fighters without borders. Resolution below

5.3 Staff Report: New funding program – Build Communities Strong Fund: Council discussed future maintenance costs associated with the proposed improvements, the boardwalk and accessibility, and closing the rink to deter bird roosting. Resolution below

5.4 Staff Report: Social Media Platform Statistics. Council discussed seeing graphs/visual aids to show usage. Staff asked Council if they would be at the Township table at Summerfest and for an exemption to the Noise bylaw (27-2024) until midnight for the music concert. Resolution below

6. Business Arising From a Previous Meeting:

6.1 Adam Kozlowski, Planscape – Responses to comments received at Public Meeting – Municipally-initiated zoning amendment – definitions: Council discussed process with staff. Resolution below

Member Roeder-Martin declared a conflict of interest and left the meeting room. She did not participate in the discussions or vote on the matter.

6.2 Discussion re: request to purchase Land Use Permit - Seguin Trail (Park to Park Trail) Staff recommended petitioning to the MPP and MP for the federal and provincial government to budget resources for upgrading the Trans Canada trail, known as Seguin Trail.

7. Quotes, Tenders, RFP's:

None

8. Accounts for Approval:

8.1 Financial Report – June, 2026

9. Applications:

None

10. Bylaws:

10.1 34-2026 Confirm Council Meeting – June 16, 2026

10.2 31-2026 Zoning Bylaw Amendment – Definitions – revised draft copy
Member Roeder-Martin declared a conflict of interest and left the meeting room. She did not participate in the discussions or vote on the matter.

10.3 35-2026 Enter into Agreement with RSM Building Consultants and appoint officers - revisions
Resolutions below

11. Council Reports:

None

12. Correspondence:

12.1 Belvedere Heights Home of the Aged – Meeting minutes – April 22/26

12.2 Township of McGarry – resolution – establishment of Northern Ontario Policing Grant – resolution below

12.3 Almaguin Community Economic Development (ACED) Agenda Package – June 25, 2026 meeting

12.4 Town of Parry Sound - Provincial Offences Act (POA) Advisory Committee Report – Advocacy for set fines and costs payable under the POA – resolution below

12.5 FONOM – support initiatives aimed at modernizing future of Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport

12.6 NBPS District Health Unit – Advocacy re: Healthy Smiles Ontario Fee Schedule and Access to Dental Care – resolution below

12.7 Town of Kearney – resolution requesting the Ministry of Health to amend their contract with the Ontario Medical Association to include Town of Kearney and Twp of McMurrich/Monteith – resolution below

12.8 Village of South River – Ontario Transit Investment Fund application
Resolution below

13. New Business:

Member O'Halloran reported on insurance coverage for members appointed to the Southeast Parry Sound District Planning Board.
Member Currie inquired about improving Staff/Council communications.

14. Closed Session: Section 239 (2)

None

15. Adjournment: Council adjourned this meeting at 8:48 p.m.

Resolutions:

2026-148 Currie/Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council approves the minutes of the Regular Council meeting and Public Meeting held June 16, 2026. **Carried**

2026-149 Currie/Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council receives the report from Neil Hellam, Public Works Superintendent dated July 7, 2026 and hereby directs Staff to initiate the process to change the level of maintenance on John Street as follows: Class 5, year round maintenance from Highway 518 West to civic number #24, and Class 6, seasonal maintenance thereafter to Seguin Trail. **Carried**

2026-150 Currie/Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council receives the report from Ryan McFarland, Fire Chief and hereby declares the rescue sled as surplus and directs Staff to dispose of the unit by way of donation to Firefighters Without Borders. **Carried**

2026-151 Currie/Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council receives the report from Lisa Firby, Communications and Recreation Co-ordinator relating to a FedNor funding program, named Build Communities Strong Fund – FedNor Local Impact Stream Grant and hereby accepts the recommendation and directs Staff to submit an application to FedNor for the Community Centre upgrades and Revitalization items listed in the report. **Carried**

2026-152 Currie/Roeder-Martin

Be It Resolved that Council receives the report from Lisa Firby, Communications and Recreation Co-ordinator relating to an analysis of social media platforms and thanks Lisa for making these efforts to enhance the municipality's communications with the public. **Carried**

2026-153 Currie/O'Halloran

Be It Resolved that Council receives the response from Planscape, dated June 16, 2026 respecting the Municipally-initiated zoning amendment – definitions **And Further That** pursuant to Section 34(17) of the Planning Act, 2025 respecting the changes to the Municipally-initiated zoning amendment – definitions, following the public hearing held on June 16, 2026 that Council hereby determines that no further notice of public hearing is to be given respecting the proposed bylaw. **Carried**

2026-154 Currie/White

Be It Resolved that Council accepts first, second and third readings and hereby passes Bylaw 31-2026 to amend Zoning Bylaw 16-2016 Section 2 - Definitions, specifically for Community Centre, Place of Assembly, Place of Worship and Restaurant. **Carried**

2026-155 Roeder-Martin/Currie

Be It Resolved that Council grants an exemption to the Noise Bylaw #27-2024 for July 24th Summerfest Concert. The exemption will be until 12am midnight, for concert purposes only. **Carried**

2026-156 O'Halloran/White **Be It Resolved** that Council accepts first, second and third readings and hereby passes Bylaw 34-2026 to confirm the council meeting held June 16, 2026. **Carried**

2026-157 O'Halloran/White

Be It Resolved that Council accepts first, second and third readings and hereby passes Bylaw 35-2026 to appoint Building Officials (RSM Building Consultants) and repeal Bylaw 32-2026. **Carried**

2026-158 White/O'Halloran

Be It Resolved that Council supports Resolution 140/2026 from the Township of McGarry calling on the Government of Ontario to establish a \$100 million Northern Ontario Policing Grant, phased in over three years to support the 157 municipalities across Northern Ontario served by both the Ontario Provincial Police and municipal police services. **Carried**

2025-159 O'Halloran/White

Be It Resolved that Council receives the Provincial Offences Act Advisory Committee report – Advocacy for Set Fines & Costs Payable Under the POA and hereby supports their resolution dated May 28, 2026 calling upon the Attorney General of Ontario requesting a review of the set fine amounts, and the costs payable upon conviction set out in Ontario Regulation 915 under the Provincial Offences Act and further that the Province of Ontario be urged to modernize set fines as necessary to ensure penalties remain meaningful as a deterrent and as a community safety device, in addition to ensuring the sustainability of administering POA court services at the municipal level. **Carried**

2026-160 White/O'Halloran

Be It Resolved that Council supports resolution #BOH/06/04 from the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit calling on the Ministry of Health to increase reimbursement rates under the Health Smiles Ontario program to improve provider participation and access to dental care for children and youth. **Carried**

2026-161 O'Halloran/White

WHEREAS access to primary healthcare services is a critical component of the health, safety, and well-being of residents in the Town of Kearney and the Township of McMurrich/Monteith;

AND WHEREAS the Burk's Falls and District area serves as the local catchment area for primary healthcare services, including physician recruitment and retention initiatives;

AND WHEREAS the local physicians have raised the issue with Ontario Medical Association and the Ministry that the Town of Kearney and the Township of McMurrich/Monteith have been excluded from the current contract with the local physicians which is used to determine the number of physicians allocated to serve the area;

AND WHEREAS such exclusion, negatively impacts equitable access to healthcare services for residents of these municipalities by reducing the physician complement by 0.5FTE;

AND WHEREAS it is essential that population data used for healthcare planning accurately reflects all communities served within a defined catchment area to ensure fair and adequate physician resourcing;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of McMurrich/Monteith formally requests that the Ministry of Health undertake a review to:

1. Make an amendment of their contract with the Ontario Medical Association and the local physicians to add Kearney and McMurrich Monteith urgently.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to: The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Honourable Minister of Health; Graydon Smith, local MPP; The Town of Kearney; The Almaguin Highlands Health Council; Muskoka Almaguin Ontario Health Team; The Ontario Medical Association; and all municipalities in the Almaguin area. **Carried**

2026-162 White/O'Halloran

Be It Resolved that the Council of the Township of McMurrich/Monteith supports the Village of South River's rideshare proposal under the Ontario Transit Investment Fund, Case #2025-03-1-3126316310 and respectfully requests that the Honourable Minister of Transportation render a timely and favourable decision to enable this practical and much-needed local transportation service to proceed for the benefit of residents and visitors within the region. **Carried**

2026-163 O'Halloran/White

Be It Resolved that Council receives all correspondence listed on the agenda. **Carried**

2026-164 White/O'Halloran

Be It Resolved that Council adjourns this meeting at 8:48pm until Tuesday, July 21, 2026 at 7pm. **Carried**

Original Signed by:
Mayor, Glynn Robinson

Original Signed by:
Clerk, Cheryl Marshall